

Convention Workbook

Supplement

Section A Supplement

Please insert these pages after page A-12 in your
Convention Workbook

Theme: “Witnessing Christ to the People”
Acts 13:30-31
Central Illinois District LCMS 61st Regular Convention
Revised Schedule
July 13-15, 2025

Sunday, July 13, 2025

2:00 PM	Exhibitor Set-Up
3:00 PM	Registration at the Crowne Plaza
3:00 PM	Exhibits Open
7:00 PM	Opening Communion Service

Our Savior Lutheran Church
2645 Old Jacksonville Road, Springfield

Monday, July 14, 2025

7:00 AM	Registration at the Crowne Plaza
7:00 AM	Exhibits Open
8:00 AM	Call to Order, Opening Devotion
8:15 AM	Report of Credentials Committee
	Ratify Agenda
	Adopting Standing Rules
	Introductions
8:25 AM	Floor Committee 1 - Convention Resolutions
	Approval of Congregational Constitutions
	Welcome New Workers
8:35 AM	Voting Device Orientation
	District Secretary: Nominations for CID President
	Election of CID President
	Nominating Ballot for Vice-Presidents
9:05 AM	President's Address
9:20 AM	Convention Essay Part 1
10:05 AM	Elections Committee: Vice Presidents
	Nominations: All Other Offices
10:15 AM	Floor Committee 2 - Mission Funding and Recognitions
10:50 AM	Synod Representative
11:55 AM	Welcome from Guests
12:05 PM	Mealtime Prayer
12:10 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Caucus for Advisory Delegates
2:00 PM	Church Extension Fund Convention
2:50 PM	Convening Prayer
2:55 PM	Elections Committee: Secretary, Asst. Secy, Treasurer, Financial Secretary

3:05 PM	Floor Committee 1 - Convention Resolutions
3:40 PM	Elections Committee: BOD Clergy, BOD Teachers
3:50 PM	Synod Rep. Q&A
4:20 PM	Elections Committee: BOD Teachers, BOD Lay, Circuit Visitors
4:30 PM	Floor Committee 2 - Mission Funding and Recognitions
5:00 PM	Convention Essay Part 2
5:40 PM	Elections Committee: CCDHC, District Nominations Committee
5:55 PM	Welcome from Guests
6:05 PM	Closing Prayer
	Adjournment for the Day
6:10 PM	CID Endowment Fund Convention
12:00 AM	Dinner on your own

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

7:00 AM	Registration at the Crowne Plaza
8:00 AM	Opening Devotion/Memorial Service
8:30 AM	Floor Committee 1 - Convention Resolutions
9:10 AM	Welcome from Guests
9:25 AM	Convention Essay Part 3
10:05 AM	LCMS Video Report
10:40 AM	Floor Committee 2 - Mission Funding and Recognitions
11:30 AM	Credentials Committee Final Report
11:40 AM	Closing Devotion and Installation of Officers
12:00 PM	Adjournment
12:00 PM	BOD Organizational Meeting

Following adjournment, the newly elected and reelected CID Board of Directors members will have a short meeting at the rostrum.

2025 CONVENTION FLOOR COMMITTEES

Ch-Chairman, P-Pastor, T-Teacher/Commissioned, L-Laymen, A-Staff Advisor

Floor Committee 1 – Convention Resolutions

Ch. Rev. Andrew Herzberg
P: Rev. Matthew Berndt
L: Mr. Jerry Lindsey
L: Mr. John Casebeer
T: Mr. Larry Wooster
T: Mr. Jeff Shoumaker
A: Mr. Trip Rodgers
A: Rev. Michael Mohr

Floor Committee 2 – Mission Funding and Recognitions

Ch. Rev. Michael Burdick
P: Rev. Bruce Scarbeary
L: Mr. Robert Dalton
L: Mr. Larry Abbe
T: Mrs. Sandy Spitz
T: Mr. Bryce Becker
A: Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb
A: Rev. Michael Mohr

Nominations Committee

Ch. Rev. Michael Schuermann*
P: Rev. Joshua Theilen
L: Mr. Eldon Garlisch
L: Mr. Ray Stuckemeyer
L: Mr. Thomas Blessman
T: Mrs. Lisa Dippel
T: Mrs. Robinette Flach, Secretary

Elections

Ch: Rev. Tim Nerud
T: Berit Erickson
L: James Homann
L: Stanley Joergens

Registration and Credentials

Ch: Rev. Brian Johnston
P: Rev. Terry Strom
L: Steve Rossman
A: Rev. Kent Umbarger, Secretary
Staff: Hugh Shown
Amy Holmes

The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod
Central Illinois District
61st Regular Convention
July 13-15, 2025

Registered Voting Members of the District
(as of June 15)

Parish	Pastoral Delegate	Lay Delegate	Lay Alternate
Altamont – Bethlehem & Altamont – Zion	Rev. Marcus Manley	Addam Dahnke	Dean Manuel
Altamont – Immanuel	Scott Niermann	Michael Bowman	None Registered
Altamont–St. Paul (Blue Point)	David Speers	Michael Kirchhoff	Garrett Ziegler
Arenzville – Trinity & Chapin – St. Paul	Andrew Dierks	Brian Kleinschmidt	None Registered
Athens – Immanuel	Rev. Richard Becker	Teresa Becker	None Registered
Auburn – Trinity	Rev. Martin Kaufmann	Mike Heren	Martin Kopatz
Bath – St. John & Chandlerville – Salem	Rev. Brian A Lesemann	Rob Force	Jim Winkelman
Beardstown – St. John	Rev. Keith Kettner	Tim Clark	John Myers, Jr.
Bloomington – Good Shepherd	Rev. Chad Lueck	Paul Gerike	None Registered
Bloomington – Our Redeemer	Rev. Andrew Smith	Kimberly Smith	None Registered
Bloomington – Trinity	Rev. David McBurney	Casey Lartz	None Registered
Bluffs – Trinity & Winchester – Christ	Vacant	David Vortman	None Registered
Bowen – St. Paul & Warsaw – Concordia	None Registered	None Registered	None Registered
Brimfield – St. Paul	Rev. Michael Wagnitz	Steve Schultz	Jeff Johnson
Broadlands – Immanuel	Rev. John Sharp	Collin Rohl	None Registered
Buckley – St. John	Rev. J. Kevin Wyckoff	Larry Abbe	Eugene Forster
Buffalo – Risen Savior	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Casey – Trinity & Robinson – Our Redeemer	Rev. Adrian Piazza	Helen Tucker	None Registered
Champaign – Friendship	Rev. Glen Triplet	None Registered	None Registered
Champaign – St. John	Rev. Jeff Caithamer	Andy Mihm	None Registered

Parish	Pastoral Delegate	Lay Delegate	Lay Alternate
Champaign – University	Rev. Michael Schuermann	Corey Nack	Jacob Leicht
Charleston – Immanuel	Rev. Samuel Smith	Howard Smith	None Registered
Chatham – St. John	Rev. Kevin Wendorf	Dan Reeves	John Gehrke
Chenoa – St. Paul & Lexington – St. Paul	Rev. Kyle Ronchetto	Michael Erdman	None Registered
Chestnut – Zion Clinton – Christ	Rev. David Dunlop	Chris White	None Registered
Cissna Park – Trinity & Onarga – St. John	Rev. Dale Fjordbotten	Ken McMillen	None Registered
Clayton – Good Shepherd	Rev. Kirk Cunningham	Stephen Moore	None Registered
Coal Valley – Trinity	Rev. David Anderson	Susanne Anderson	None Registered
Danvers – Zion & Minier – Good Shepherd	Rev. Frank Zimmerman	Stan Kaeb	John Lieder
Danville – Immanuel	Rev. James Yonkers	None Registered	None Registered
Danville – Trinity	Rev. Kent Tibben	Jeff Parish	None Registered
Decatur – Concordia	Rev. David Bueltmann	Robert Doddek	Roger Meridith
Decatur – Mt. Calvary	Rev. Brett Hinrichs	John Graff	None Registered
Decatur – St. John	Rev. Aaron Bird	John Hubert	None Registered
Decatur – St. Paul	Mark Gearig	Bob Watters	None Registered
Decatur – Trinity	Rev. Matthew Versemann	John Casebeer	None Registered
Delavan – Christ & San Jose – St. Luke	Vacant	Roger Garlisch	William Wiemer
Dieterich – Grace	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Dieterich – St. John & Wheeler – St. Paul	Rev. Dean Herberts	Scott Wohltman	Kevin Miller
East Moline – Christ the King	Rev. Pablo Dominguez	None Registered	None Registered
East Moline – St. John	Rev. Kent Umbarger	James Homann	Rod Hopkin
East Moline – Zion	Rev. Gary Wright	None Registered	None Registered
East Peoria – St. Peter's	Rev. Brian Pape	Bernard Piercy	None Registered
Edinburg – Trinity	Rev. Gaylord Spilker	Bob Lael	Bill Stender
Effingham – St. John	Rev. Michael Burdick	Jerry Lindsey	Jeff Weis
El Paso – Trinity	Rev. Jonathan Boehne	Tami Murrell	Jerry Faulk
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Parish	Pastoral Delegate	Lay Delegate	Lay Alternate
Eureka – Our Redeemer	Vacant	Scott Willi	John Strauch
Galesburg – Mt. Calvary	Rev. Steven Sommerer	Randy Noe	None Registered
Geneseo – Concordia	Rev. Stephen Mueller	Derek Drockelman	Richard McMullen
Geneseo – St. John	Rev. Timothy Nerud	Michael Kolb	None Registered
Golden – Holy Cross	Vacant	Paul Bruns	None Registered
Green Valley – St. John	Rev. James Sansom	Troy Thomas	None Registered
Havana – St. Paul	Rev. Ian Heinze	John Clark	None Registered
Hoopeston – Good Shepherd & Idaville – Immanuel	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Jacksonville – Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf	Vacant	Tim Kearney	Sean Schroder
Jacksonville – Our Redeemer	Vacant	Carl Wicklander	None Registered
Jacksonville – Salem	Rev. Jonah Schultz	Danny Magelitz	None Registered
Kewanee – Faith	Rev. Paul Weber	Gary Hahn	Ted Sturtevant
Kewanee – St. Paul	Rev. Winston Grieser	None Registered	None Registered
Lawrenceville – Our Savior's	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Lincoln – Faith	Rev. Noah Kerstein	Jeff Jones	Joe Jones
Lincoln – Zion	Rev. Mark Thompson	Rodney Meyer	Thomas Bright
Loda – Immanuel	Vacant	Edward Ronna	Diane Ronna
Louisville – St. John	Rev. Emmett Bartens	Stanley Joergens	Kevin Hastings
Macomb – Immanuel	Rev. Chris Hull	Miriam Satern	Doug LaFountain
Manito – St. Paul & Manito – Trinity	Rev. Matthew Berndt	Gene Singley	None Registered
Mason City – Christ & New Holland – Zion	Rev. Brandon Sullivan	David Coers	None Registered
Mattoon – St. John	Rev. Andrew Herzberg	Larry Maxedon	Jared Hammerschmidt
Mattoon – St. Paul	Rev. Daniel Ulrich	Ed Homann	Dan Horn
Milan – St. Matthew	Kurt Larson	Alexander Barrows	None Registered
Milford – Our Savior	Rev. H. Doug Minton	Renee Minton	None Registered
Moline – Holy Cross	Vacant	William Serre	Richard Kraft
Monticello – Faith	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered

Parish	Pastoral Delegate	Lay Delegate	Lay Alternate
Morton – Bethel	Rev. Jeff Anderson	John Lovell	None Registered
Mt. Pulaski – Zion	Rev. Jonathan Buescher	Todd Grathwohl	Tom Cross
Mt. Sterling – First & Rushville – St. John	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Mt. Zion – Mt. Zion	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
New Berlin – St. John	Rev. Jacob Moore	Robert Dalton	Chad Lauderback
Newton – Good Shepherd	Vacant	Jim Miller	Mike Blievernicht
Normal – Christ	Rev. Dr. Timothy Fitzner	Henry Scheltens	None Registered
Osman – Immanuel	Vacant	Brenda Hendricks	None Registered
Pana – St. Paul	None Registered	None Registered	None Registered
Paris – Grace	Rev. Daniel Smith	Frank Tyler	None Registered
Pekin – St. John	Rev. Daniel Bishop	David Drockelman	None Registered
Pekin – Trinity	Rev. Mark Drews	Matthew Deverman	None Registered
Peoria – Christ	Karl Eckhoff	Matt VandeVoorde	Mike Lelm
Peoria – Mt. Calvary	Rev. Barry Long	David Heien	Douglas Auer
Peoria – Redeemer	Rev. Chip Winter	Ken Stoppenhagen	None Registered
Peoria – Trinity	Rev. Matthew Synnott	Ken Erdman	None Registered
Petersburg – Bethlehem	Rev. Jeffrey Gross	Mike Fricke	None Registered
Pittsfield – St. Paul	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Pleasant Plains – Zion	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Quincy – Lutheran Church of St. John	Rev. Steven Hayden	Thom Hurley	None Registered
Quincy – Our Redeemer	Rev. Martin Eden	Mike Herschler	None Registered
Quincy – St. James	Rev. Matt Riley	Keith Klusmeyer	Steve Long
Riverton – Immanuel	Rev. Michael Koschmann	None Registered	None Registered
Roanoke – Trinity	Rev. Bruce Scarbeary	Emily Schirer	Ron Groth
Rochester – Good Shepherd & Springfield – Concordia	Vacant	Frank Hughes	None Registered
Rock Island – Immanuel	Rev. Leonard Astrowski	Mel Vogel	None Registered
Sadorus – St. Paul	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Salem – Salem	Rev. Mike Feldmann	Keith Sheeler	None Registered

Parish	Pastoral Delegate	Lay Delegate	Lay Alternate
Secor – St. John	Rev. Michael Peters	Robert Attig	None Registered
Shelbyville – Holy Cross	Rev. Nathan Woolery	Gary Fisher	None Registered
Sherman – Good Shepherd	Rev. Matthew Schneider	Kevin Schultz	None Registered
Shobonier – Immanuel	Rev. Timothy Landskroener	Kathryn Landskroener	None Registered
Shobonier – St. Paul	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Shumway – Faith	Rev. Jordan Peiser	Tim Frey	None Registered
Sigel – St. Paul	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Springfield – Holy Trinity	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Springfield – Immanuel	Rev. Adam Rouse	Curt Poe	None Registered
Springfield – Our Savior's	Rev. Joshua Traxel	Mark DePue	None Registered
Springfield – Trinity	Rev. Aaron Mueller	Steve Rossman	Ted Haberman
St. Peter – St. Peter	Rev. Ryan Meyer	Nathan Murphree	None Registered
Stewardson – Trinity	Rev. David Weaver	Derrick Krile	Joel Schultz
Strasburg – Grace & Strasburg – St. Paul	Rev. Kene Whybrew	Susan Hanfland	None Registered
Sullivan – Faith	Rev. Justin Cullen	JC Hagen	None Registered
Taylor Ridge – Zion	Rev. Mark Eddy	Doug Anson	William Wilkens
Taylorville – Trinity	Rev. Brian Johnston	Nick Snover	Eric Christians
Thawville – St. Peter	Vacant	None Registered	None Registered
Thomasboro – Peace	Rev. Michael Stoerger	Scott Eisenhauer	None Registered
Tuscola – Immanuel	Rev. Jason Braaten	Stephen Hilgendorf	Les Sluder
Urbana – Trinity	Vacant	David Nation	None Registered
Vandalia – Holy Cross	Rev. Brett Cornelius	Max Reuscher	None Registered
Varna – St. Paul & Washburn – St. John & Wenona – Zion	Rev. Mark Gruden	None Registered	None Registered
Washington – Our Savior	Vacant	Steven Stuff	None Registered
Watseka – Calvary	Rev. Aaron Uphoff	Russell Rudd	Murray Schaumburg
Waverly – Christ	Rev. Keith Pereira	Glen Rascher	Robert Kreige
Woodworth – St. Paul	Rev. Michael Ruhlig	None Registered	None Registered

Section B

Supplement

Please insert these pages after page B-64 in your
Convention Workbook

PASTORS & GRADUATES ENTERING THE DISTRICT
(ORDINATION/INSTALLATION DATES: MAY 2022-APRIL 2025)

Schultz, Jonah (STL) Ordained and installed at Salem-Jacksonville on 6/16/25 by Rev. Michael Mohr

Circuit Visitor Reports

Shelby Circuit, Rev. Nathan Woolery, Circuit Visitor

(See late reports, overtures, and resolutions (see pp. B-65ff to be disseminated in late June.)

The following congregations comprise the Shelby Circuit: St. Paul's Lutheran, Pana; Holy Cross Shelbyville; Faith Lutheran, Shumway; St. Paul Lutheran, Sigel; Trinity Lutheran, Stewardson; Grace Lutheran, Strasburg; St. Paul's Lutheran, Strasburg; and Faith Lutheran, Sullivan.

The pastors of the Shelby Circuit meet with the pastor of the Effingham Circuit on a monthly basis. In the Spring and the Fall, the Shelby pastors meet with the pastors of the Altamont and Effingham Circuits at which time a guest speaker is invited to present the topic. We enjoy the blessed fellowship we have at these meetings.

Faith, Shumway spent the majority of the last triennium vacant and calling. Finally, the Lord provided a pastor this past spring, Rev. Jordan Peiser. He was installed on March 16.

St. Paul, Pana became vacant after Rev. Terry O'Brien retired in October of 2022. A year later, Rev. Keith Buelmann was installed as pastor.

St. Paul, Sigel is vacant, served by Rev. Earl Brown.

Trinity, Stewardson, served by Rev. David Weaver continues to minister to the community through the church and through Trinity Lutheran School, which has 89 students enrolled.

Grace and St. Paul Strasburg forming a dual parish are continuing to be faithfully served by Rev. Kene Whybrew.

Holy Cross, Shelbyville served by Rev. Nathan Woolery continues to bring the message of the cross to its community.

Faith, Sullivan is being served by Rev. Justin Cullen. The congregation has made a number of improvements in the sanctuary over the past few years.

Thanks be to God for His blessings on our circuit.

Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee Report

(Updated to reflect Board of Directors actions at their May meeting.)

Reviewed and approved by Committee and CID Board -19

Arenzville, Trinity – March 2023

Auburn, Trinity – September 2024

Beardstown, St John's – September 2024

Broadlands, Immanuel – April 2024

Buckley, St. John's – May 2023

Casey, Trinity – October 2023

Champaign, St John's – May 2025

Clinton, Christ – May 2025

Lincoln, Zion – March 2023

Louisville, St John's – October 2023

1 Mason City, Trinity – November 2023
2 Onarga, St John’s Ash Grove – November 2023
3 Peoria, Christ – March 2023
4 Petersburg, Bethlehem – May 2023
5 Quincy, St. John – October 2023
6 Stewardson, Trinity – March 2025
7 Taylor Ridge, Zion – October 2023
8 Washington, Our Savior – April 2024
9 Watseka, Calvary – May 2025
10 Woodworth, St Paul’s (Milford) – May 2025

11 **Withdrawn – 1**

12 Manito, Trinity

13 **Still in Process - 5**

14 Lincoln, Faith
15 Moline, Holy Cross
16 Pleasant Plains, Zion
17 Quincy, Our Redeemer

18
19 In Christ's service,
20 Rev. Dan Bishop, Rev. Kent Tibben, Mr. J. G. Townsend
21 Members of the Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee
22

2025 PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Part 2

Rev. Michael Mohr

As we have come through the preparations for the district convention, there are several additional items not included in my report that I want to highlight to delegates and congregations. In order to keep my oral address/report to the convention brief, I make this supplemental report to you.

New Administrative Assistant – It is my hope that by the time the convention closes, I will be able to introduce to you our new Administrative Assistant for Missions and Administration. With our current Administrative Assistant for Missions, Evangelism, Stewardship, and Human Care entering into a period of modified service (not retiring, as he reminds us in the opening line of his report on p. B-13), we have taken this opportunity to reassess how these areas are covered, as well as the administrative support that has waned with the elimination of three full time secretarial positions over the past twenty years. Rev. Dr. Schurb will continue to oversee Evangelism for CID, while the Stewardship and Human Care aspects of his portfolio are being added to the duties of two other, separate, full time deployed workers. The oversight of CID Missions was too great a task to defer to deployed staff, so Ken's full time successor will shepherd those missions carried out on behalf of the congregations of the Central Illinois District. He will also provide some additional support for and to the congregations of the district as I delegate some of my business manager responsibilities so that I can better accomplish my visitation and ecclesiastical supervisory duties. The worker to which we have extended this call should be ready to announce his decision right around the time we convene, so I hope to be able to share that news with you – if not in my oral address, then sometime prior to adjournment.

Reaching In – Our partners in the Gospel to the south have developed a wonderful opportunity for Christians to mentor those in prison. "Reaching In" provides the opportunity to correspond with inmates, sharing with them not only the precious news of salvation, but mentoring them in a godly way of living as they prepare to rejoin their communities. We are looking to provide this type of work with our own prison ministries right here in CID. To help protect those who serve, all letters are sent back and forth via a neutral PO Box, protecting the identity and location information of those writing back and forth. More about this wonderful opportunity will be available at the prison/jail ministry table in the exhibitor hall during the convention.

Dollar for Mission – We are not sure if this funding initiative will continue after the convention. We are ready to follow the expressed will of the congregations through their delegates. If the proposed Funding Campaign (Resolution 25-02-01A, pp. D-87ff.) is adopted, the delegates will be asked if they wish to suspend DFM, effective the day after the convention closes (Resolution 25-02-02, pp. D-42f.). It is possible for the delegates to decline this overture, keeping both initiatives operative at the same time. It makes sense for the district to concentrate on one funding initiative at a time, but there is also a logic in maintaining both since they have different donor bases. The six year old child placing her dollar bill into the church-shaped collection box each week when she attends services will not likely be writing a check for a hundred, a thousand, or tens of thousands of dollars toward the Funding Campaign. The two initiatives also have two difference foci. DFM grants are first given to new mission work throughout the district, and secondarily to help bolster new outreach efforts by established congregations around the district. It is only once projects in these two categories have been exhausted that any DFM dollars can go towards the kind of support for established district

missions that is the focus of the Funding Campaign. With this uncertainty about how the convention will act, we are making our preparations – and so should you. DFM projects are proposed by the congregations (and even individual members therein) of our district. Keep thinking about what new work can be done in your communities or nearby unchurched areas. Keep thinking about new outreach projects you might be able to conduct in your congregation (or in partnership with other congregations in your area). Should the convention choose to continue DFM, we will have six weeks to submit proposals for 2026. You can see more information, or download the submission form, at <https://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-dfm-apply.html>.

Worker Wellness Initiative – Thanks to a generous, multi-year grant from the Synod, we are working on ways to for congregations to help their teachers, DCEs, deaconesses, and pastors healthy – physically, mentally, and spiritually. Our Human Care and Worker Wellness Committee should have some additional information by the time we meet at the convention about how these grant dollars can help our congregations and schools. And if we meet our goals with regard to the number of congregations and workers participating in these efforts, our grant award looks to increase over the next few years. So keep an eye out for these initiatives from our Human Care and Worker Wellness Committee.

2026 Remittance Forms – Finally, just a quick note while I have the attention of representatives from every congregation in the district that we will be modifying our congregational remittance forms for the coming year. We have long included, in what is now designated as "Section II" of the remittance form, a sampling of specific agencies/ministries to which congregations could contribute. For quite some time, we have recommended (as is stated on the form) "that donations be sent directly to the Agencies/Ministries," especially those agencies not listed on the form. Utilization of this section of the form has waned as congregations either have eliminated direct support of many of these organizations or have been making the contributions directly. It is staggeringly inefficient to have a member write a check to his/her congregation, the congregational treasurer then depositing the check and writing a congregational check to mail to the district for the exact same amount, then the district depositing that check and writing a district check to mail to the agency for the exact same amount. For the sake of stewardship of time and other physical resources, we will no longer be receiving gifts to forward to other agencies, rather, we will provide on the remittance form a list of addresses for various agencies commonly requested so that congregations (or individual members) can make their contributions directly.

We are four weeks away from the convention. I continue to pray that the work the Lord is doing through your congregations will continue to be blessed and fruitful as you remain faithful to His Word and make bold witness into your communities.

Section C Supplement

Please insert these pages after page C-1 in your
Convention Workbook

Report of the 2025 Nominations Committee

Nominations for District President

The procedures for the nomination of the District President (2018 CID Bylaw 2.40 a. and b.) have been followed.

2.40 Nomination for President

- a. Advance Nominating Ballot: Five months before the regular election each congregation holding voting membership in the District shall receive from the Secretary of the District an official nominating ballot on which to nominate one or two candidates for President. The congregation's ballot shall be signed by the chairman and secretary of the congregation. The ballot, duly filled in and signed, must be returned to the Secretary of the District at least eight weeks prior to the convention at which the election will be held in order to be counted.
- b. Notice of Nomination for President: The Secretary of the District shall notify the five candidates who received the highest number of nominations for the office of President (provided they received at least 5% of the total nominations submitted), but the number of nominating votes shall not be revealed. Such nominees who for good and sufficient reasons will not be able to serve in this particular full-time office shall so inform the Secretary of the District at least five weeks prior to the convention. Should any of the five nominees decline the nomination, the Secretary of the District shall notify the nominee receiving the next highest number of votes (as long as it is at least 5% of the total nominations submitted).

Nomination ballots were received from 22 congregations. All ballots were validly attested by the signatures of two congregational officers, so no ballots were spoiled.

The total number of nominations being 29, the number of nominations to qualify for the ballot is one and three-quarters.

The qualifying nominees are Jason Braaten (2), Mark Eddy (2), Michael Mohr (22).
Other nominee who received a qualifying number of nominations but declined nomination:
Michael Schuermann (2).

Other nominee who received only one nomination, thus did not qualify for the ballot: Michael Burdick

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Kent Umbarger
Central Illinois District Secretary

Nominations for and Election of the Two Vice-Presidents

The procedures for conducting the primary election for the nomination of candidates for the offices of Vice-President (2018 Bylaws 2.41, 2.42, and 2.43) will be followed.

2.42 Nominations for Vice-Presidents

A primary election for the nomination of candidates for the office of Vice-President shall be held after the President has been elected. Ballots for the nominations shall be prepared in such manner that each voting delegate shall have opportunity for one nomination for each of the regional Vice-Presidents.

2.43 Election of Vice-Presidents

- a. The ballot for the election of the Vice-Presidents shall list three candidates for each of the regional Vice-Presidents. The names of those candidates who received the greater number of votes in the primary election shall be placed on the ballot, even though one or two may have received a majority in the primary election.
- b. In the regular election each voting delegate shall be entitled to vote for each of the regional Vice-Presidents. If a candidate in either region receives a majority on the first ballot, such candidate or candidates shall be declared elected. If no candidate receives a majority in one region or in either region, the name of the candidate or candidates receiving the smallest number of votes for his region shall be removed from the next ballot. Another vote shall then be taken.

2.44 Ranking of the Vice-Presidents

After the two Vice-Presidents have been elected, another ballot shall be taken to determine their rank. Each voting delegate shall indicate his choice for the office of First Vice-President. The candidate receiving the greater number of votes shall be declared First Vice-President, and the other candidate shall automatically be declared Second Vice-President.

Nominations for Other Officers

The procedures for conducting the Nominations for Other Officers (2015 Bylaw 2.46a; CEF Bylaw 5.24 A) are not in full compliance. We were unable to fill all the allotted positions as provided in the Bylaws. Those deficiencies are noted in the following section listing the nominees, by inserting the words No Candidate in the appropriate places.

The procedures for conducting the Nominations for Other Officers (2015 CID Bylaw 2.46 b, c; CEF Bylaw 5.24 B, C) are in compliance.

Nominees

Secretary – Ordained (1)

Justin Cullen
No Candidate

Assistant Secretary – Ordained (1)

Marcus Manley
No Candidate

Treasurer – Layman (1)

Joel Oschwald
No Candidate

Financial Secretary – Layman (1)

No Candidate
No Candidate

Board of Directors – Parish Pastors (4)

Timothy Fitzner
Ryan Meyer
Steve Sommerer
Kent Tibben
Aaron Uphoff
Kevin Wendorf
No Candidate
No Candidate

Board of Directors – Commissioned (2)

Robinette Flach
Rebecca Heppe
Jordan Hopman
Steve Parry

Board of Directors – Laymen (4)

William Blessman
Kevin Block
Aaron Schroeder
No Candidate
No Candidate
No Candidate
No Candidate
No Candidate

Congregational Constitutions & District Handbook Committee

Ordained Ministers (at least 1 Parish Pastor) (2)

Stephen Mueller
James Stuenkel
Kent Tibben
No Candidate

Lay – Attorney (1)

No Candidate
No Candidate

Nominations Committee for 2028 District Convention

Parish Pastors (2)

Jason Braaten
David Dunlop
Keith Kettner
No Candidate

Parish Teachers or DCEs (2)

Gayle Dietsch
Rebecca Heppe
Sandy Spitz
No Candidate

Laymen (2)

Deloris Blessman
David Harshaw
Don James
Brandon West

Nominations for Circuit Counselor to be Ratified by District Convention

Altamont	Ryan Meyer	Mattoon	Daniel Ulrich
Bloomington North	Jonathan Boehne	Peoria	Karl Eckhoff
Bloomington South	Andrew Smith	Quincy	Matt Riley
Champaign	Michael Stoerger	Rock Island	Tim Nerud
Iroquois	H. Douglas Minton	Shelby	Nathan Woolery
Decatur	Brett Hinrichs	Springfield E.	Matt L. Schneider
Effingham	Steven Becker	Springfield W.	Martin Kaufmann
Jacksonville	Brian Lesemann	Tazewell	Greg Moyer
Lincoln	Matthew Berndt		

You will be asked to nominate one pastor from the Eastern Region and one from the Western Region for Vice President. Eligible pastors in each region are listed below. District Bylaw 2.12 stipulates that the Vice President must reside in his respective region at the time of election; all Emeriti and Candidates who live outside the CID are not on this Nominating ballot. Synod Bylaw 2.13.1(b)(2) limits Specific Ministry Pastors from "hold[ing] any elective or appointive office... that is assigned by the Bylaws of the Synod to 'a pastor' or 'an ordained minister;'" all SMPs serving in the district are not on this Nominating Ballot.

**CLERGY ROSTER - CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT
EASTERN REGION**

BACKHUS, Robert	Emeritus - Effingham
BARTENS, Emmett	St John-Louisville
BARTH, Robert	Emeritus - New Berlin
BECKER, Richard	Immanuel-Athens
BECKER, Steven	Emeritus - Effingham
BIRD, Aaron	St John-Decatur
BLOMQUIST, Rodney	Emeritus - Taylorville
BOYLAN, Shawn	Emeritus - Paxton
BRAATEN, Jason	Immanuel-Tuscola
BROWN, Earl	Emeritus - Effingham
BRUER, Robert	Mt Zion-Mt Zion
BUELTMANN, David	Concordia-Decatur
BUELTMANN, Keith	St Paul-Pana
BURDICK, Michael	St John-Effingham
CAITHAMER, Jeffrey	St John-Champaign
CLUVER, Joel	Emeritus - Latham
CORNELIUS, Brett	Holy Cross-Vandalia
CULLEN, Justin	Faith-Sullivan
DAMERY, Michael	Emeritus - Forsyth
DANIEL, David	Faith-Monticello
DILLE, Trey	St John-Effingham
DOBBERSTEIN, Paul	Candidate - Paris
DUEY, William	Candidate - Paris
EHLERS, Donald	Emeritus - Champaign
FELDMANN, Michael	Salem-Salem
FJORDBOTTEN, Dale	Trinity-Cissna Park/St John-Onarga
FORTKAMP, Gary	Emeritus - Effingham
FRANK, Robert	Candidate - Savoy
GEARIG, Mark	St Paul's-Decatur
GOODWIN, Robert	St Paul's-Decatur
GROSS, Jeffrey	Bethlehem-Petersburg
GRUENINGER, William	St Paul's-Decatur
HARRE, Richard	Emeritus - Springfield
HART, Ethan	Salem-Salem
HARTER, Jeffrey	Concordia Village-Springfield
HERBERTS, Dean	St John-Dieterich
HERZBERG, Andrew	St Johns-Mattoon
HINRICHS, Brett	Mt Calvary-Decatur
JOHNSTON, Brian	Trinity-Taylorville
KAUFMANN, Martin	Trinity-Auburn
KLUG, Jerry	Emeritus - Paris
KOSCHMANN, Michael	Immanuel-Riverton
LANDSKROENER, Timothy	Immanuel-Shobonier
MANLEY, Marcus	Bethlehem/Zion-Altamont

MC PIKE, Jeffrey	Immanuel-Fisher
MEYER, Douglas	Emeritus - Salem
MEYER, Ryan	St Peter-St Peter
MILLER, Mark	Emeritus - Springfield
MINTON, Harold	Our Savior-Milford
MOHR, Michael	Holy Cross-Vandalia
MOORE, Jacob	St John-New Berlin
MUELLER, Aaron	Trinity-Springfield
NIERMANN, Scott	Immanuel-Altamont
OFFERMANN, Wray	Emeritus - Oakley
OHLWINE, Arthur	Candidate - Decatur
PEISER, Jordan	Faith-Shumway
PEREIRA, Keith	Christ-Waverly
PIAZZA, Adrian	Trinity-Casey/Our Redeemer-Robinson
PRITCHARD, Donald	Emeritus-Pleasant Plains
RADTKE, Thomas	Emeritus - Springfield
RAY, Adam	St John-Decatur
REIMNITZ, Wesley	Emeritus - Springfield
RIKLI, Richard	Emeritus - Vandalia
ROUSE, Adam	Immanuel-Springfield
RUHLIG, Michael	St Pauls-Milford
SALCIDO, Richard	Emeritus - Paris
SCHNEIDER, Matthew	Good Shepherd-Sherman
SCHUERMANN, Michael	University-Champaign
SEIDENSTRICKER, Michael	Emeritus - Effingham
SHARP, Jonathan	Trinity-Springfield
SMITH, Daniel	Grace-Paris
SMITH, Samuel	Immanuel-Charleston
SPEERS, David	St Paul-Altamont
SPILKER, Gaylord	Trinity-Edinburg
STOERGER, Michael	Peace-Thomasboro
STROHSCHEIN, Glenn	Emeritus - Sullivan
STROM, Terry	Emeritus - Buckley
STUENKEL, James	Emeritus - Sherman
THEILEN, Joshua	Good Shepherd-Sherman
TIBBEN, Kent	Trinity-Danville
TRAXEL, Joshua	Our Savior-Springfield
TRIPLETT, Glen	Friendship LC of Joy-Champaign
ULRICH, Daniel	St Pauls-Mattoon
UPHOFF, Aaron	Calvary-Watseka
VERSEMANN, Matthew	Trinity-Decatur
WEAVER, David	Trinity-Stewardson
WENDORF, Kevin	St John-Chatham
WHYBREW, Kene	Grace/St Paul's-Strasburg
WOOLERY, Nathan	Holy Cross-Shelbyville
WYCKOFF, Jon	St Johns-Buckley
YONKERS, James	Immanuel-Danville

CLERGY ROSTER - CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT
WESTERN REGION

ANDERSON, David	Trinity-Coal Valley
ANDERSON, Jeffrey	Bethel-Morton
ASTROWSKI, Leonard	Immanuel-Rock Island
BERNDT, Matthew	St Paul/Trinity-Manito
BISHOP, Daniel	St John-Pekin
BOEHNE, Jonathan	Trinity-El Paso
BRECHBUHL, Peter	Emeritus - Jacksonville
BRINKMANN, Wayne	Emeritus - Morton
BRONDOS, Joel	Emeritus - Geneseo
BUESCHER, Jonathan	Zion-Mt Pulaski
BURNS, Joseph	Our Redeemer-Eureka
CUNNINGHAM, Kirk	Good Shepherd-Clayton
DIERKS, Andrew	Trinity-Arenzville/St. Paul-Chapin
DISBRO, Roger	Emeritus - Mapleton
DOMINGUEZ, Pablo	Christ The King-East Moline
DREWS, Mark	Trinity-Pekin
DUNLOP, David	Zion-Chestnut/Christ-Clinton
ECKARDT, Burnell	Emeritus - Kewanee
ECKHOFF, Karl	Christ-Peoria
EDDY, Mark	Zion-Taylor Ridge
EDEN, Martin	Our Redeemer-Quincy
EDEN, Roger	Emeritus - Quincy
EHLERS, David	Emeritus - Normal
FITZNER, Timothy	Christ-Normal
GALLAGHER, Frank	Our Savior-Washington
GRIESER, Winston	St Paul-Kewanee
GRUDEN, Mark	St Paul-Varna/St John-Washburn/Zion-Wenona
HAFERMANN, John	Emeritus - Normal
HAGEN, Robert	Emeritus - Coal Valley
HAYDEN, Steven	St John-Quincy
HEINZE, Ian	St Paul-Havana
HOOVER, Kenneth	Emeritus - East Peoria
HULL, Christopher	Immanuel-Macomb
JAUSS, Marcus	St Paul's-Bowen/Concordia-Warsaw
JOHNSON, John	Emeritus - Lincoln
KERSTEIN, Noah	Faith-Lincoln
KETTNER, Keith	St John-Beardstown
KINNEE, L	Candidate - Peoria
KNIEF, Louis	Emeritus - Peoria
LARSON, Kurt	St Matthew-Milan
LESEMANN, Brian	St John-Bath/Salem-Chandlerville
LIKENESS, David	Emeritus - Peoria
LONG, Barry	Mt Calvary-Peoria
LUBKEMAN, August	Emeritus - Bloomington
LUECK, Chad	Good Shepherd-Bloomington
MCBURNEY, David	Trinity-Bloomington
MILLER, Ronald	Emeritus - Peoria
MOYER, Gregory	Bethel-Morton
MUELLER, Stephen	Concordia-Geneseo
MURDOCK, Cecil	Emeritus - Hampton
NELSON, Mark	Trinity-Peoria

NERUD, Timothy	St John-Geneseo
NIEMANN, Glenn	Emeritus - Peoria
OLANDER, Charles	Emeritus - Beason
PAPE, Brian	St Peters-East Peoria
PETERS, Michael	St John-Secor
PETERSON, Ivan	Emeritus - Bloomington
REES, James	Candidate - Lexington
REMPFER, Marlin	St James-Quincy
RILEY, Matthew	St James-Quincy
RONCHETTO, Kyle	St Paul-Chenoa/St Paul-Lexington
SANSOM, James	St John-Green Valley
SCARBEARY, Bruce	Trinity-Roanoke
SCHULTZ, Jonah	Salem-Jacksonville
SMITH, Andrew	Our Redeemer-Bloomington
SOMMERER, Steven	Mt Calvary-Galesburg
SPAETH, David	Emeritus - Pekin
STRATTMAN, Gene	Emeritus-Chapin
SULLIVAN, Brandon	Christ-Mason City/Zion-New Holland
SYNNOTT, Matthew	Trinity-Peoria
THOMPSON, Mark	Zion-Lincoln
UMBARGER, Kent	St John-East Moline
WAGNER, Ronald	Emeritus - Roanoke
WAGNITZ, Michael	St Paul-Brimfield
WEBER, Paul	Faith-Kewanee
WESELOH, Melvin	Emeritus - Minier
WINTER, Frank	Redeemer-Peoria
WINTER, Frank	Emeritus - Peoria
WIRSING, Thomas	Emeritus - Normal
WRIGHT, Gary	Zion-East Moline
ZIMMERMAN, Frank	Zion-Danvers/Good Shepherd-Minier

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

President

Rev. Jason Braaten, Immanuel, Tuscola, IL

- C: Admissions & Advancement for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (2007–2010)
- D: CID Conference Committee (2010–2014), CID Board of Directors (2018–2019), LCEF Board of Directors (2019–Present)
- O: Tuscola Library Board (2012 – Present), Tuscola Rotary Club President (2016 – 2017), Tuscola Rotary Club Vice-President (2015–2016), Tuscola Rotary Club Secretary (2012 – 2015), Tuscola Community Foundation (2015 – Present), LCMS Contract Writer, Stewardship (2013 – 2020), Logic Instructor, Wittenberg Academy (2013 – Present)

What do you believe you could contribute to this position if elected?

I have a deep love for Christ, His Word, and His Church, a love that seeks the truth and desires to share it. I have an abiding respect for our Lutheran heritage and the rich theological tradition in doctrine and practice bequeathed to us from our Lutheran forefathers, a respect that I seek to impart in those around me. But not every challenge we face is addressed in this rich tradition, yet it informs how we meet and answer them. We ought not change for the sake of change.

As a former fundraiser and recruiter for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, I learned the delicate art of facing conflict and difficult situations — temporal and spiritual — in a pastoral, caring, biblical and honest manner. This means that I do not shy away from conflict and am not afraid to ask difficult questions or make tough decisions so that the truth may be heard, souls comforted, families and faith restored, and the Church further united.

As LCMS Lutherans, we have much to be thankful for. If I can be an agent, beyond my call as a parish pastor, to hand down the great gifts we have received, I am eager to serve.

Rev. Mark Eddy, Zion, Taylor Ridge, IL

- C: Trinity, Hartford, SD (1983-86), Faith, Shumway, IL (1986-91), Holy Cross, Golden, IL (1991-2006), St. Paul, Bowen, IL (2000-2006)
- D: Central Illinois District Evangelism Commission member, (1988-1991, 2009-2012 secretary), Synod Convention Delegate (1998, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2023), Quincy Circuit Counselor (1997-2003), CID Board of Directors (2006-2012), CID ad hoc committee to update the bylaws, chairman (2011-2012), CID Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee, chairman (2012-2018), CID Missions Commission, secretary, (2018-present), CID 2nd Vice President, (2018-Nov. 2021), CID 1st Vice President, (Nov. 2021-present)
- O: Community: Beecher City, IL, schools community advisory Committee (1989-1991), Mercer County Ministerial Association secretary (2012-2015, 2017-present), Quad City Wind Ensemble board of directors member-at-large (2020-2022)

What do you believe you could contribute to this position if elected?

By God's grace and with His continued help I would use whatever abilities He has given me to provide faithful, biblical, evangelical, orthodox, responses to whatever issues arise, and be available at any time to deal with them. To this point God has kept me healthy in both body and mind, so that I could energetically learn the "paper work" aspects of the position, get to know the members of the District whom I do not already know, and provide the help which the Synod and congregations expect (provided that those expectations agree with God's inspired Scriptures).

Rev. Michael Mohr, Holy Cross, Vandalia, IL

- C: Grace, Strasburg (1998-2018)
- D: Pastor's Conference Committee 99-00; Shelby Circuit Visitor 00-06; District Convention Floor Committee member 03; Event Organizer, CID Day at the Ballpark 99-14; Chairman, Central Illinois District Centennial Anniversary Committee 07, Assistant Secretary CID 09-15; Secretary, CID 15- 21; District Pastoral Counselor, LWMLCID 18-22; 2nd Vice President CID, 21-2022; District President 2022-present; COP Representative, Concordia Seminary Board of Regents, 2024-present
- O: Treasurer, Helping Hands Ministerial Alliance (1998-2018), Thrivent Chapter Board, various offices (2003-2011), Member, MAPPING the Future of Strasburg (Community, Strategic Planning) (2007-2018), Chairman, Public School Strategic Planning Steering Committee (2008-2009), Chairman, Family Life Center Board of Directors, (2011-2013), Vandalia Association of Churches, Member (2018-2022)

What do you believe you could contribute to this position if elected?

Praise be to God for the relative calm and unity He has bestowed upon our district! Our work together, all 148 congregations of the Central Illinois District, is sharing the good news of Christ with all those who live in our communities. The two greatest challenges I see in the coming triennium are maximizing the efficiencies of the Word and Sacrament ministries throughout the district (both within and among individual congregations and in those mission efforts conducted on behalf of the congregations of the district) and in sharing/communicating the joys, successes, needs, and concerns of the work carried out on behalf of the congregations of the district. Having come through the steep, 30+ month learning curve of what it is to be a district president, I think the Lord has positioned me to be able to more readily concentrate in this next triennium on these tasks of supporting and coordinating the fantastic work being accomplished by the congregations of the district through their local pastors, commissioned workers, and volunteers, as well as the workers and volunteers set apart to serve in district mission sites.

Secretary

One ordained minister to be elected

Rev. Justin W. Cullen, Faith, Sullivan

- C: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Olivette, MO, Jun 2019 - Jul 2020
- D: CID Pastoral Conference Committee, Sep 2021 - Oct 2024
- O: Chaplain, U.S. Army Reserve, Jan 2018 - Aug 2021; Chaplain, IL Army National Guard, Sep 2021 - Present; Chaplain/Troop Leader, Trail Life USA, Sullivan, IL, May 2023 – Present

I believe I can bring a unique blend of organizational skills, attention to detail, and a deep commitment to serving the district, shaped by my experiences as a pastor and military chaplain. Having served on the committee for planning pastoral conferences, I've demonstrated my ability to manage logistics, keep accurate records, and facilitate communication. As Scripture reminds us, "Let all things be done decently and in order" (1 Corinthians 14:40, ESV), and I am committed to upholding this principle in maintaining accurate, official records. Additionally, my service as a military chaplain has equipped me with a disciplined approach to leadership and administration under pressure. In that role, I often advised and supported teams in high-stakes environments, which strengthened my ability to collaborate with others.

Assistant Secretary

One ordained minister to be elected

Rev. Marcus Manley, Bethlehem/Zion, Altamont

- C: St. Paul's, Ute, IA 2012-2017
- D: CID Assistant Secretary 2023-2025; IDW Stewardship Committee 2014-2017
- O: None Provided

Treasurer

One layman to be elected

Joel Oschwald, Good Shepherd, Sherman, IL

- C: Formerly served as parish pastor at St. John's, Louisville, IL (2016-2017)
- D: Chair of Board of Elders (St. John, Champaign), Vice Chair of Congregation (St. James, Glen Carbon, IL), Elder (Our Savior, Springfield, IL)
Treasurer, CID 2023-2025
- O: Treasurer (First Step Women's Center - elected Treasurer in 2025, Board Member since 2021); Trustee (Springfield Fire Pension Board); Precinct Committeeman (Sangamon County Capital 54)

Lifelong involvement in the LCMS, serving as Layman and a brief period as Pastor, as well as over 25 years of commercial banking, financial analysis, and treasury management experience. My background has prepared me to serve the church in both theological and financial aspects.

Financial Secretary
One layman to be elected

No candidate.

Board of Directors
Four parish pastors to be elected

Rev. Timothy J. Fitzner, Christ, Normal

- C: Immanuel & St. John's Lutheran Churches, Adair, IA (IDW), July 2008 - June 2017
- D: CID LLL Assistant Pastoral Advisor (2024-present)
LWML Adair Zone Counselor (IDW) (2008-2016)
Operation Barnabas Chaplain, Atlantic, IA Chapter (IDW) (2011-2013)
- O: Bloomington, IL Police Chaplain (2025-present)
Concordia University, St. Paul, MN Alumni Advisory Council (2016-2019, 2024-present)

If elected to the Board of Directors for CID, I would contribute a steadfast commitment to supporting our congregations, where the true work of the Church unfolds through Word and Sacrament ministry. 1 Peter 4:8 reminds us, the people of God love one another earnestly, gathered around the altar and pulpit in congregations and the family altar in homes. The district's role is to hold up the hands of our pastors and congregations as they preach the Gospel, administer the Sacraments, and catechize the faithful.

I bring a willingness to serve and to learn, and a focus on strengthening our district's support for the work of the congregations.

Fostering Collaboration: I will work with pastors, congregations, and district boards to plan and promote initiatives that prioritize faithful preaching, catechesis, and evangelism.

Ensuring Stewardship: I am committed to responsible financial oversight and accountability, ensuring our resources directly support congregations in their Gospel proclamation.

Listening and Serving: With humility, I will listen to the needs of our district's members to ensure our decisions reflect the priorities of our congregations and remain rooted in our Lutheran Confessions.

My goal is to help our district stay laser-focused on equipping congregations to faithfully carry out Christ's Great Commission, trusting the Holy Spirit to call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify His Church.

Rev. Ryan Meyer, Saint Peter's, St. Peter

- C: Zion Lutheran, Tobias, Nebraska 2007-2017
- D: Altamont Circuit Visitor 2022-present. CID LWML District Pastoral Counselor 2022-present
- O: None

I would strive to use the gifts that God has given me to serve Him and the CID to the best of my ability.

Rev. Steve Sommerer, Mt Calvary, Galesburg

C: Our Savior, Odell, NE ('97-01); Messiah, Carlyle, IL ('01-17); Mt Calvary, IL ('17-25)

D: None

O: None

It is always an honor to serve if called upon.

Rev. Kent Tibben, Trinity, Danville

C: Trinity, Danville - 1992-present

D: CID Board of Directors; CID 2nd VP 2015-2018; CID 1st VP 2012-2015; CID Constitution Committee 2022-2025; Lutheran Musician Enrichment Instructor; Introductory Workshop Leader for HS '98; Introductory Workshop Leader for LSB; CUC Board of Regents 2007-2010

O: None

I have enjoyed many years serving within the CID, not only as parish pastor, but in other offices as well. It is my hope to faithfully serve the congregation to which the Lord has called me and to be of use to our district and synod however possible.

Rev. Aaron Uphoff, Calvary, Watseka

C: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Randolph, New Jersey (July 2014 to September 2020)

D: New Jersey District Convention Committee (2015, 2018); CID Board of Directors from January 2024 to Present

O: Bugenhagen Conference Planning Committee (2018 to Present); Member of American Legion Post #527 (2022 to Present)

If re-elected to the Board, I will be a supportive voice and vote for prudent uses of the District's resources as well as for faithful, realistic directions and goal-setting for the CID. I am an LCMS Lutheran thanks to Lutheran Student Fellowship in Macomb, and I am glad to serve the district that helped fund the ministry which both brought me into the Synod and encouraged me to enter the Ministry.

Rev. Kevin Wendorf, St. John, Chatham

C: St. John, Ash Grove - 2005-14; St. Paul, Havan - 2014-19

D: CID Board of Directors, 2022-present; Evangelism Commission, 2022-present; Circuit Visitor, 2018-19; Pastors' Conference Committee 2016-17

O: Christ Lutheran High School, Buckley - School Board; Religion Teach, 2006-7, 2009-10

I bring the experience of being a parish pastor in the CID for the past 20 years. I have also served in the District as a member of the Board of Directors and Circuit Visitor.

Board of Directors
Four laymen to be elected

William R. Blessman, St Paul, Havana

- C: 6 terms as Congregation Chairman; 2 terms as treasurer; 6 terms as an Elder (several years as Head Elder); 1 term as Finance Committee member; Choir member for 48 years; Call Committee member three times (chairman twice); Youth Group Leader for 22 years (twice to National Youth Gathering); Current High School Bible Class Teacher (47 years); Current Congregation Vice-chairman; Current Chairman of 175th Anniversary Committee
- D: None
- O: Elected County Clerk of Mason County 1986-2013; Mason County Administrator 2013-2021; State Board of Elections Advisory Committee 1998-2013; IL County Clerks State Legislative Committee 1994-2013; IL State Electronic Records Commission 2006-2013; Mason County Public Building Commission (Secretary) 1988-2021; Havana Community Prevention Team 1993- 1998; Havavision Community Development Organization 1995-2000; Volunteer Havana High School JV Basketball Coach 2002-2015; Greater Peoria Economic Development Council (Chairman) 2014-present; Heart of Illinois Regional Port Authority 2016-present; Mason District Hospital Board of Directors 1993-present; MDH Hospital Charitable Foundation Board (Vice Chairman) 1998-present; City of Havana Zoning Board of Appeals (Chairman) 2015-present

I would endeavor to use the experience I have in the areas of leadership, finance, communication, human resources and church involvement to further the mission of the Central Illinois District and the church at large. This includes the business side of district operations and finances, but more importantly, our fulfillment of the District's role in the Great Commission—to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them, and teaching them to obey everything the Lord has commanded. In all of our dealings, I would use a cooperative, common sense and Christ-centered approach to matters coming to the CID Board of Directors. I would be pleased and humbled to have the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

Kevin E. Block, Immanuel, Broadlands

- C: Board of Evangelism, Board of Lay Ministry (Elder), Vice Chairman of the Congregation (currently serving in this position)
- D: Delegate at District Convention (two times), Delegate at Synodical Convention
- O: President, Broadlands Community Club, Broadlands, IL, Volunteered for Prison Ministry in the Champaign County Courthouse, Urbana, IL.

I have served multiple times on our Church Council and 12 years as an Elder of our Congregation. I have participated in a prison ministry. I have a background in farming, banking and real estate investment/sales. I feel that my church, business background and experience gives me wisdom (hopefully) and maturity to assist the Central Illinois District in it's ministry.

Aaron Schroeder, Our Savior's, Springfield

- C: Executive Director/Chairman, Chair the following Boards: Parish Education Board, Public Relations Board, Missions and Evangelism, Youth, and Christian Formation
- D: Board of Directors, Member of Evangelism Commission
- O: Lutheran High Foundation for Excellence; Member of the Theater in the Park Board; Member of the Springfield Historic Sites Commission; Operation Christmas Child Drop-Off Host

I believe I can contribute input based on my previous tenure on the CID Board of Directors and various church positions. Each day I see the need more and more for the Gospel to be spread to those who haven't heard of Jesus.

Board of Directors

Two commissioned ministers to be elected

Robinette Flach, Immanuel, Altamont

- C: St. John Lutheran School, Forest Park, IL - 2005-2006; St. Lukes Lutheran Church and School, Montgomery, IL - 2006-2015; Altamont Lutheran Interparish School, Altamont; Youth group leader; St. Luke's Lutheran Church and school Leadership Council; Board member - Christ Lutheran Academy High School; Ysleta Lutheran Mission Trip planning team
- D: Board member - CID Board of Directors - 2022
- O: None

I am interested in assisting however God wishes me to be. If His plan is to be elected to the board of directors, I would bring a strong commitment to contributing to the overall success and growth of the organization.

Rebecca Heppe, Our Savior's, Springfield

- C: Board of Education; Board of Directors; Board of Parish Life
- D: Board of Directors, Springfield Lutheran High School
- O: None

I have taught and served in Lutheran schools for 28 years, with 22 of those years being in the Central Illinois District. For the last two years, I have also served as Dean of Students at Our Savior's. I feel that I can relate well to people, and I'm a good problem solver due to my years of teaching experience and working with many faculty, staff, congregation members, and families.

Jordan Hopman, St Paul's, Decatur

- C: None
- D: None
- O: TEACHER/ADMIN at ZION (BEECHER, IL) 2011-2016; TEACHER/ADMIN at LSA/UNITY (DECATUR) 2019-PRESENT

As a Lutheran school administrator I serve as our school's lone called principal. I've served in both rural and urban schools/congregations and understand the unique

challenges and opportunities that comes with each. Additionally, as an administrator and teacher, I understand the complexities that are involved in being part of a governing board, especially one involved with a church.

Steve Parry, Zion, Lincoln

- C: Principal, Zion Lincoln - 2023-present; Principal, St. John Buckley - 2020-2023, Congregational Chair, Treasurer, Elder
- D: CID Convention Floor Committee 2015; Parliamentarian CID Convention 2022; Lay Delegate LCMS Convention 2016
- O: Choral Director/Choir, Habitat for Humanity, McLean County - 2011-2020; Choral Director, State Farm Employee Chorus - 2011-2018

I would work with the other members of the Board of Directors to help the District operate within its means while still providing the best possible leadership and assistance to congregations. I have analytical skills honed during my time at State Farm. These skills, combined with my experience as a Lutheran principal, and in various congregational offices, provide a solid foundation for me to help the District move into the future. I am also committed to the LCMS and want to see both individual congregations and schools, as well as the District, continue to thrive and provide Word and Sacrament ministry to the citizens of central Illinois.

Congregational Constitution, Bylaws and Handbook Committee

Two ordained ministers (1 must be parish pastor) to be elected

Rev. Stephen M Mueller, Concordia, Geneseo

- C: St. James, Quincy, IL 2008-2012
- D: None
- O: None

Another set of eyes to read, ask questions, seek clarifications, and pray for congregations of our District working through their constitutions.

Rev. James Stuenkel, Immanuel, Springfield

- C: St. Paul, Brookfield, IL, Teacher(1972-78); St. John, East Moline, IL, DCE(1978-80); Good Shepherd, Sherman, IL, Pastor (1982-2017); Immanuel, Springfield, Pastor 2017-2024)
- D: Synodical Convention rep. (Circuit); CID Stewardship Commission; CID Mission Commission; CID Board of Directors; CID Board of Directors (assistant sec & sec)
- O: Lutheran H.S., Springfield BOD

Serving on the District BOD we reviewed many congregations constitutions and constitution changes gave me a little insight to what this committee will face.

Rev. Kent Tibben, Trinity, Danville

- C: Trinity, Danville - 1992-present
D: CID Board of Directors; CID 2nd VP 2015-2018; CID 1st VP 2012-2015; CID Constitution Committee 2022-2025; Lutheran Musician Enrichment Instructor; Introductory Workshop Leader for HS '98; Introductory Workshop Leader for LSB; CUC Board of Regents 2007-2010
O: None

Having served one term, I have become familiar with how the Constitution Committee functions. I also have enjoyed many years serving within the CID, not only as parish pastor, but in other offices as well. It is my hope to faithfully serve the congregation to which the Lord has called me and to be of use to our district and synod however possible.

Congregational Constitution, Bylaws and Handbook Committee

One layman (attorney) to be elected

No candidate.

Nominations Committee for the 2028 Central Illinois District Convention

Two parish pastors to be elected

Rev. Jason Braaten, Immanuel, Tuscola, IL

- C: Admissions & Advancement for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (2007–2010)
D: CID Conference Committee (2010–2014), CID Board of Directors (2018–2019), LCEF Board of Directors (2019–Present)
O: Tuscola Library Board (2012 – Present), Tuscola Rotary Club President (2016 – 2017), Tuscola Rotary Club Vice-President (2015–2016), Tuscola Rotary Club Secretary (2012 – 2015), Tuscola Community Foundation (2015 – Present), LCMS Contract Writer, Stewardship (2013 – 2020), Logic Instructor, Wittenberg Academy (2013 – Present)

I have a deep love for Christ, His Word, and His Church, a love that seeks the truth and desires to share it. I have an abiding respect for our Lutheran heritage and the rich theological tradition in doctrine and practice bequeathed to us from our Lutheran forefathers, a respect that I seek to impart in those around me. But not every challenge we face is addressed in this rich tradition, yet it informs how we meet and answer them. We ought not change for the sake of change.

As a former fundraiser and recruiter for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, I learned the delicate art of facing conflict and difficult situations — temporal and spiritual — in a pastoral, caring, biblical and honest manner. This means that I do not shy away from conflict and am not afraid to ask difficult questions or make tough decisions so that the truth may be heard, souls comforted, families and faith restored, and the Church further united.

As LCMS Lutherans, we have much to be thankful for. If I can be an agent, beyond my call as a parish pastor, to hand down the great gifts we have received, I am eager to serve.

Rev. David Dunlop, Christ, Clinton and Zion, Chestnut

- C: Stewardship Commission, 2018-2025; Circuit Visitor, 2022-2025
- D: None
- O: None

I could contribute organizational skills as I am meticulous in tracking certain details. I have been gifted the ability to plan and prioritize tasks in order to accomplish that which is set before me with efficiency.

Rev. Keith Kettner, Saint John, Beardstown

- C: None
- D: District Conference Committee
- O: None

As a member of the nominations committee, I could especially provide a youthful acuity for technological communication.

Nominations Committee for the 2028 Central Illinois District Convention

Two parish teachers or DCEs to be elected

Gayle Dietsch, Trinity, Bloomington

- C: Trinity Lutheran School 2004-present
- D: CID/SID Teacher Conference Planning Committee, Treasurer of the CID/SID Teacher Conference Planning Committee 2021-present
- O: None

I have a passion for Lutheran Education. I attended a Lutheran grade school, high school, and eventually college. My mom as well as some other members of my family were in Lutheran education. I want to see our churches and schools thrive so they can be a light in each of their communities so that all who hear may come to saving faith in Jesus Christ.

Rebecca Heppe, Our Savior's, Springfield

- C: Board of Education; Board of Directors; Board of Parish Life
- D: Board of Directors, Springfield Lutheran High School
- O: None

I have taught and served in Lutheran schools for 28 years, with 22 of those years being in the Central Illinois District. For the last two years, I have also served as Dean of Students at Our Savior's. I feel that I can relate well to people, and I'm a good problem solver due to my years of teaching experience and working with many faculty, staff, congregation members, and families.

Sandy Spitz, Immanuel, Loda

- C: None
- D: Mission Funding and Recognition Floor Committee (for CID Convention - 2025)
- O: Secretary/Treasurer - CID Administrators' Group

Nominations Committee for the 2028 Central Illinois District Convention

Two laymen to be elected

Deloris Blessman, Saint Pauls, Havana

- C: VBS Superintendent, Ladies Aid President and Treasurer, Sunday School Teacher, Wings (LWML group) Treasurer
- D: CID LLL Treasurer and Fair Booth Chairmen; CID LWML Lincoln Zone President and District Corresponding Secretary; Camp Cilca Board Member and Treasurer
- O: MacLean Forge: Human Resources, Accounts Payable, Purchasing
Organization, telephone and computer skills, persistence

Don James, Good Shepherd, Sherman

- C: Elder Chair, Evangelism Chair, Sunday School Teacher, Adult Bible Class Teacher
- D: None
- O: President of Foundation For Excellence for Lutheran High
Willing to serve in any way I can, and not afraid to hear someone say "no"

David Harshaw, Our Savior's, Springfield

- C: Board of Christian Education, Stewardship, Usher, Lutheran High School Board of Directors
- D: Camp Cilca Board of Directors
- O: None
I feel that my communication and business experience can be additive to the success of the District and the congregations within. I am excited to learn more about the district, the congregations and the leadership.

Brandon West, Saint Paul (Blue Point), Altamont, IL

- C: Secretary, Parish Board
- D: None
- O: Illinois Council of Social Studies District 6 Representative
I will bring energy and passion to do whatever needs to be done. I'm able to effectively manage my time and willing to step up to any challenge.

Central Illinois District
2025 Nominations Committee
Rev. Michael Schuermann, Chairman
Mrs. Robinette Flach, Secretary
Rev. Joshua Theilen
Mrs. Lisa Dippel
Mr. Ray Stuckemeyer
Mr. Eldon Garlisch

Please note: A number of positions could still use candidates. We ask the delegates to come to the convention with floor nominations. Seek out qualified individuals and receive their consent to serve in whatever capacity God has given them.

To that end, on the next page is a form to be used for floor nominations. It will need to be fully completed for the nomination to be valid and helpful in the elections process. It must include at least the nominee's name, street address, office of clergy, teacher, or layman, congregation that nominee holds membership in, and nominee's signature. The floor nomination form must be submitted during the convention time designated for the nominations committee (see convention schedule on p. A-1 of workbook).

Also, please find a fillable PDF of the floor nominations form at:
<https://www.cidlcms.org/Convention2025/2025.Floor.Nominations.pdf>

**The Nominations Committee
Central Illinois District, LC-MS Convention, July 13—15, 2025**

FLOOR NOMINATIONS for Elected Positions & Biographical Sketch of Nominee

Name: _____ **For the Position of:** _____

Street or P.O. Box _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

I agree to have my name placed in nomination for the position stated above and, if elected, I will serve.

Signature: _____

Circle One: CLERGY TEACHER LAYMEMBER

Brief Biographical Sketch of Nominee for Elected Position

(Use back side of this form if additional space is needed)

Member of Congregation _____ City _____

Place of Employment _____

Title or Position _____

Past and/or Present Position/Offices held in your congregation. Include dates, if known.

Past and/or Present Position/Offices held in District/Synod. Include dates, if known.

Past and/or Present Positions/Offices held in city, state, voluntary & professional organizations. Include dates, if known.

What do you believe you could contribute to this position if elected?

Note: Following Bylaw requirements, there are no nominations taken from the floor for District President and there is a special process for nominations for Vice Presidents.

Section D

Supplement

Please insert these pages after page D-52 in your
Convention Workbook

1 **2025 AMENDED RESOLUTIONS**

2 **FLOOR COMMITTEE 1 – CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS**

3 **Resolution 2025-1-05A**

4 **To Amend and Update Selected Bylaws of the CID Handbook**

5 *Overture 25-08, Late Overture 25-L02*

6 WHEREAS, The CID Board of Directors and the CID Commission on Constitutional Matters and District Handbook
7 recommended changes and updates to the present edition of the CID Handbook and have received communication from the
8 Commission on Constitutional Matters with regards to the recommended changes;

9 therefore, be it

10 *Resolved*, That the Central Illinois District in convention adopt the following revised bylaws to be included as amended
11 in the CID Handbook for 2025.

12 ***25-1-05A - Appendix A***

13 **BYLAWS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD**
14 **CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT**

15
16 **I. MEMBERSHIP**

17
18 1.1 Application and Reception

19
20 The application for membership and the reception into membership shall be governed by the Bylaws of The
21 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

22
23 1.2 Duties of Members

24
25 Every member of the Synod shall, in accordance with his vocation, his ability, and the means at his command,
26 diligently and earnestly promote the purposes of the Synod by word, deed, and adequate financial support.

27
28 1.3 Accrediting of Delegates

29
30 A pastor of a voting congregation and the lay delegate of a voting congregation shall stand accredited and entitled
31 to vote upon presenting to the Secretary at the opening of the convention the proper credentials signed by two of the
32 congregation's officers. If a pastor serves two or more congregations, these congregations shall be regarded as one parish
33 and shall be entitled to only one lay vote (Synod Bylaw 4.2.2 (a)).

34
35 **II. ADMINISTRATION**
36

1 **A. OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES**

2
3 2.1 Officers

4
5 The elective officers of the District shall be the following: a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, an
6 Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, a Financial Secretary, and a Circuit Visitor for each circuit.

7
8 2.2 Boards, Commissions, Committees

9
10 The boards, commissions, and committees of the District to be elected or appointed shall be the following:

11
12 2.2.a. Elected by the Delegate Convention of the District

13
14 A Board of Directors – subdivided by appointment as follows:

15
16 A Commission on Mission Services

17
18 A Commission on Evangelism Services

19
20 A Commission on Congregational Life

21
22 A Commission on Education Services

23
24 A Commission on Stewardship Services

25
26 A Commission on Finance and Management

27
28 2.2.a.1. A Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee

29
30 2.2.a.2. A District Nominations Committee

31
32 2.2.b. Appointed by the Board of Directors

33
34 A committee on Communication Services

35
36 A Human Care and Church Worker Support and Wellness Committee

1 An Auditing Committee

2
3 An Archivist

4
5 ~~2.2.c. Appointed by the President~~

6
7 ~~A Ministerial Health Committee~~

8
9 ~~A Christian Legislative Concerns Committee~~

10
11 ~~A Committee on Architecture and Construction Assistance to Local Congregations~~

12
13 2.3 Term of Office

14
15 2.3.a. The term of office for all officers and members of boards, commissions, and committees, elected
16 or appointed, shall be three years, unless otherwise specified.

17
18 2.3.b. Newly elected officers and members of boards, commissions, and committees shall assume
19 office at close of the convention. The District President shall assume office on September 1 of the year of the District
20 Convention.

21
22 2.4. Successive Terms

23
24 2.4.a. The office of President of the District and of the two Vice-Presidents shall be limited to three consecutive
25 terms.

26
27 2.4.b. All other officers and members of boards, commissions, and committees shall be limited to two
28 consecutive terms, except members of the Nominations Committee whose term of service is three years and who may not
29 succeed themselves.

30
31 2.4.c. Any officer or member of a board, commission, or committee, who is ineligible for re-election or
32 reappointment, may be elected or appointed to any other position. He may become eligible again for election or
33 appointment to the same office, board or committee after an interval of three or more years.

34
35 2.5 Vacancies

36
37 2.5.a. Special provisions are indicated for vacancies occurring in the District Presidency. See Bylaw 2.11.

38
39 2.5.b. Vacancies that occur in the office of circuit visitor between conventions shall be filled by appointment by
40 the District President (Synod Bylaw 5.2.2.1).

1
2 2.5.c. Any vacancy occurring in any other elective office, board, or committee shall be filled by appointment of
3 the District President with the approval of the Board of Directors in the respective classification of ordained minister,
4 ~~teacher or DCE~~ commissioned minister, or layman.

5
6 2.5.d. The member thus appointed shall serve out the term of the person he succeeds. ~~If the un-expired term is~~
7 ~~less than 1 1/2 years, it shall not prevent his being elected for two successive terms thereafter.~~ More than one half a term
8 shall be regarded as a full term under limited tenure rules.

9
10 2.6. How Offices are Filled

11
12 The District offices shall be filled in the following manner in the year preceding the general Synodical convention:

13
14 2.6.a. By election

15
16 2.6.a.1. The President of the District

17
18 2.6.a.2. The Two Vice-Presidents

19
20 2.6.a.3. The Secretary

21
22 2.6.a.4. The Assistant Secretary

23
24 2.6.a.5. The Treasurer

25
26 2.6.a.6. The Financial Secretary

27
28 2.6.a.7. The Board of Directors: four parish pastors, four laymen who are voting members of
29 congregations of the District, two ~~parish teachers or DCEs~~ commissioned ministers.

30
31 2.6.a.8. The Circuit Visitors

32
33 2.6.a.9. Congregational Constitution and District Handbook Committee: two ~~Ministers of~~
34 ~~Religion Ordained~~ ordained ministers (one to be a parish pastor), one layman (a lawyer)

35
36 2.6.a.10. District Nominations Committee: two parish pastors, two ~~parish teachers or DCEs~~
37 commissioned ministers, two laymen who are voting members of congregations of the District.

38
39 2.6.b. By Appointment

2.6.b.1. Committee on Communication Services: ~~one Minister of Religion Ordained, one Minister of Religion Commissioned, one layman (TV Radio Newspaper), one editor~~ at least five members to include at least one ordained minister, at least one commissioned minister, and also at least one lay member. Skills and interests sought among members include editorial services, as well as acquaintance with print and/or electronic media (radio, television, internet).

2.6.b.2. ~~Social Ministries Human Care and Church Worker Support and Wellness Committee:~~
~~two Ministers of Religion Ordained, one Minister of Religion Commissioned, two laymen~~ two ordained ministers, one commissioned minister, one layman who is voting member of a congregation of the District, and a fifth member of a District congregation who is not an ordained minister.

~~2.6.b.3. Ministerial Health Committee: two ordained ministers, one teacher or DCE, two laymen (one physician or psychiatrist, if possible)~~

2.6.b.4. Archivist

~~2.6.b.5. Christian Legislative Concerns Committee~~

~~2.6.b.6. Committee on Architecture and Construction Assistance to local congregations~~

2.7 Sundry Regulations

2.7.a. The district convention shall be concluded no later than July 31 in the calendar year prior to a synod convention.

2.7.ab Every board, commission, and committee shall organize at the first meeting after its election or appointment to select a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary, and shall conduct its business in accordance with accepted parliamentary rules.

2.7.bc. All officers, boards, committees, and personnel shall surrender all records and equipment in their custody to their successors at the expiration of their term of office.

2.7.ed. All board, commissions, and committees, including the Archivist, shall be accountable to the District for all their actions and shall make a full report on the activities to the District at each convention.

B. THE PRESIDENT OF THE DISTRICT

2.8 Relation to President of Synod

1 The District President by virtue of his office represents Synod in his respective territory. He shall
2 therefore regularly report to the President of Synod (Synod Bylaw 4.4.2).

3
4 2.9 Duties

5
6 2.9.a. The District President, in accordance with the Constitution of the Synod (Article XII) and Bylaws of the
7 Synod (section 4.4), shall supervise the doctrine, the life, and the official administration on the part of the ~~pastors and the~~
8 ~~teachers~~ ordained and commissioned ministers of the District. Therefore, as often as possible, he shall attend the
9 professional workers conferences of pastors and teachers, ordained and commissioned ministers, advise the congregations
10 of the District as to the calling of ~~pastors~~ ordained and teachers, commissioned ministers, give counsel, and respond to
11 requests and inquiries. He may call upon the vice-presidents and the circuit visitors to assist him (Synod Bylaw 4.4.5).

12
13 2.9.b. The District President, even without formal request therefore, may through the proper channels arrange
14 for an official visit or an investigation when a controversy arises in a congregation or between two or more congregations
15 of the District, or when there is evidence of a continuing unresolved problem in doctrine or practice. He shall ask for a full
16 report on the case in order that he may have a clear understanding of the situation. If the District President authorizes
17 anyone to represent him in such matters, his representative shall be accorded the same rights as the District President
18 (Synod Bylaw 4.4.6).

19
20 2.9.c. The District President shall ~~annually revise the official roster of Ministers of Religion Ordained and~~
21 ~~Ministers of Religion Commissioned for publication in the LUTHERAN ANNUAL and remove the names of those who~~
22 ~~have died, have severed their connections with the Synod, have been eliminated from the roster by the Council of~~
23 ~~Presidents, have resigned their status as Ministers of Religion Ordained or Ministers of Religion Commissioned in the~~
24 ~~Synod, or have in some way disqualified themselves for service in the church~~ be responsible for maintaining the official
25 rosters of his district, reporting changes regularly to the Secretary of the Synod, and shall, with the assistance of the circuit
26 visitors, promote and pursue unanimous participation by congregations in the submission of annual statistical reports
27 (Synod Bylaws 4.4.7 and 4.4.8).

28
29 2.9.d. The District President has the responsibility to see to it that the resolutions of the Synod and District are
30 implemented.

31
32 2.9.e. The District President shall make an official report to the District at its convention.

33
34 2.9.f. At the sessions of the District, the President shall conduct the meetings according to the accepted
35 parliamentary rules and in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and the Rules and Regulations of the
36 District.

37
38 2.9.g. The District President shall be an ex-officio member of all commissions and committees of the District,
39 except the Nominations Committee. As supervising the officer of the District charged with oversight, he shall advise the
40 Board of Directors and its various commissions and committees.

41
42 2.9.h. The District President and the Secretary shall sign all legal documents and instruments.

43
44 2.9.i. The District President shall perform all additional duties which the District places upon him through its
45 Bylaws, regulations, or special resolutions.

2.10 President – A Full-Time Executive

2.10.a. The District President shall be a full-time executive. He shall not be in charge of a congregation or hold a chair at any educational institution, but may be called as an assistant pastor to a congregation in an assisting capacity provided such services do not interfere with his official duties as President.

2.10.b. A District President who, before he has reached the official (pension) retirement age, fails to be reelected to this full-time office, or is ineligible for reelection because of term limits, or elects to resign his position because of infirmity, shall receive full monthly compensation for up to six (6) months or until the commencement of full-time employment or retirement benefits, if sooner.

2.11 If the President is Unable to Serve

2.11.a. The duties and responsibilities of the Presidency shall be assumed by the First Vice-President on a part-time basis whenever the Board of Directors determines that the District President is temporarily unable to serve because of prolonged illness or disability.

2.11.b. In the event that the office of District President is permanently vacated on or less than 18 months prior to the next District convention, the First Vice-President shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Presidency on a part-time basis until the next regular District convention. He would be eligible to serve in three consecutive terms thereafter.

2.11.c. In the event that the office of District President is permanently vacated more than 18 months prior to the next District convention, the First Vice-President shall serve on a full-time basis until the next regular District convention.

2.11.d. In the event that the First Vice-President is unable to assume the duties and responsibilities of the Presidency on a part-time basis, the Second Vice-President shall serve in such capacity.

C. THE VICE-PRESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT

2.12 Regional Vice-Presidents

2.12.a. The District shall elect two Vice-Presidents, who shall be regional Vice-Presidents, that is, one of the Vice-Presidents shall at the time of the election ~~be in the~~ and throughout the time of service hold membership in a congregation of the eastern region of the District, namely, the Altamont, Champaign, Decatur, Effingham, Iroquois, Mattoon, Shelby, Springfield East, or Springfield West Circuits; the other shall at the time of election ~~be in the~~ and throughout the time of service hold membership in a congregation of the western region of the District, namely, the Bloomington North & South, Jacksonville, Lincoln, Peoria, Quincy, Rock Island, or Tazewell Circuits.

2.12.b. If a regional Vice-President ~~moves out~~ no longer holds membership in a congregation of the region, he must vacate his office (Synod Bylaw 4.3.3).

1 2.13 Relation to President

2
3 Each Vice-President shall, upon request of the President, or as may be provided by the District, advise, assist, or
4 represent the President.

5
6 2.14 Ranking of Vice-Presidents

7
8 The Vice-Presidents shall be ranked as First Vice-President and Second Vice-President in the manner prescribed
9 by the Bylaws under procedure for election (see Central Illinois District Bylaw 2.37 and following).

10
11 2.15 Succession

12
13 2.15.a. The Vice-Presidents shall, in the order in which they have been ranked, perform the duties of the
14 President in the event the President becomes incapacitated, or the President's office is vacated.

15
16 2.15.b. A vacancy in the First Vice-Presidency shall be filled by advancing the Second Vice-President. A
17 vacancy in the Second Vice Presidency shall then be filled by the President from the reserve list of nominations, that is
18 from the nominees left after the previous election, according to the number of votes received, as long as the nominee
19 ~~resides in~~ holds membership in a congregation of the vacant region.

20
21 **D. THE SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT**

22
23 2.16 Qualifications

24
25 The Secretary shall be an ordained minister who is a member of the District and of one of the congregations of the
26 District.

27
28 2.17 Duties

29
30 2.17.a. The Secretary shall record the proceedings during District conventions, publish the proceedings after the
31 President has approved the manuscript, sign (in conjunction with the President) all legal documents and instruments, and
32 perform such other work as the Synod or District may direct him through its Bylaws, regulations, or special resolutions.

33
34 2.17.b. The Secretary shall receive and cause to be preserved signed copies of constitutions of congregations
35 newly accepted into the Synod (Synod Bylaw 2.3.2), oversee selection of district advisory delegates to conventions of
36 Synod (Synod Bylaw 3.1.3.1(a)), certify delegates for ~~Synodical~~ conventions (Synod Bylaws 3.1.3.2) accredit delegates
37 from voting congregations or multi-congregation parishes to the district convention (Synod Bylaw 4.2.2), and oversee the
38 nomination process for District President (Central Illinois District Bylaws 2.40 and 2.41).

39
40 2.17.c. The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary whenever requested to do so. In the event that the
41 Secretary becomes incapacitated or vacates his office, the Assistant Secretary shall ~~take over~~ assume the office and duties
42 of the Secretary.

1
2 **E. THE TREASURER OF THE DISTRICT**

3
4 2.18 Qualifications

5
6 The Treasurer shall be a lay voting member of one of the congregations of the District and shall be familiar with
7 accounting and good business practices, and of good standing in his congregation and community.
8

9 2.19 Duties

10
11 2.19.a. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipt, safeguarding, and proper disbursement of District
12 funds through the establishment of appropriate procedures, systems, records, and internal controls, possibly utilizing the
13 services of the Business Manager (if appointed), whose assistance in such functions would be under the supervision of the
14 Treasurer.
15

16 2.19.b. He shall be responsible for the establishment of one or more bank accounts as authorized by the Board of
17 Directors and shall establish proper safeguarding and custody of securities, documents, and other legal or valuable papers of
18 the District in one or more safe-deposit boxes or other depository or file as may be appropriate in the interest of security
19 against loss or destruction.
20

21 2.19.c. He shall cause to be prepared such financial reports, budgets, work programs, statistics, and related data
22 as shall be requested by the Board of Directors or as shall be appropriate in the operation of the District's business.
23

24 2.19.d. He shall supervise the purchase of investments as authorized by the Board of Directors.
25

26 2.19.e. He shall attend meetings of the Board of Directors, the Commission on Finance and Management, Budget
27 Advisory Conferences, District conventions, and any other meetings where the financial affairs of the District are being
28 considered or reviewed, and he shall present such reports and summaries as necessary or required.
29

30 **F. THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT**

31
32 2.20 Qualifications

33
34 The Financial Secretary shall be a lay voting member of one of the congregations of the District and shall be
35 familiar with general business practices.
36

37 2.21 Duties

38
39 2.21.a. The Financial Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation of a statistical record of all budget and
40 miscellaneous contributions received by the District Treasury.
41

1 2.21.b. He shall be responsible for the issuance of regular reports in the official District news publication
2 showing the contributions of each congregation in such manner and frequency as directed by the Board of Directors.

3
4 2.21.c. He shall be responsible for keeping an accurate account of the communicant membership of every
5 congregation, of each circuit, and of the district.

6
7 2.21.d. He shall be responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors, congregations which may experience
8 difficulty in being current with District/Synod mission commitment.

9
10 2.21.e. He may be assisted in the fulfillment of these responsibilities through such service and assistance as may
11 be arranged with the Business Manager (if appointed).

12 13 **G. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DISTRICT**

14 15 2.22 Membership

16
17 2.22.a. The Board of Directors shall be constituted as follows: The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary,
18 the Treasurer, and the Financial Secretary shall be members of the Board. Four parish pastors, four laymen who are voting
19 members of congregations of the District, and two commissioned ministers actively serving shall be elected according to
20 procedures defined in these Bylaws.

21
22 2.22.b. The Assistant Secretary shall be an advisory member of the Board.

23
24 2.22.c. The Administrative Assistant(s) to the President and the Business Manager (if appointed), while not
25 members of the Board (Synod Bylaw 1.5.1.1) shall attend open sessions of the Board, giving reports and advice directly to
26 the Board.

27
28 2.22.d. Every member of the Board shall be a member of a voting congregation of the District. No two members
29 of the same congregation may be members of the Board. When a member of the Board ceases to be a member of a voting
30 congregation of the District or when the nature of his major duties is such that he no longer is a member of the group from
31 which he was elected, he is automatically eliminated from membership on the Board.

32 33 2.23 Officers

34
35 The Board of Directors shall elect its own chairman and vice-chairman.

36 37 2.24 Prohibition of Conflict of Interest

38
39 2.24.a. No officer, director, board or commission member of the District or any agency of the District shall use
40 his position or knowledge acquired from his services in such a manner that a conflict between his personal or business
41 interest and the interest and general welfare of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod arises (see Synod Bylaw 1.5.2).

1 2.24.b. Officers or members of District boards or commissions shall not enter into gainful business transactions
2 directly or indirectly, with any board or commission on which they serve.

3
4 2.25 Responsibilities, Commissions
5

6 2.25.a. The Board of Directors as a whole is charged with the responsibility of handling for the District all
7 matters pertaining to missions, evangelism, parish education, youth ministry, finances, stewardship, and student aid.
8

9 2.25.b. After each District election the Board shall appoint out of its voting and/or advisory membership six
10 commissions for a period of three years:
11

12 A Commission on Mission Services
13

14 A Commission on Evangelism Services
15

16 A Commission on Congregational Life
17

18 A Commission on Education Services
19

20 A Commission on Stewardship Services
21

22 A Commission on Finance and Management
23

24 Immediately after such organization it shall inform all congregations and ordained and commissioned
25 ministers of the District concerning the personnel of such commissions and indicate to which member communications
26 inquiring for information and/or assistance are to be sent.
27

28 2.25.c. In order properly to direct the work in the different fields, various duties and powers are prescribed for
29 the Board of Directors. Since the Board through the commissions administers the work in the different fields, the
30 regulations apply primarily to the particular commission involved and shall be so stated. However, as each commission
31 must submit its findings to the Board for action, all duties and powers delegated to any particular commission actually
32 remain the responsibility of the Board of Directors, although it may act through a particular commission. Rules and
33 regulations are assigned to the various commissions only in order to designate which phases of the work are the primary
34 responsibility of certain groups within the Board of Directors.
35

36 2.25.d. Each commission shall meet at the call of its chairman as often as is necessary to conduct its business.
37

38 2.25.e. Each commission shall be responsible for its share of the Board of Directors triennial report to the District
39 convention.
40

1 2.25.f. Each commission, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may augment itself and/or appoint such
2 personnel and committees as are needed to carry out the overall objectives of the commission. All such appointments will
3 terminate at the close of the following district convention.

4
5 2.26. Meetings

6
7 2.26.a. The Board shall meet not fewer than four times a year, or at the call of the Chairman, or at the call of
8 three members of the Board. A majority of the Board members shall constitute a quorum. The District shall pay all
9 expenses incurred.

10
11 2.26.b. The Secretary of the Board shall keep accurate minutes of each meeting of the Board and copies of these
12 minutes shall be sent after each meeting to all members of the Board. A summary of the actions of the Board shall be sent
13 to each congregation on a regular basis.

14
15 2.27 Administrative Assistant(s) to the President and the Business Manager (if appointed)

16
17 The Board shall appoint the Administrative Assistant(s) to the President and may appoint a Business Manager.

18
19 2.28 Financial Duties

20
21 2.28.a. The Board shall bond or insure the fiduciary officers and such employees of the District as it deems
22 advisable, such bond or insurance policy to be in the custody of the District President.

23
24 2.28.b. The Board shall designate the signatories, in addition to the President and the Treasurer, who are to be
25 duly certified for the financial transactions of the District.

26
27 2.28.c. The Board shall determine the remuneration of the President, the Administrative Assistant(s) to the
28 President, and the Business Manager (if appointed).

29
30 2.28.d. Budgeting Procedure: The Budget Committee (Central Illinois District Bylaw 9.1.c.) shall propose a
31 tentative income and expenditures budget for the next fiscal year for the consideration of the Board of Directors. The Board
32 of Directors shall establish the budget at its last meeting of the prior fiscal year or the first meeting in the new fiscal year.

33
34 2.28.e. Following the District Convention and before the beginning of the next fiscal year, the Board shall
35 appoint a Financial Review Committee. Such committee shall stand for three years.

36
37 2.29 Powers and Duties with Respect to the Property of the District

38
39 2.29.a. The Board of Directors shall hold in trust all properties of the Central Illinois District and shall have the
40 power to transact the business of the District between conventions; always, however, subject to the rules and regulations of
41 the District.

1 2.29.b. The Board of Directors is hereby empowered to hold, purchase, and sell property, make loans, hold
2 mortgages and chattels, etc., in the name of and for the benefit of the Central Illinois District of The Lutheran Church—
3 Missouri Synod.

4
5 2.29.c. Purchase or sale of property exceeding \$300,000 must be approved by a majority of circuit visitors and
6 circuit lay-delegates present at a meeting called for this purpose.

7
8 2.30 Other Duties

9
10 2.30.a. The Board may call missionaries-at-large and place them in new mission fields within the boundaries of
11 the District. The Board may also call campus pastors and institutional chaplains and make appointment of part-time
12 workers at various institutions within the boundaries of the District.

13
14 2.30.b. The circuit visitors of the District shall be regularly informed of the transactions and directions of the
15 Board. In any matter affecting a particular circuit the Board shall confer with the visitor of that circuit.

16
17 2.30.c. The Board of Directors shall be accountable to the delegate convention of the District and shall present a
18 complete report of its actions at each District convention. Appeals may be made from the actions of the Board to the
19 District convention, and the action of the convention on such appeals shall be final.

20
21 2.30.d. ~~Nothing shall be done by the Board which is in conflict with the rules and regulations of the Synod or of~~
22 ~~the Central Illinois District. The Board of Directors may adopt policies and guidelines governing various aspects of District~~
23 ~~operations that are not in conflict with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod or the Bylaws and resolutions~~
24 ~~of the District.~~

25
26 **H. STAFF**

27
28 2.31 Administrative Assistant(s) to the President

29
30 2.31.a. Administrative Assistant(s) to the President may be appointed by the Board of Directors as it deems
31 necessary or as may be determined by the District convention.

32
33 2.31.b. The Administrative Assistant(s) shall report regularly to the Board of Directors and to the President on
34 the activities of his office.

35
36 2.31.c. The term of office, unless otherwise specified, shall be for a period of three years, with no limitation on
37 reappointment to successive terms. Appointees may normally expect reappointment if their work proves satisfactory and
38 there is a continuing need for their services, but every appointment shall be subject to mandatory review and decision on
39 reappointment every 3 years.

40
41 ~~2.31.d. Procedures for removing or terminating an appointment shall be in accordance with the Bylaws of the~~
42 ~~Synod (cf. Synod Bylaw 3.11.1).~~

1 2.31.d. Duties of the Administrative Assistant(s)

2
3 2.31.d.i. Devote his efforts to the promotion of the Kingdom of God in the Central Illinois
4 District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod;

5
6 2.31.d.ii. Carry out the decisions of the Board as it may direct;

7
8 2.31.d.iii. Assist the President, as he directs, in the President's supervisory responsibility
9 with reference to the operating and service divisions of the District;

10
11 2.31.d.iv. Serve as an advisory member of and as field representative for the respective
12 commission(s) to which he has been assigned, and shall seek to visit all congregations in the interest of the assigned
13 responsibilities and areas of service as time permits, and make such special visits as directed by the commission(s) or the
14 President or by the Board of Directors.

15
16 2.32 Business Manager (if appointed)

17
18 2.32.a. The Board of Directors may appoint a Business Manager, who is to be generally responsible to the Board
19 of Directors and specifically responsible to certain commissions or officers as indicated herein.

20
21 2.32.b. Duties of the Business Manager (if appointed)

22
23 2.32.b.i. Property Management: The Business Manager shall be responsible for the regular inspection of
24 all District-owned property, recommending any items for repair and maintenance to the appropriate commission or the
25 Board of Directors, and shall maintain records on major maintenance items such as roofs, redecoration, and exterior
26 painting.

27
28 2.32.b.ii. Property Selection: The Business Manager shall assist the Board of Directors or any
29 commission, upon request, in the examination of sites and buildings in contemplation of purchase or other acquisition by
30 the District.

31
32 2.32.b.iii. Legal Responsibilities: The Business Manager shall assist the Board of Directors or any
33 commission in the legal details involved in all purchases of sites and buildings and shall supervise the safekeeping of the
34 deeds, mortgages, abstracts, and related records of all District-owned or mortgaged property.

35
36 2.32.b.iv. Insurance Management: The Business Manager shall maintain proper insurance
37 coverage on all property of the District, shall seek to obtain the best insurance values on behalf of the District, shall verify
38 and recommend for payment any premiums as they come due, and shall handle all claims arising under such insurance
39 coverage. He shall also handle any other forms of insurance which the District may purchase. Such duties may be delegated
40 to a layman of the District, appointed by the Board, as Insurance Manager under the supervision of the Business Manager.

41
42 2.32.b.v. Other Property Management: The Business Manager shall assure the Board of Directors that the
43 proper taxes, if any, are being paid on District-owned property, or that exemptions are filed and in effect if such is

appropriate. He shall likewise be available to any District commission in connection with any property matters, such as acting as liaison between an architect, a contractor, and any commission of the District, in contemplation of or in process of the construction of any building. He shall seek such assistance as is necessary or appropriate in all property management functions, utilizing where possible the experience and abilities of members of the congregations and reporting such appointments to the Board of Directors for approval or recognition, as may be appropriate.

2.32.b.vi. Office Management: The Business Manager shall serve as office manager for the District office and shall be responsible for the maintenance of adequate facilities, supplies, and clerical and secretarial employment.

2.32.b.vii. Assisting the District Treasurer: The Business Manager shall assist the Treasurer and shall be under his supervision with respect to the receipt, custody, recording, and disbursement of District funds. He shall handle such business matters as supervision of receipts, check preparation, general correspondence pertaining to general District financial matters, and such other duties as may be assigned by the Treasurer.

I. OTHER COMMITTEES

2.33 The Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee

2.33.a. Membership: The Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee shall consist of two ordained ministers, at least one of whom shall be a parish pastor, and one layman who is a voting member of a congregation of the District, who shall be an attorney.

2.33.b. Duties

2.33.b.i. A congregation which applies for membership in the Synod shall send its constitution and bylaws to the District President, who shall refer them to the Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee. This committee shall examine the constitution and bylaws to ascertain whether or not their provisions are in harmony with Scriptures and the teachings and practices of the Synod, in order that any necessary changes may be made by the congregation. A congregation shall not be granted membership in the Synod until it has made such changes as the Committee has deemed necessary and the Committee has notified the District President of its approval of the congregation's constitution and bylaws. Once a congregation's application for membership has been approved by the District Board of Directors or, if denied by the Board of Directors and requested by the congregation, approved by the District Convention, a copy of its constitution and bylaws shall be forwarded to the secretary of the District and retained in the District office for future reference (Synod Bylaws 2.2.1 – 2.3.2).

2.33.b.ii. A member congregation which ~~translates, revises, or amends~~ desires to revise its constitution and/or bylaws ~~or adopts a new constitution and/or bylaws~~ shall submit ~~such translation, revision, amendment, or new a proposed revised~~ constitution and/or bylaws to the District President who shall ~~direct it~~ refer such to the Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee for review to ascertain that the provisions are in harmony with the Holy Scriptures, the Confessions, and the teachings and practices of the Synod. Upon advice of the committee and recommendation of the District President, the District Board of Directors shall determine if the changes are acceptable to the Synod. Upon favorable action by the District Board of Directors, the congregation shall be notified that the changes ~~have been approved~~ are acceptable to the Synod, and that the congregation may ~~function under the new or changed~~ proceed with formal adoption of the revised constitution and/or bylaws without jeopardizing its good standing in and remain a member in good standing of the Synod. Upon formal adoption of the proposed revised constitution and/or bylaws, the congregation shall provide to the District a dated copy of the action taken, accompanied by a copy of the dated and revised constitution and/or bylaws. Until a congregation formally adopts a revised constitution and/or bylaws using this process, the

1 ~~Synod shall consider the existing constitution and bylaws to be in effect for all purposes. Such actions Completed~~
2 ~~congregational constitution and/or bylaws revisions~~ shall be reported to the next convention of the District. A copy of such
3 ~~revised~~ constitutions and/or bylaws shall be retained in the District office for future reference (Synod Bylaws 2.4.1 and
4 2.4.2).

5
6 2.33.b.iii. The committee shall request, receive and keep on permanent file a copy of the
7 constitution and bylaws of every congregation in the District.

8
9 2.33.b.iv. The committee shall be responsible for revising the District Handbook and for
10 providing the Synod ~~ical~~ Commission on Constitutional Matters with a copy of any proposed revisions for its prior approval.
11 After each District convention the committee shall be responsible for disseminating copies of the revised version of the
12 District Handbook to the congregations of the District.

13
14 2.34 The Committee for Human Care and Church Worker Support and Wellness

15
16 2.34.a. Membership: The Board of Directors shall appoint a Committee for Human Care and Church Worker
17 Support and Wellness consisting of two ordained ministers, one commissioned ~~church worker from the Synod roster~~
18 minister, one layman who is voting member of a congregation of the District, and a fifth member of a District congregation
19 who is not an ordained minister.

20
21 2.34.b. The Duties of the Committee for Human Care and Church Worker Support and Wellness:

22
23 2.34.b.i. Provide services which will deepen congregation members' concern for human care and
24 endeavors to remove or alleviate human suffering;

25
26 2.34.b.ii. Promote and participate in human care activities from the Synod's Offices of National and
27 International Mission;

28
29 2.34.b.iii. Encourage and support the personal and vocational growth and well-being of the
30 church's workers.

31
32 2.34.b.iv. Recommend to the Board of Directors the granting of assistance to congregations, or
33 through them to their members or others, in dire emergencies or disaster situations;

34
35 2.34.b.v. Assist the Commission on Mission Services, upon request, in the institutional ministries of the
36 District.

37
38 ~~2.35 The Ministerial Health Committee~~

39
40 ~~2.35.a. Membership: The President of the District shall appoint a Ministerial Health Committee consisting of two~~
41 ~~ordained ministers, one teacher or DCE, and two laymen who are voting members of congregations of the District, at least~~
42 ~~one of whom shall, if possible, be a physician or psychiatrist.~~

1 2.35.b.4.b.vi ~~Duties: The Committee shall~~ provide opportunity for the continuing education and vocational
2 growth of the church's workers, advocate and facilitate care and counsel for the church's workers to support them in the
3 performance of their official duties, and advocate and facilitate support for the personal well-being of the church's workers
4 and their family members.

5
6 2.36 The Auditing Committee

7
8 2.36.a. Membership: The Auditing Committee shall consist of three laymen who are voting members of
9 congregations of the District and qualified for such work through accounting and related experiences, one of whom shall be
10 a certified public accountant.

11
12 2.36.b. Duties: The Auditing Committee shall meet in mid-year with the Treasurer and Business Manager (if
13 appointed) to review records, vouchers, instruments, cash and bank balances, notes receivable and payable, insurance
14 papers, etc., and shall submit its report to the Board of Directors.

15
16 2.36.c. Special Audit: The Auditing Committee shall annually, or more frequently at the request of the Board of
17 Directors, engage a firm of Certified Public Accountants to audit the books and financial records of the District and such
18 other funds and records as the Auditing Committee or the Board of Directors in their judgment may consider appropriate.
19 The Auditing Committee shall review the audit reports as submitted by the independent CPA firm, and shall prepare a
20 report with recommendations to the Board of Directors and to the District convention. At least annually notice shall be
21 given to each congregation within the District that a copy of the latest audit is available from each circuit visitor and upon
22 request from a congregation, a copy or copies will be supplied from the District office.

23
24 2.36.d. Bonding: The Auditing Committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors the amount and form of
25 bonding or insurance which the District shall maintain in force on the Treasurer, Business Manager (if appointed),
26 employees, and such other persons as may be deemed appropriate for such bonding coverage.

27
28 **J. REGULATIONS GOVERNING NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

29
30 2.37 General Regulations

31
32 2.37.a. Appointment of Committee: In preparation for the elections at the District convention the President, in
33 consultation with the Vice-Presidents, shall appoint an Elections Committee, consisting of two ordained ministers, two
34 ~~teachers or DCEs~~, commissioned ministers, and two laymen who are voting members of congregations of the District.

35
36 2.37.b. The Elections Committee, in consultation with the Nominations Committee, shall make the necessary
37 provisions for elections and shall conduct and supervise the elections according to District regulations. The members of the
38 Election Committee shall serve until their successors have been appointed.

39
40 2.38 Order of Elections

41
42 2.38.a. ~~In the year preceding the election of the officers of Synod~~, At the regular conventions of the District, the
43 election shall proceed as follows: The President and Vice-Presidents shall be elected first, as provided hereinafter; then the

1 Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Treasurer, the Financial Secretary, the members of the Board of Directors, the circuit
2 visitors, and the members of the standing commissions and committees of the District.

3
4 2.38.b. Proxy: There shall be no voting by proxy at any District election.

5
6 2.39 Order of Names on Ballot

7
8 The names, ~~congregational affiliation, and post office address of the congregation~~ of each candidate in all elections
9 shall be placed on the ballot in alphabetical order and without any distinctive mark., except where congregational
10 membership is required by the district (cf. Central Illinois District Bylaw 2.22.d).

11
12 2.40 Nomination for President

13
14 2.40.a. Advance Nominating Ballot: Five months before the regular election each congregation holding voting
15 membership in the District shall receive from the Secretary of the District an official nominating ballot on which to
16 nominate one or two candidates for President. The congregation's ballot shall be signed by the chairman and secretary of
17 the congregation. The ballot, duly filled in and signed, must be returned to the Secretary of the District at least eight weeks
18 prior to the convention at which the election will be held in order to be counted.

19
20 2.40.b. Notice of Nomination for President: The Secretary of the District shall notify the five candidates who
21 received the highest number of nominations for the office of President (provided they received at least 5% of the total
22 nominations submitted), but the number of nominating votes shall not be revealed. Such nominees who for good and
23 sufficient reasons will not be able to serve in this particular full-time office shall so inform the Secretary of the District at
24 least five weeks prior to the convention. Should any of the five nominees decline the nomination, the Secretary of the
25 District shall notify the nominee receiving the next highest number of votes (as long as it is at least 5% of the total
26 nominations submitted).

27
28 2.41 Election of President

29
30 2.41.a. The Secretary of the District shall report to the convention and deliver to the Elections Committee an
31 alphabetical list of the five persons nominated for the office of President in accord with the provisions above together with
32 a tabulation of the nominating votes. These candidates shall be introduced to the convention.

33
34 2.41.b. The election of the President shall take place as soon as possible after the convention is in session.

35
36 2.41.c. If no candidate receives a majority on the first ballot, the name of the candidate who received the smallest
37 number of votes shall be stricken from the list, and a new ballot taken immediately. This procedure is to be followed until a
38 person is elected.

39
40 2.42 Nominations for Vice-Presidents

1 A primary election for the nomination of candidates for the office of Vice-President shall be held after the
2 President has been elected. Ballots for the nominations shall be prepared in such manner that each voting delegate shall
3 have opportunity for one nomination for each of the regional Vice-Presidents.

4
5 2.43 Election of Vice-Presidents
6

7 2.43.a. The ballot for the election of the Vice-Presidents shall list three candidates for each of the regional Vice-
8 Presidents. The names of those candidates who received the greater number of votes in the primary election shall be placed
9 on the ballot, even though one or two may have received a majority in the primary election.

10
11 2.43.b. In the regular election each voting delegate shall be entitled to vote for each of the regional Vice-
12 Presidents. If a candidate in either region receives a majority on the first ballot, such candidate or candidates shall be
13 declared elected. If no candidate receives a majority in one region or in either region, the name of the candidate or
14 candidates receiving the smallest number of votes for his region shall be removed from the next ballot. Another vote shall
15 then be taken.

16
17 2.44 Ranking of the Vice-Presidents
18

19 After the two Vice-Presidents have been elected, another ballot shall be taken to determine their rank. Each voting
20 delegate shall indicate his choice for the office of First Vice-President. The candidate receiving the greater number of votes
21 shall be declared First Vice-President, and the other candidate shall automatically be declared Second Vice-President.

22
23 2.45 Election of the Circuit Visitor
24

25 2.45.a. The District shall create a sufficient number of circuits and elect a circuit visitor for each circuit from
26 among the pastors serving congregations and emeriti pastors who are members of voting congregations thereof, to make
27 possible official visits to each congregation once in three years, should the assistance of the circuit visitor be requested by
28 the District President, in accordance with Synod Bylaw 4.4.4.

29
30 2.45.b. Each circuit forum shall meet at the call of its circuit visitor at least four months prior to the District
31 convention.

32
33 2.45.b.i. Nominations for candidates for the office of circuit visitor may be submitted by a voting
34 congregation of the circuit and suggested by the District President, in consultation with the praesidium of the District.

35
36 2.45.b.ii. Selection of the circuit visitor at the circuit forum shall be election by written ballot. The
37 privilege of voting shall be exercised by the representatives from each member congregation or parish of the circuit, who
38 shall have been selected in the manner prescribed by the congregation (Synod Bylaw 5.3.2).

39
40 2.45.b.iii. Following presentations of pertinent information regarding each pastor- (cf. Synod
41 Bylaw 3.12.3.6(c)) and regarding circuit visitor responsibilities as provided in Synod Bylaw 5.2.3, each voter shall write in
42 the names of two pastors- on the initial ballot.
43

1 2.45.b.iv. The three pastors (or more in case of a tie) who receive the highest number of votes in
2 this preliminary ballot shall be placed on the next ballot. Each voter shall then vote for only one candidate. The pastor- who
3 shall have received a simple majority of all votes cast shall be declared the nominee.

4
5 2.45.b.v. If no pastor receives a majority, balloting shall continue with the candidate receiving the lowest
6 number of votes being removed from each succeeding ballot.

7
8 2.45.b.vi. Immediately following the circuit forum, the circuit visitor shall report in writing the
9 results of the selection process to the secretary of the district in preparation for ratification by the district convention.

10
11 2.45.b.vii. Should the candidate(s) no longer be available for this office, the District President
12 shall make the selection, which selection shall then be included on the convention slate of circuit visitors.

13
14 2.45.b.viii. The convention shall have the right to alter the slate by amendment.

15
16 2.45.b.ix. The convention shall then ratify the slate of Circuit Visitors, which ratification shall
17 constitute election (Synod Bylaw 5.2.2).

18
19 2.45.c. Vacancies which occur in the office of circuit visitor between conventions shall be filled by
20 appointment by the District President (Synod Bylaw 5.2.2.1).

21
22 2.46 Election of District Nominations Committee

23
24 2.46.a. At each regular convention of the District six persons (two parish pastors, ~~two parish teachers or DCEs,~~
25 two commissioned ministers, two laymen who are voting members of congregations of the District) shall be elected to
26 serve as the Nominations Committee for the next convention. They are to be chosen from a list of candidates representative
27 of the various geographical areas of the District, submitted by the current Nominations Committee and augmented by
28 additional candidates, if any, nominated from the floor of the convention.

29
30 2.46.b. The Nominations Committee is an ad hoc convention committee, to which limitations on holding multiple
31 offices do not apply but whose members may not succeed themselves.

32
33 2.46.c. Should a vacancy occur on the Nominations Committee, the District President shall appoint a
34 replacement from the list of non-elected nominees to this committee for the same classification as the vacancy in the order
35 of the highest number of votes received.

36
37 2.46.d. The chairman and secretary of the committee shall be advisory members of the succeeding Nominations
38 Committee.

39
40 2.47 Nominations for Other Offices

2.47.a. The District Nominations Committee shall nominate two candidates each for the following offices: the Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and Financial Secretary (in accordance with Synod Bylaw 4.3), for members of the Board of Directors, the Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee, the District Nominations Committee, and for the District member and alternate to the Synodical Committee for Convention Nominations, in accordance with Synod Bylaws 3.12.3 - 3.12.3.3.

2.47.b. Candidates for membership on the Board of Directors shall be nominated so as to give equal representation, as nearly as practicable, to the various circuits of the District.

2.47.c. The Nominations Committee shall present these lists of nominations to the convention for ratification or amendment in alphabetical order. This report shall contain pertinent information concerning the specific experiences and qualifications of each candidate for the office in question. Additional nominations from the floor are permitted for offices other than the District President and Vice-Presidents.

2.48 Election

2.48.a. After approval of the nominations by the convention the Elections Committee shall prepare the ballots and direct the election of the above-named officers, boards, commissions, and committees.

2.48.b. Election shall be by simple majority vote.

2.48.c. In situations where delegates are asked to vote for more than one candidate on a single ballot, it is possible for more nominees to receive a majority vote than there are offices to fill. Should this situation occur, those nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

III. CIRCUIT OFFICIALS

A. THE CIRCUIT VISITORS

3.1 Circuit Visitors and District President

3.1.a. Each circuit visitor, by virtue of his office, shall assist the District President within the circuit.

3.1.b. The circuit visitor shall regularly report on his activities to the District President.

3.1.c. The circuit visitor is the principal officer of the circuit and serves in accordance with the duties assigned to this position in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and District (Synod Bylaw 5.2.1).

3.2 Circuit Visitors and Member Congregations

1 3.2.1. The circuit visitor shall, when requested to do so by the District President, serve as his representative to
2 visit each congregation once in three years and otherwise as he the District President deems it necessary (Synod Bylaw
3 5.2.3.1).

4
5 3.2.b. The purpose of the official visits with pastors, congregations, and schools shall be those described in the
6 Synodical Handbook (Synod Bylaws 5.2.3.1 and 5.2.3.2).

7
8 3.2.c. The circuit visitor may be assisted by an Administrative Assistant to the President in the visitation to
9 Lutheran Schools.

10
11 3.3 Expenses of Circuit Visitors

12
13 The circuit visitor is authorized to draw on the District treasury for his expenses.

14
15 3.4 Circuit Forum

16
17 3.4.a. Representation: ~~Each congregation shall be represented at the circuit forum by its pastor and one lay~~
18 ~~member designated by the congregation. Depending on its adopted objectives, the circuit may request additional~~
19 ~~representation. The circuit forum consists of one pastor and one layperson from each member congregation or multi-~~
20 ~~congregation parish designated by the congregation or parish. Congregations of a multi-congregation parish not~~
21 ~~contributing a lay voter may send an advisory lay representative with voice but no vote. The Circuit Forum is encouraged to~~
22 meet at least twice a year (Synod Bylaw 5.3.1).

23
24 3.4.b. Purpose: The circuit forum is the group which aids the process of keeping congregations, particularly the
25 lay leaders, pastors, and other church workers supportive of one another in their common confession and mutually active in
26 developing programs for the good of member congregations, in considering and recommending new work, and in
27 suggesting improvements for services and programming at the national and district levels. The circuit visitor, with any
28 other circuit officers, shall have the primary responsibility of preparing the agenda for the circuit forum.

29
30 3.4.c. Functions: Among the functions which the circuit forum may perform are the following: (Synod Bylaw
31 5.3.1).

32
33 3.4.c.i. To study the Scriptures and the Confessions in order to promote an evangelical spirit in our
34 walking together.

35
36 3.4.c.ii. To develop and adopt within existing policies of the District complementary and sometimes joint
37 plans for missions outreach in the circuit area;

38
39 3.4.c.iii. To devise and develop programs and services relevant to the needs of circuit congregations, lay
40 leaders, ~~teachers, and pastors~~, and commissioned ministers;

41
42 3.4.c.iv. To receive and respond as appropriate to advice, guidance, resolutions, and programs in other
43 sections of the Synod as such may be addressed to it from other circuits, the District, and the general Synod;

3.4.c.v. To serve as a setting to review and evaluate programs, plans and long-range directions of the District and Synod, and thus participate in the triennial process of suggesting, developing, and attaining the Synod's priorities and goals.

3.4.c.vi. To select the circuit visitor to be ratified by the convention.

3.4.d. Election of Synodical Convention Delegates: The circuit forum of an electoral circuit (which may consist of one or two adjacent visitation circuits) triennially shall elect the pastoral and lay delegate and their alternates, to the general convention of the Synod according to the regulations of the Synod (Synod Bylaws 3.1.2 and 3.1.2.1). The lay delegate shall, upon election, serve through the triennium following the next convention as an advisory member of the circuit forum (Synod Bylaw 5.3.3).

3.4.e. Overtures: The circuit forum shall be qualified to submit overtures to national and district conventions (Synod Bylaw 5.3.5).

3.5 Circuit Convocations

3.5.a. The circuit convocation is a larger gathering of members from circuit congregations during a year in which there is no national or district convention. The circuit visitor, with any other circuit officers, shall have the primary responsibility of preparing for the circuit convocation.

3.5.b. The purpose of a circuit convocation is to provide a setting in which congregational members may know of and celebrate the ministry pursued by each congregation, may review and discuss the work of the circuit forum, may discuss and evaluate mission potential within the circuit, and may receive information on various phases of the work pursued through districts and Synod. As such, its emphasis should be on inspiration, education, motivation, and mission and theological discourse (Synod Bylaw 5.4.2).

B. THE CIRCUIT LAY DELEGATES

3.6 Office

The lay delegate elected by the circuit forum shall be the circuit lay delegate.

3.7 Duties of the Circuit Lay Delegates

3.7.a. The circuit lay delegate shall attend all meetings of his circuit, the circuit(s) represented, the Budget Advisory Conference, and such other meetings requiring his presence as may be called by the Board of Directors. He shall serve as an advisory member of the circuit forum.

3.7.b. On special visits to the congregations he may accompany the circuit visitor.

3.7.c. He shall assist the circuit visitor in reporting on the work of the Synod and of the District on his visits to the congregations.

3.7.d. He shall endeavor to acquaint himself with the affairs of the Synod and of the District by every means available.

3.7.e. He shall support the circuit visitor in encouraging the congregations in the fuller use of the educational agencies available.

3.7.f. He shall interest himself especially in the financial contributions of the congregations for home, district, and Synodical purposes.

IV. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

4.1 Disputes defined in Bylaw Article 1.10 of the Synodical Handbook shall be resolved by the procedure set forth therein.

V. EVANGELISM

THE COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM SERVICES

5.1 Duties

5.1.a. The Commission on Evangelism Services shall co-operate with Synod's Office of National Mission to develop policies and provide programs of evangelism for use by individuals, congregations, circuits, and the District. In keeping with the Synod's Office of National Mission, the policies and programs provided will include inreach, outreach, and assimilation/retention.

5.1.b. It shall have the responsibility to make the work of evangelism the chief goal of our church.

5.1.c. It shall strive to cultivate in members a greater mission consciousness and evangelistic concern.

5.1.d. It shall arrange leadership training workshops and conferences in evangelism.

5.1.e. It shall recommend and distribute evangelism materials.

5.1.f. It is encouraged to avail itself of the assistance and experiences of additional pastors, ~~teachers,~~ commissioned ministers, and laymen in the District.

1 5.1.g. The Commission on Evangelism Services may delegate much of the actual work to an evangelism field
2 representative (Central Illinois District Bylaw 2.31.e.).

3
4 5.2 Subcommittees

5
6 The Commission, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint committees to assist in the various
7 areas of activity.

8
9 **VI. CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

10
11 **THE COMMISSION ON CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

12
13 6.1 Duties

14
15 The Commission on Congregational Life shall, in cooperation with Synod's Office of National Mission, support
16 and serve the congregations and professional workers of the District in their ministries of worship, nurture, service, and
17 youth.

18
19 The commission shall:

20
21 6.1. a. Assist congregations and professional workers in stimulating members to serve the temporal needs of
22 others in the community and world (so that the response to the Gospel of loving and caring for others may be demonstrated
23 in life and vocation).

24
25 6.1.b. Maintain liaison and cooperation with appropriate auxiliary and other service organizations recognized by
26 the District.

27
28 6.1.c. Assist congregations and professional workers in worship by providing literature for the understanding
29 and love of our Lutheran heritage, and by recommending new worship forms worthy of use in Lutheran worship.

30
31 6.1.d. Assist congregations and professional workers in developing loving and caring ministries to households
32 of various Christian lifestyles.

33
34 6.1.e. Encourage and assist congregations in establishing family life ministries.

35
36 6.1.f. Encourage and assist congregations in establishing and maintaining youth ministries.

37
38 6.1.g. Encourage and assist congregations with their educational ministries such as Sunday Schools, Bible
39 Classes, Vacation Bible Schools, Saturday Schools, etc., with the exception of Christian Day Schools.

6.2 Subcommittees

The commission, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint committees to assist in furthering its work.

VII. EDUCATION SERVICES

THE COMMISSION ON EDUCATION SERVICES

7.1 Duties

The Commission on Education Services shall cooperate with the Synod's Office of National Mission and shall assist and advise the local congregations with regard to the whole range of Christian education, full time parochial education and continuing education for full and part-time church workers. The Commission shall help the local congregation achieve the objectives and scope of Christian education as outlined:

7.1.a. Aid those congregations which have full-time schools, e.g., preschools, elementary or high schools.

7.1.b. Aid congregations by assisting in providing for continuing education for full and part-time church workers.

7.1.c. Provide personnel services and resources for calling competent teaching staffs for the schools of the District.

7.1.d. Work toward an improved quality of Christian education through in-service training programs for ~~pastors, teachers, and DCEs~~ ordained and commissioned ministers; through analysis and interpretation of statistics gathered on the educational functions of our congregations; and by visiting congregations and Lutheran elementary and secondary schools.

7.1.e. Encourage and promote congregation members to become lay or professional church workers.

7.1.f. Provide a liaison with ~~s~~Synodical education experts.

7.2 Subcommittees

The Commission, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint committees to assist in furthering its work, e.g., in the areas of Lutheran preschools, elementary and secondary schools; and continuing education for full and part-time church workers.

VIII. MISSIONS

THE COMMISSION ON MISSION SERVICES

8.1 Duties

8.1.a. The function of the Commission on Mission Services shall be to “strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and extend that Gospel witness into all the world” (Synodical Constitution III 2).

8.1.b. The Commission on Mission Services shall direct its attention to the entire mission work of the District (home missions, institutional mission, campus ministry, etc.) and shall promote the cause of mission work in general. It shall explore territories in the District with a view to establishing mission stations and congregations. It shall recommend to the Board of Directors the calling of missionaries to new fields, if conditions warrant it, and the filling of vacancies occurring in the parishes which are not yet organized, and it shall supervise the work of the missionaries and pastors- of subsidized congregations. Much of the actual work of exploring new fields, visiting and encouraging mission congregations, etc., may be delegated to a field representative for this commission.

8.1.c. Salaries: The Commission on Mission Services shall submit to the District Board of Directors recommendations to set and adequately update the scale of salaries, equipment allowance, and mileage payments for the missionaries and other mission church workers of the District.

8.1.d. Report to the convention: In presenting its report to the District, the Commission on Mission Services shall list the membership statistics of the subsidized congregations and parishes, losses and gains, funds raised by these congregations for work at home and at large, indebtedness, amount of subsidy received, the year when subsidies were begun, as well as other data, which will give the convention a comprehensive picture of their respective missions.

8.1.e. Synodical Membership: The Commission on Mission Services shall urge every newly organized congregation to become a member of the Synod as soon as possible. A copy of the tentative draft of the constitution and bylaws of a congregation about to organize shall be submitted to the Congregational Constitutions and District Handbook Committee for review and appropriate action.

8.1.f. Educational Agencies: The Commission on Mission Services shall urge all congregations under its care to maintain adequate educational agencies for all age levels.

8.1.g. Conferences: The Commission on Mission Services shall conduct conferences and workshops in the interest of missions as needed and when appropriate.

8.1.h. Expansion: The Commission on Mission Services shall offer support and assistance to congregations and pastors interested in beginning mission stations or establishing daughter churches.

~~8.1.i. Instructions to Subsidized congregations: The Commission on Mission Services shall notify the congregations under its care of the following duties and regulations governing them:~~

~~8.1.i.i. Application for Subsidy: All applications for subsidy shall be made in writing by congregation resolution, where this is possible, to the Commission on Mission Services. At a station where there is no organized~~

1 congregation as yet, the Commission shall estimate the amount of subsidy needed and recommend the same to the Board of
2 Directors. Every subsidized congregation shall make an earnest effort to reduce its request for subsidy, so that it may
3 become self-supporting as soon as possible.

4
5 ~~8.1.i.ii. Regular Reports: Subsidized congregations and their pastors shall be held to make regular~~
6 ~~reports, and such other special reports as the Commission may deem necessary, to the Commission on Mission Services.~~
7 ~~This is to be done promptly on forms provided for this purpose and as required by the Commission. The regularity of these~~
8 ~~reports conditions the regularity of the subsidies.~~

9
10 ~~8.1.i.iii Calling of Pastors: Vacant subsidized congregations shall seek the counsel of the District~~
11 ~~President and of the Commission on Mission Services when calling a new pastor. They should request the advice and~~
12 ~~presence of the District President or the field representative for the Commission on Mission Services at the meetings when~~
13 ~~calls are extended, or when considering calls which their pastors have received. If a congregation acts contrary to such~~
14 ~~advice without valid reason, subsidy may be withheld. When a pastor of a subsidized congregation has received a call, he~~
15 ~~shall immediately inform the Commission on Mission Services and the District President and seek their advice.~~

16
17 ~~8.1.i.iv. Repairs, Improvements, and Investments: Subsidized congregations intending to incur larger~~
18 ~~expenses not included in their annual budget shall first obtain the advice and approval of the Commission on Mission~~
19 ~~Services and/or the Board of Directors.~~

20
21 ~~8.1.i.v. Welfare and Retirement Plans: All subsidized congregations and their ordained and~~
22 ~~commissioned ministers shall be required to join Synod's Concordia Retirement, Disability and Survivor, and Health Plans.~~
23 ~~Premiums are to be included in the congregation's budget.~~

24
25 8.1.i. The Commission on Mission Services shall deal with congregations wishing to receive CID mission
26 funding in accordance with guidelines adopted by the District Board of Directors.

27
28 8.2 Subcommittees

29
30 The Commission, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint committees to explore each area of its
31 concerns, e.g., small, rural, dual parish ministry, campus ministry, institutional ministry, town and country, human care, and
32 world relief.

33
34 **IX. FINANCES**

35
36 **THE COMMISSION ON FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

37
38 9.1 Duties

39
40 The Commission on Finance and Management shall:

41
42 9.1.a. Be responsible for the management of all fiscal and financial affairs of the District;

9.1.b. Have as members the Treasurer and Financial Secretary and three other members with financial expertise as appointed by the Board of Directors.

9.1.c. Provide a Budget Committee made up of the Treasurer, the Financial Secretary, and one member of each Commission of the Board to receive, review, and submit a proposed budget from all spending commissions of the District;

9.1.d. Recommend to the Board of Directors a balanced budget. A balanced budget is one in which budgeted income minus budgeted expenditures plus unrestricted net assets, not including investment in plant, is greater than zero. A balanced budget is based on the mission commitments of the District congregations plus other income and on the spending request of all departments and agencies of the District;

9.1.e. Study the finances of the District on the basis of reports prepared by District officers and constantly look for ways and means to improve the financial performance of the District;

9.1.f. Keep the congregations of the District informed of the financial status of the District through the use of official news publications of the District and other means of communications.

X. STEWARDSHIP

THE COMMISSION ON STEWARDSHIP SERVICES

Theological Principle: “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” (Romans 12:1 NKJV)

Christian stewardship is managing all God's resources which have been entrusted to us in such a way as to accomplish God's purpose with them. It is the recognition and the fulfillment of personal privilege and responsibility for the managing of the whole life in accordance with the will of God.

10.1 Objectives

Christian stewardship is an attitude which sees all of one's life as a sacred trust to be used in the Master's business. Therefore, objectives of the Commission on Stewardship Services are as follows:

10.1.a. To help the people of God understand that stewardship originates and centers in His actions and therefore stewardship centers on the cross and our total response to Christ.

10.1.b. To help the people of God to be motivated, to make personal commitments regarding the use of their time, talents, and resources in every part of their life in order to fulfill God's purpose for their existence on earth.

10.1.c. To help the people of God to understand how they, through cooperative action with their fellow believers, can carry out the Great Commission of the Church.

1 10.1.d. To help the people of God comprehend why He blesses them with material resources and the ways in
2 which these blessings might be shared with others.

3
4 10.2 Functions

5
6 The functions of the Commission on Stewardship will be:

7
8 10.2.a. Equip the leaders, the pastors, and the members of the congregations of the Central Illinois District in the
9 principles and practices of the total stewardship life on a year-round basis.

10
11 10.2.b. Guide the leaders, the pastors and the members of the congregations of the Central Illinois District to a
12 greater appreciation of the privileges and responsibilities of Church membership.

13
14 10.2.c. Offer training and develop skills of the leaders, pastors, and members of the congregations of the Central
15 Illinois District for more effective stewardship ministry.

16
17 10.2.d. Provide encouragement and challenge to professional church workers as they serve as examples of
18 committed stewards of God.

19
20 10.2.e. Promote the recruitment of professional church workers.

21
22 10.2.f. Assist the leaders, the pastors, and the members of congregations of the Central Illinois District as they
23 continue to grow in their attitudes and skills in the area of stewardship through Bible study, workshops, seminars,
24 conferences, etc.

25
26 10.2.g. Assist the leaders, the pastors, and the members of the congregations of the Central Illinois District to
27 gain a greater understanding and appreciation of their worldwide mission and ministry for Christ through the Synod, and
28 thereby grow in its support.

29
30 10.2.h. Assist the leaders, the pastors, and the members of the congregations of the Central Illinois District to
31 grow in the grace of Christian sacrificial giving.

32
33 10.2.i. Provide counsel and materials for the congregations as they endeavor to enlist their members' time,
34 talents and treasures for Kingdom service in and through the congregation.

35
36 10.2.j. Study and evaluate contemporary trends in Christian stewardship and share these studies with pastors
37 and leaders of the congregations of the Central Illinois District.

38
39 10.2.k. Plan and prepare stewardship programs which will offer helpful suggestions to pastors and elders of the
40 congregations of the Central Illinois District.

1 10.2.1. Counsel with circuits and congregations of the Central Illinois District in the use of stewardship programs
2 and materials.

3
4 10.2.m. Cooperate with those district departments which offer specific programs and services for the purpose of
5 coordinating these programs and services into an overall program.

6
7 10.3 Duties

8
9 It will be the duty of each member of the Commission on Stewardship Services to:

10
11 10.3.a. Faithfully attend the Commission on Stewardship Services meetings.

12
13 10.3.b. Participate in the discussion and decision-making process of the commission.

14
15 10.3.c. Accept special assignments from time to time that may be required to carry out the commission's
16 functions more effectively.

17
18 10.3.d. Represent the Commission on Stewardship Services in a positive manner and to set an example of the
19 spirit of total Christian stewardship in his life and attitudes.

20
21 10.3.e. Pray that the Lord of the Church will bless the stewardship efforts of His stewards.

22
23 10.4 Student Aid

24
25 The Commission on Stewardship with the approval of the Board of Directors shall appoint a Committee on
26 Student Aid which shall receive all applications for financial assistance from students preparing for service in the church
27 and shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors through the Commission on Stewardship. Each year the
28 Committee shall give adequate publicity to the Student Aid Fund in an official District news publication. The committee
29 shall be guided by the following provisions:

30
31 10.4.a. Eligibility: Communicant members of a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in the
32 Central Illinois District who are students or prospective students enrolled at ~~s~~Synodical colleges, universities, or seminaries
33 with the intent of preparing themselves for full-time work in the church are eligible.

34
35 10.4.b. Applications: Application forms are to be obtained from the school in which the student is enrolled. The
36 forms are to be sent to the school, not to the Central Illinois District office; the colleges, universities, or seminaries will
37 forward the forms to the District by June 15.

38
39 10.4.c. Nature of Support: All financial assistance shall be in the form of student grants. The amount of each
40 grant shall be ratified by the Board of Directors. Financial assistance shall be determined on the basis of need determined
41 by the accepted practice of the respective school. Grants shall be made only on an annual basis. If support is needed and

desired for more than one year, an application shall be submitted prior to each new school year. Grants to students shall be sent only to the person in charge of such funds at the respective school.

10.4.d. District Aid: Student grants shall be made available primarily to students who have completed high school and are enrolled in colleges and seminaries for studies leading to ~~s~~Synodical certification.

10.4.e. In the event a student who has received a student grant determines not to pursue studies leading to professional church service, it is understood that the recipient has a moral obligation to repay the grant.

10.5 Subcommittees

The Commission, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint committees to assist in its various areas of activity.

XI. COMMUNICATION SERVICES

11.1 The Communications Committee

11.1.a. Membership: The Communications Committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, shall consist of at least five ~~members: one ordained minister, one teacher or DCE, one layman, one member at large who may be acquainted with electronic and/or print media, and one editor. The editor shall be appointed for a three year term. The chairman of the committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.~~ members to include at least one ordained minister, at least one commissioned minister, and also at least one lay member. Skills and interests sought among members include editorial services, acquaintance with print media, acquaintance with electronic media (radio, television, internet). An editor may be appointed for a three-year term. The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Board of Directors.

11.1.b. Area Representatives: The Communications Committee shall select one representative, a layman if possible, from each circuit to assist the committee in the publicity work in that circuit. Additional area representatives may be selected as the committee deems necessary.

11.2 Duties

11.2.a. The Communications Committee shall be responsible for all aspects of communication of District happenings.

11.2.b. The editor shall be responsible for the official District news publication.

11.2.c. The Communications Committee shall handle the publicity of all events of District-wide importance, such as the District convention, conferences, special rallies, and the like. The committee shall be responsible for the publishing of a daily summary of business and events of the District convention.

1 11.2.d. The committee shall serve as a clearing house for all publicity in the District. To this end, all pastors
2 shall be encouraged to keep this committee informed on what is being done in their locality in this respect, and pastors
3 should feel free to call upon this committee for counsel in promoting local publicity. Likewise, the Board of Directors, the
4 officers and staff, and all commissions and committees of the District shall in a timely manner notify the Communications
5 Committee of all newsworthy items.

6
7 11.2.e. The committee may issue a digest of District news, releases from Synod's Board for Communication
8 Services, and such other publicity materials that are being produced for the purpose of bringing our church to the attention
9 of the public. This shall be sent to all ~~pastors, professors, and teachers~~ ordained and commissioned ministers of the District.

10
11 11.2.f. The committee shall promptly answer attacks or unfavorable comments made by the press, radio, or
12 television concerning the ~~church, when~~ church. When feasible this shall be done after consultation with the appropriate
13 District officials.

14
15 11.2.g. The committee shall promote articles and broadcasts that will publicize the position of the District or the
16 Synod on matters currently controversial or directly affecting the attitude of many of our own people.

17
18 11.2.h. The committee shall cooperate with the communication services of Synod and of neighboring districts by
19 furnishing them with District news for possible nation-wide distribution and by supplying such other information and
20 reports as may be found advisable.

21
22 11.2.i. The committee shall send to the District Archivist for possible inclusion in the archives such material,
23 photographs, and the like which it deems no longer necessary to retain in its own files.

24 25 XII. SPECIAL MINISTRIES

26 27 12.1 The Archivist

28
29 The Board of Directors shall appoint a District Archivist. The District President may appoint an Assistant
30 Archivist.

31 32 12.1.a. Duties

33
34 12.1.a.i. The Archivist shall compile the history of the District in all phases of its work, such as
35 organization, missions, educational agencies, young people's work, finances, etc., as well as the history of the individual
36 local congregations and their interrelations.

37
38 12.1.a.ii. He shall preserve copies of all the Proceedings of District conventions, records of all boards,
39 committees, and officers, reports and periodicals, minutes of all pastors' and ~~teachers'~~ commissioned church workers from
40 the Synod rosters, conferences and circuit meetings, when no longer in use, and any documents of historical value, such as
41 letters, printed anniversary booklets, parish papers, newspaper clippings, etc.

1 12.1.a.iii. He shall index all such records, books, and documents, and keep them in the archives of
2 the District.

3
4 12.1.a.iv. Whenever an officer, committee, or conference no longer has need of any records, they
5 shall be placed into the care of the archivist.

6
7 12.1.a.v. He shall inform himself, and be kept informed, of any change in the secretaryship of the various
8 conferences, so that he may know where, at any time, to locate the minutes of the individual conferences.

9
10 12.1.a.vi. All expenses incurred by the work of the archivist shall be defrayed from the District
11 treasury.

12 13 **XIII. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

14
15 13.1 ~~How Made~~ Amendments to the Bylaws may be made, provided they are:

16
17 13.1.a. not contrary to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod;

18
19 13.1.b. submitted to the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the Synod for review and prior approval
20 (Amendments not approved prior to the convention shall not take effect until approved by the commission.);

21
22 13.1.c. presented in writing to a convention of the District;

23
24 13.1.d. adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates present and voting at such a convention.
25
26

1 **FLOOR COMMITTEE 2 – MISSION FUNDING AND RECOGNITIONS**

2 **Resolution 25-2-01A**

3 **To Launch a Funding Campaign**
4 **for Mission Support in the Central Illinois District**

5 *President's Report, Mission Commission Report, and Stewardship Commission Report,*
6 *Overture 25-09, Late Overture 25-L01*

7 **INTRODUCTION**

8 Jesus our Lord was “rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians
9 8:9). Now, that hits home!

10 Christ brings giving home to you and to your church. The Central Illinois District (CID) 2019 Stewardship and Mission
11 education emphasis was “Bring Giving Home.”

12 Giving, once brought home, does not remain “at home.” It doesn’t stay in “my own” congregation. Part of it can support the
13 Lord’s work elsewhere. Like the seed in His parable, the Lord’s life-giving Word is to be sown widely – also in extraordinary
14 places. To that end, CID missions do not “stay home” – 30% of all congregational remittance is forwarded on to the Synod.

15 The District has long-standing specialized missions in central Illinois. They include ministry in Spanish, deaf ministry, and
16 campus ministry.

17 **WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?**

18 A two-pronged approach is proposed within a projected \$3 million campaign:

- 19 1. Providing for proactive repair and upgrade needs at mission sites owned by CID, as well as at the District office, for
20 the next ten years. Estimated cost: \$1.5 million
- 21 2. Making provision for longer-range financial support through contributions to endowment funds for CID Ministry in
22 Spanish, Deaf Ministry, and Campus Ministries. All of these are aspects of God’s mission – here, close at hand.
23 Estimated cost: \$1.5 million

24 **WHY IS THIS BEING PROPOSED?**

25 Places in the District

- 26 • CID started *Ministry in Spanish* in East Moline in 2003. Rev. Pablo Dominguez has served as our District missionary
27 and, since 2018, as the called pastor of Cristo Rey (Christ the King) Lutheran Church, making the Gospel available to
28 11,000 Spanish-speakers in the Quad Cities, or (as Cristo Rey puts it) “Planting the Gospel’s Seed in the QC.” For
29 over a decade, through CID we have additionally supported ministry in Spanish at St. John Lutheran Church in
30 Beardstown, to serve some 1,850 Spanish-speaking people in that area.
- 31 • *Deaf Ministry* in Jacksonville began in 1901. Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf was organized there in 1948. From
32 2005 to 2024, Pastor Thomas Phillips served as our Missionary to the Deaf in CID. In 2015, a District-wide deaf
33 parish was created to extend this ministry. Now named Central Illinois Lutheran Deaf Outreach, the parish involves
34 members of CID churches from the Mississippi River to the Indiana state line. When Pastor Phillips left CID in late
35 2024, he was one of only three pastors to the deaf called by any of the 35 LCMS Districts. It would be a shame if
36 CID ceased funding deaf ministry as a District.
- 37 • *Campus Ministry* is another specialized mission that CID has sustained on our behalf. We pay salaries for two full-
38 time campus pastors, at the University of Illinois and at Illinois State University, and we own well-located church
39 buildings on both campuses. CID also owns a campus church building a block away from Western Illinois University
40 and gives Immanuel Lutheran Church, Macomb funds for its pastor to serve half-time in campus ministry. CID owns
41 no property in Charleston, but we help support student leaders who work with the pastor at Immanuel Lutheran
42 Church – just across the street from Eastern Illinois University. “What we need, and need badly,” wrote CID’s first

full-time campus pastor in 1941, “is preaching on the campus.” The Central Illinois District has never forgotten these words.

- The CID office in Springfield comprises two buildings. One provides office space plus chapel and meeting facilities for the CID President, two executives, and bookkeeper, also Church Extension Fund staff. The other houses the extensive District archives, and is the gathering place for Immanuel Lutheran Chapel, a CID-supported new church start.

Prospects for the Duration

- *Ministry in Spanish:* “I soon discovered,” Pastor Dominguez writes, “that the majority of Hispanics knew nothing about the Bible, nor did they attend church.” As one way to reach them, Cristo Rey broadcasts a Spanish program on KALA-FM, Davenport, which is heard by 4000-5000 listeners. “I heard the messages of Pastor Dominguez every Saturday on the radio. Later I started to go to Cristo Rey,” writes Ana. “I know I’m a sinner, but Jesus paid the price for me and, thanks to Him, I have the assurance of eternal life. I’ll keep going to this church every Sunday...”
- *Deaf Ministry:* This work’s “center of gravity” has been shifting. Before Pastor Phillips left, it was growing clear that being near the Illinois School for the Deaf no longer brings the advantages it once did. CID plans to sell the former Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Jacksonville and put the sale proceeds into the deaf parish’s endowment fund, to be matched 20% by Lutheran Legacy Foundation. CID deaf work will be conducted more and more through the district-wide parish, as a new pastor is assisted by a woman from the parish who is about to enter deaconess training. By far, most deaf people are unchurched, yet Christ is for them too.
- *Campus Ministry:* Pastor Heath Curtis, President of the Southern Illinois District of the LCMS, and former Coordinator for national Synod Stewardship, says: “Campus ministry (at University Lutheran, Champaign) has had an immeasurable impact on my daughter. In a sea of unbelief, LCMS campus ministry gives our kids an island of community, support, and living faith. Across the country in my work with Synod Stewardship I tell people: the best bang for your mission buck today is campus ministry. Hands down!” CID aims to keep Christ on campus. Large numbers of church workers come from seeds planted in campus ministry.

IT'S TIME TO DECIDE

WHEREAS, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us, brings giving home to us through His Word and Sacraments; and

WHEREAS, Giving, once brought home, does not remain “at home,” but enables Gospel proclamation beyond one’s own congregation; and

WHEREAS, In CID, such proclamation has touched lives with the Gospel of Christ in Campus Ministry, Deaf Ministry, and Ministry in Spanish; and

WHEREAS, Proactive major repairs and upgrades to District-owned facilities where such Gospel proclamation is done, and to the District office campus, from which support of these and other ministries is offered, has been projected to cost the District approximately \$1.5 million over the next 10 years; and

WHEREAS, Endowment funds are now in place with Lutheran Legacy Foundation (which generously provides 20% matching funds) for all four CID-supported Campus Ministries (at University of Illinois, ISU, EIU, and WIU), Deaf Ministry, and Ministry in Spanish at Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, East Moline; and

WHEREAS, Sizable contributions toward either proactive major repairs and upgrades or growing the endowment funds do not seem possible from the limited resources in the District’s budgeted monies or from Dollar for Missions contributions; and

WHEREAS, a “Ministry Readiness Study” conducted this past spring by The Lutheran Church Extension Fund—Missouri Synod, funded by a generous grant from the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, showed that

- Respondents reported high degrees of support for the above-mentioned specialized District missions, but some of them lack detailed information about these missions
- Priority ought to be placed on the proactive major repairs and upgrades contemplated for the next 10 years
- A target of \$2-3 million seems feasible for a campaign to be conducted over the next three years; and

1 WHEREAS, CID's Circuit Pastoral Conferences and/or Circuit Forums during 2025 have been urged to take the discussion
2 of a prospective District funding campaign to the congregations of the District, and the Mission Commission's convention
3 report has been featured on the District website since April to help inform such discussions; and

4 WHEREAS, Opportunities beckon to CID to continue to take Christ to people via Campus Ministry, Deaf Ministry, and
5 Ministry in Spanish;
6 therefore be it

7 *Resolved*, That the Central Illinois District approve the launch of a funding campaign to raise \$3 million: \$1.5 million
8 for proactive major repairs and upgrades to District-owned facilities ("Phase I") and \$1.5 million for longer-range financial
9 support through contributions to endowment funds for continued funding of these valuable District mission treasures ("Phase
10 II"); and be it further

11 *Resolved*, That Phase I be entirely completed before campaign contributions are devoted to Phase II; and be it further

12 *Resolved*, That during Phase II, all campaign contributions received will be divided equally six ways, between the
13 following:

- 14 • Endowment for campus ministry at University of Illinois
- 15 • Endowment for campus ministry at Illinois State University
- 16 • Endowment for campus ministry at Eastern Illinois University
- 17 • Endowment for campus ministry at Western Illinois University
- 18 (earnings from the four above endowments go directly to the CID office, to support campus ministry
- 19 expenses)
- 20 • Endowment for Central Illinois Lutheran Deaf Outreach, the District wide deaf parish
- 21 • Endowment for Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, East Moline
- 22 (earnings from the two above endowments go directly to the respective ministries – they report their
- 23 annual endowment earnings to CID, and the District adjusts its support accordingly);

24 and be it finally

25 *Resolved*, That each delegate's affirmative vote indicates his/her congregation's (or individuals' therein) intent to support
26 this campaign.

Section E

Supplement

Please insert these pages after page E-31 in your
Convention Workbook

1 **Late Overture 25-L01**

2 **To Launch a Funding Campaign for Mission Support in the Central Illinois District**

3 WHEREAS, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us, brings giving home to us through His Word and Sacraments;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Giving, once brought home, does not remain “at home,” but enables Gospel proclamation beyond one’s own
6 congregation; and

7 WHEREAS, In CID, such proclamation has touched lives with the Gospel of Christ in Campus Ministry, Deaf Ministry,
8 and Ministry in Spanish; and

9 WHEREAS, Proactive major repairs and upgrades to District-owned facilities where Gospel proclamation is done in these
10 fields has been projected to cost the District about \$935,000 over the next 10 years; and

11 WHEREAS, The District office building, from which support of these and others ministries is offered, also stands in need
12 of proactive major repairs and upgrades during the same period; and

13 WHEREAS, Endowment funds are now in place with Lutheran Legacy Foundation (which generously provides 20%
14 matching funds) for all four CID-supported Campus Ministries (at University of Illinois, ISU, EIU, and WIU), Deaf Ministry,
15 and Ministry in Spanish at Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, East Moline; and

16 WHEREAS, Sizable contributions toward either proactive major repairs and upgrades or building endowment funds do not
17 seem possible from the limited resources in the District’s budgeted monies or from Dollar for Missions contributions; and

18 WHEREAS, a “Ministry Readiness Study” conducted this past spring by The Lutheran Church Extension Fund—Missouri
19 Synod, funded by a generous grant from the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, showed that

- 20 • Respondents reported high degrees of support for the above-mentioned specialized District missions, but some
21 of them lack detailed information about these missions
- 22 • Priority ought to be placed on the proactive major repairs and upgrades contemplated for the next 10 years
- 23 • A target of \$2-3 million seems feasible for a campaign to be conducted over the next three years; and

24 WHEREAS, CID’s Circuit Pastoral Conferences and/or Circuit Forums so far during 2025 have been urged to take the
25 discussion of a prospective District funding campaign to the congregations of the District, and the Mission Commission’s
26 convention report has been featured on the District website since April to help inform such discussions; and

27 WHEREAS, Opportunities beckon to CID to continue to take Christ to people via Campus Ministry, Deaf Ministry, and
28 Ministry in Spanish;

29 therefore be it

30 *Resolved*, That the Central Illinois District approve the launch of a funding campaign to raise \$3 million: \$1.5 million
31 for proactive major repairs and upgrades to District-owned facilities (“Phase I”) and \$1.5 million for longer-range financial
32 support through contributions to endowment funds for continued funding of these valuable District mission treasures (“Phase
33 II”); and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That Phase I be entirely completed before campaign contributions are devoted to Phase II; and be it further

35 *Resolved*, That during Phase II, all campaign contributions received will be divided equally six ways, between the
36 following:

- 37 • Endowment for campus ministry at University of Illinois
- 38 • Endowment for campus ministry at Illinois State University
- 39 • Endowment for campus ministry at Eastern Illinois University
- 40 • Endowment for campus ministry at Western Illinois University
- 41 • (earnings from the four above endowments go directly to the CID office, to support campus ministry expenses)

- Endowment for Central Illinois Lutheran Deaf Outreach, the District wide deaf parish
- Endowment for Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, East Moline
- (earnings from the two above endowments go directly to the respective ministries – they report their annual endowment earnings to CID, and the District adjusts its support accordingly); and be it finally

Resolved, That each delegate's affirmative vote indicates his/her congregation's (or individuals' therein) intent to support this campaign.

Board of Directors

Adopted 5/20/25

Late Overture 25-L02

To Establish a Date for District Conventions

WHEREAS, The Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM), in reviewing the proposed bylaw changes submitted by the Central Illinois District Board of Directors, suggests "The specification of a date definite for the district president's assumption of office should perhaps require a bylaw specifying a date before which the district convention must be held.; and

WHEREAS, The Central Illinois District customarily holds its convention in July of the year prior to the synod convention; and

WHEREAS, A reasonable transition period is desirable for a newly elected district president to set affairs in order in his congregation as well as receive transitional instruction from the outgoing district president; and

WHEREAS, Absent direction in a report or overture, the floor committee cannot establish such a date to include with the other proposed amendments to the district bylaws;

therefore, be it

Resolved, That Central Illinois District Bylaw 2.7 be amended as follows:

2.7 Sundry Regulations

2.7.a. The district convention shall be concluded no later than July 31 in the calendar year prior to a synod convention.

2.7.ab. Every board, commission, and committee shall organize at the first meeting after its election or appointment to select a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary, and shall conduct its business in accordance with accepted parliamentary rules.

2.7.bc. All officers, boards, committees, and personnel shall surrender all records and equipment in their custody to their successors at the expiration of their term of office.

2.7.ed. All board, commissions, and committees, including the Archivist, shall be accountable to the District for all their actions and shall make a full report on the activities to the District at each convention.

Board of Directors

Adopted 5/20/25

Section F

Supplement

Please insert these pages after page F-4 in your
Convention Workbook

Nominees for CID Endowment Fund, Inc. Board of Trustees
(Elect 1 layman & 4 others who may be lay members, clergy or teacher)

Shawn Anderson, Concordia, Geneseo

- C: President, deacon, trustee
- D: LLL Young Adult coordinator (early 90s)
- O: Good Shepherd Foundation of Henry County (current)
- * I am hopeful that my experience with business, church offices, and the willingness to serve will be of benefit to the CID Endowment Fund.

Kevin E. Block, Immanuel, Broadlands

- C: Board of Evangelism, Board of Lay Ministry (Elder), Vice Chairman of the Congregation (currently serving in this position)
- D: Delegate at District Convention (two times), Delegate at Synodical Convention
- O: President, Broadlands Community Club, Broadlands, IL, Volunteered for Prison Ministry in the Champaign County Courthouse, Urbana, IL.
- * I have served multiple times on our Church Council and 12 years as an Elder of our Congregation. I have participated in a prison ministry. I have a background in farming, banking and real estate investment/sales. I feel that my church, business background and experience gives me wisdom (hopefully) and maturity to assist the Central Illinois District in it's ministry.

Jeff Bonnett, St Paul, Havana

- C: Treasurer (2nd term), Finance Committee Chair and member,
- D: CID Endowment Board 22-present.
- O: Chair, Community Bankers Association of IL (15 + years); Independent Community Bankers Association of America – Ag Committee (4 years); Havana Chamber of Commerce, chair and treasurer 05-14; Havana Rotary Club, since 92, treasurer 12-2present; Havana High School volunteer football and basketball coach; Havana Football Fund Raising Club 11-present; Mason District Hospital Foundation 07-present; Matanza Lake Association treasurer 10-present.
- * I am a CPA and have been involved in business and finance since graduating from Millikin in 85. I was in public accounting for 15 years (last two as partner). I have been with Havana National Bank since 2000 and am the president and CEO and on the board.

Rev. Martin Eden, Our Redeemer, Quincy

- C: Immanuel, Mellon WI 95-04, St. Paul, Pana IL 04-09; Our Redeemer, Quincy 09-present.
- D: Board of Continuing Education North Wisconsin District 97-04, Camp CILCA Board 08-09; CID Endowment Board 15-present.
- * I worked for AAL 90-91 and have a knowledge of and a continuing interest in markets, economics, and finance. Good stewardship is important for the future of our church.

Rev. Gaylord Spilker, Trinity, Edinburg

- C: Trinity, Edinburg 02-present
- D: CID Human Services Committee; LWML Pastoral Counselor 20-24
- O: Lutheran Care Center Board member and president until 1999; served on various dairy organizations and SW Electric Cooperative Advisory Board; Nabor Alumni Board, University of Illinois. Presently Treasurer of the Edinburg Ministerial Association and Edinburg Food Pantry.
- * I desire to serve to the best ability God gives me.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT ENDOWMENT FUND, INC.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.

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Estes, Bridgewater & Ogden

LORI K. MILOSEVICH-LAHR, C.P.A.
TERRI L. PHELPS, C.P.A.
JAMES C. LEGG, C.P.A.
DANIEL J. CODY, C.P.A.
RICHARD W. OGDEN, C.P.A.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

901 South Second Street, Suite 300
Springfield, Illinois 62704
217/528-8473
Fax 217/528-8506



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Trustees of
Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc. which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc. as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Estes, Bridgewater & Ogden

Certified Public Accountants
Springfield, Illinois

November 8, 2024

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2023 and 2022

Statement 1

<u>Assets</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 88,489	\$ 3,051
Investments	<u>2,127,689</u>	<u>1,318,697</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$2,216,178</u>	<u>\$1,321,748</u>
 <u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u> 		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable.....	\$ -	\$ -
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	1,728,095	833,665
With donor restrictions	<u>488,083</u>	<u>488,083</u>
Total net assets.....	<u>2,216,178</u>	<u>1,321,748</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS.....	<u>\$2,216,178</u>	<u>\$1,321,748</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

Statement 2

	2023			2022		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUES						
Contributions	\$ 753,789	\$ -	\$ 753,789	\$ 4,002	\$ -	\$ 4,002
Investment income - net	<u>196,220</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>196,220</u>	(<u>173,662</u>)	<u>-</u>	(<u>173,662</u>)
Total support and revenues	<u>950,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>950,009</u>	(<u>169,660</u>)	<u>-</u>	(<u>169,660</u>)
EXPENSES						
Program services	52,870	-	52,870	38,165	-	38,165
Administrative expenses	<u>2,709</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,709</u>	<u>3,363</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,363</u>
Total expenses	<u>55,579</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,579</u>	<u>41,528</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>41,528</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	894,430	-	894,430	(211,188)	-	(211,188)
NET ASSETS –						
BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>833,665</u>	<u>488,083</u>	<u>1,321,748</u>	<u>1,044,853</u>	<u>488,083</u>	<u>1,532,936</u>
NET ASSETS –						
END OF YEAR	<u>\$1,728,095</u>	<u>\$ 488,083</u>	<u>\$2,216,178</u>	<u>\$ 833,665</u>	<u>\$ 488,083</u>	<u>\$1,321,748</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
For The Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

Statement 3

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Change in net assets.....	\$ 894,430	(\$ 211,188)
Unrealized (gains) losses on investments.....	(169,350)	192,101
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used for) operating activities:		
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable.....	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total cash flows provided by (used for) operating activities.....	<u>725,080</u>	(<u>19,087</u>)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of investments	(1,263,834)	(467,748)
Sale of investments.....	<u>624,192</u>	<u>476,267</u>
Total cash flows provided by (used for) investing activities	(<u>639,642</u>)	<u>8,519</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS.....	85,438	(10,568)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS – BEGINNING OF YEAR.....	<u>3,051</u>	<u>13,619</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS – END OF YEAR.....	<u>\$ 88,489</u>	<u>\$ 3,051</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 1 – ORGANIZATION

The Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc. ("CID Endowment Fund") is a not-for-profit corporation organized to provide a separate entity to accept, invest, and distribute income from gifts and bequests that are restricted as to use for the programs of the Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt religious organization. The CID Endowment Fund is established exclusively for the benefit of the Central Illinois District and its members' churches.

The mission of the CID Endowment Fund is to promote and encourage Christian Stewards through special gifts and bequests. These funds will be used to further the Lord's work primarily in the areas of scholarship for the education of full time church workers and other missions of the Central Illinois District.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of the Organization's significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows:

Basis of Accounting – Assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses are recognized on the accrual basis of accounting.

Basis of Presentation – The financial statements of the Organization have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP"), which require the Association to report information regarding its financial position and activities accordingly to the following net asset classifications:

Net assets without donor restrictions – Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions and may be expended for any purpose in performing the primary objectives of the organization. These net assets may be used at the discretion of the Organization's management and the board of directors.

Net assets with donor restrictions – Net assets subject to stipulations imposed by donors, and grantors. Some donor restrictions are temporary in nature; those restrictions will be met by actions of the Organization or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, where by the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity.

Donor restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets are reclassified from net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions in the statement of activities.

Investments – Investments consist of certificates of deposit, mutual funds and equities. Certificates of deposit are carried at cost, which is equal to market value and mutual funds and equities are carried at market value. The investment in the Lutheran Legacy fund is carried at market value.

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, Continued

Cash and Cash Equivalents – For purposes of the cash flow statements, cash includes amounts deposited in a checking account and the Organization considers all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

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.

Expense Allocation – The costs of providing various programs and activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited.

NOTE 3 – TAX STATUS

The Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc., is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Organization is not involved in activities unrelated to its exempt status; therefore, there is no tax on unrelated business income at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

NOTE 4 – LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY

Financial assets available for general expenditure, that is, without donor or other restrictions limiting their use, within one year of December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 are:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Financial assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 88,489	\$ 3,051
Investments	<u>2,127,689</u>	<u>1,318,697</u>
Total financial assets	2,216,178	1,321,748
Less financial assets held to meet donor-imposed restrictions:		
Donor-restricted endowment funds (Note 8)	(<u>2,127,689</u>)	(<u>1,318,697</u>)
Amount available for general expenditures within one year	\$ <u>88,489</u>	\$ <u>3,051</u>

The organization's cash flows have variations during the year attributable to timing of payments from the congregations and individual donors. To manage liquidity, the organization structures its financial assets to be available as general expenses, liabilities and other obligations come due.

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 5 – INVESTMENTS

Investments are stated at market value and consisted of the following at December 31,:

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market Value</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
Cash Equivalents	\$ 150,131	\$ 150,131	\$ 15,414	\$ 15,414
Certificates of Deposit	792,539	792,799	406,539	406,539
Lutheran Legacy Foundation	181,095	186,182	124,900	102,937
Mutual Funds	360,574	484,906	375,218	421,437
Equities	<u>307,087</u>	<u>513,671</u>	<u>229,712</u>	<u>372,370</u>
Totals	<u>\$1,791,426</u>	<u>\$2,127,689</u>	<u>\$1,151,783</u>	<u>\$1,318,697</u>

Investment income and expenses consisted of the following at December 31:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Interest & dividends income	\$ 39,782	\$ 23,132
Realized gains	(1,902)	3,973
Unrealized gains	169,350	(192,102)
Investment fees	(<u>11,010</u>)	(<u>8,665</u>)
Net investment income	<u>\$ 196,220</u>	<u>(\$ 173,662)</u>

NOTE 6 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Fair value is defined as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly hierarchy, which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The standard describes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

Level 1 – Inputs are based on unadjusted quoted market prices within active markets.

Level 2 – Inputs are based primarily on quoted prices for similar assets in active or inactive markets.

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 6 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS, Continued

Fair value measured on a recurring basis at December 31, 2023 and 2022 are as follows:

	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>
<u>December 31, 2023</u>				
Certificates of Deposit	\$ <u>792,760</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>792,760</u>	\$ <u>-</u>
Mutual Funds:				
Small Cap Core	79,300	79,300	-	-
Mid Cap Growth	71,695	71,695	-	-
Large Cap Growth	72,143	72,143	-	-
Large Cap Core	118,242	118,242	-	-
Large Growth/World Stock	<u>143,526</u>	<u>143,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Mutual Funds	<u>484,906</u>	<u>484,906</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Equities-Common Stock:				
Large Cap Growth	75,208	75,208	-	-
Large Cap Core	161,010	161,010	-	-
Large Cap Value	105,656	105,656	-	-
International	32,266	32,266	-	-
Enhanced Large	<u>139,570</u>	<u>139,570</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Equities	<u>513,710</u>	<u>513,710</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Lutheran Legacy Foundation Investments	<u>186,182</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>186,182</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash Equivalent:				
Federated Government Obligations Fund	<u>150,131</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,131</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	<u>\$2,127,689</u>	<u>\$ 998,616</u>	<u>\$1,129,073</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 6 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS, Continued

	Fair Value	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
<u>December 31, 2022</u>				
Certificates of Deposit	\$ <u>406,539</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>406,539</u>	\$ <u>-</u>
Mutual Funds:				
Small Cap Core	30,709	30,709	-	-
Small Cap Value	37,769	37,769	-	-
International	33,749	33,749	-	-
Mid Cap Growth	58,298	58,298	-	-
Large Cap Growth	122,904	122,904	-	-
Large Cap Core	<u>53,809</u>	<u>53,809</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Mutual Funds	<u>421,437</u>	<u>421,437</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Equities:				
Large Cap Growth	47,964	47,964	-	-
Large Cap Core	162,728	162,728	-	-
Large Cap Value	133,374	133,374	-	-
International	<u>28,304</u>	<u>28,304</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Equities	<u>372,370</u>	<u>372,370</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Lutheran Legacy Foundation Investments	<u>102,937</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>102,937</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash Equivalent:				
Federated Government Obligations Fund	<u>15,414</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,414</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	<u><u>\$1,318,697</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 793,807</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 524,890</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 7 – CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

Financial instruments, which potentially subject the organization to concentration of credit risk, include cash and investments. The organization places its temporary cash with creditworthy, high quality financial institutions.

Investments with the Central Illinois District – Church Extension Fund (CEF) of \$456,539 and the Lutheran Legacy Foundation of \$186,182 are not SIPC or FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts, and repayment of principal and interest is dependent upon the general financial condition of CEF. Management has reviewed the financial condition of the CEF and is satisfied that deposits are secure despite lack of regulatory insurance coverage.

NOTE 8 – NET ASSETS

In 2004, the Endowment Fund was created with permanent funds of \$488,083 transferred from the Central Illinois District.

The donor-restricted endowment funds are required to be maintained in perpetuity.

The board designated endowment fund receives contributions from congregations and individual donors designated for the scholarships and are included in the net assets with donor restrictions.

Net assets with donor restrictions consisted of the following at December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<u>Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions</u>		
Board Designated Endowment Fund	\$1,728,095	\$ 833,665
<u>Net Assets With Donor Restrictions</u>		
Donor-Restricted Endowment Funds:		
General Fund	436,473	436,473
Meseke Scholarship Fund	6,000	6,000
Christ Peoria Scholarship Fund	23,110	23,110
Dr. A. Mueller Memorial Fund	<u>22,500</u>	<u>22,500</u>
Total	<u>488,083</u>	<u>488,083</u>
Total Endowment Funds	<u>\$2,216,178</u>	<u>\$1,321,748</u>

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 9 – DONOR-RESTRICTED ENDOWMENT FUND

The CID's Endowment Fund consists of four individual funds established primarily for scholarship purposes and each are donor-restricted perpetual endowment funds. In addition, there is a Board Designated Endowment fund which is considered without donor restrictions. As required by GAAP, net assets associated with endowment funds are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

The Board of Directors of the organizations have interpreted the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the purchasing power (real value) of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. The original gift is defined by the organization as (1) the original value of gifts donated to the donor-restricted endowment, (2) the original value of any subsequent gifts to the donor-restricted endowment, and (3) accumulations to the permanent endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument as the time the accumulation is added to the fund. If the endowment assets earn investment returns beyond the amount necessary to maintain the endowment assets' real value that excess is available for appropriation and, therefore, classified as donor-restricted net assets until appropriated by the Board for expenditure. If the value of a donor-restricted endowment fund falls below 75% of the original gift, the Board of Directors will cease spending until its value exceeds the original gift.

UPMIFA permits the organization to appropriate for expenditure or accumulate so much of a donor-restricted endowment fund as it determines is prudent for the uses, benefits, purposes, and duration for which the endowment fund is established. In making its determination to appropriate or accumulate, the organization must act in good faith, with the care that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances, and it must consider, if relevant, the following factors:

- The duration and preservation of the endowment fund
- The purposes of the organization and the donor-restricted endowment fund
- General economic conditions
- The possible effect of inflation and deflation
- The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- Other resources of the organization
- The investment policies of the organization.

Investment Return Objectives and Strategies. The Organization has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to support the scholarship program of the Lutheran Church Missouri Central Illinois District, while also maintaining the purchasing power of those endowment assets over the long-term. Accordingly, the investment process seeks to achieve an after-cost total real rate of return, including investment income as well as capital appreciation, which exceeds the annual distribution with acceptable risk. Endowment assets are invested in a diversified asset mix that is intended to result in a consistent inflation-protected rate of return that has sufficient liquidity to make an annual distribution of 4%, while growing the funds if possible. The Organization expects the current spending policy to allow its endowment funds to grow at a nominal average rate of 4-6% annually, which is consistent with the Organization's objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets as well as to provide additional real growth through investment return and contributions. Investment risk is measured in terms of the total endowment fund; investment assets and allocation between asset classes and strategies are managed to not expose the fund to unacceptable risks.

Central Illinois District Endowment Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 9 – DONOR-RESTRICTED ENDOWMENT FUND (Continued)

Spending Policy. The Organization has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year 4% of its endowment assets for the scholarship fund. The Organization considered the long-term expected rate of return on its investment assets and the possible effects of inflation and the duration of the endowment funds to be maintained in perpetuity.

NOTE 10 – EXPENSES BY NATURE AND FUNCTION

The table below presents expenses by their function for fiscal years ending 2023 and 2022.

	<u>2023</u>			<u>2022</u>		
	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Total</u>
Scholarship	\$ 52,870	\$ -	\$ 52,870	\$ 38,165	\$ -	\$ 38,165
Professional and other expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>2,709</u>	<u>2,709</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,363</u>	<u>3,363</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$ 52,870</u>	<u>\$ 2,709</u>	<u>\$ 55,579</u>	<u>\$ 38,165</u>	<u>\$ 3,363</u>	<u>\$ 41,528</u>

NOTE 11 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Organization reviewed events for inclusion in the financial statements through November 8, 2024, the date through which subsequent events have been evaluated and the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Section G

Correction and Supplement

Please replace all of the Section G in your workbook with these pages.

These pages correct a formatting error (previous Section G pages had an incorrect formatting in the footer, correctly identifying them as "Church Extension Fund" but incorrectly identifying it as "Section F." This supplement also includes the CID-CEF audit, which was not available at the time the workbook was first published.

1 **Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund**
2 **10th Regular Convention**
3

Agenda

Call to Order	President Darin Gehrke
Opening Prayer	Rev. Charles Olander
Minutes of the 9 th Regular Convention	President Darin Gehrke
Report of the President	President Darin Gehrke
Resolutions	President Darin Gehrke
Slate of Candidates	President Darin Gehrke
Report of Executive Director	Christine Anderson
Additional Floor Actions	President Darin Gehrke
Installation of new Board	CID Pres. Rev. Michael Mohr
Closing Prayer	Rev. Chad Lueck

**CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT
CHURCH EXTENSION FUND
9th REGULAR CONVENTION
JULY 18, 2022**

MINUTES

The Convention was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by President Kevin Schultz.

Trustee Rev. Terry O'Brien opened the Convention with prayer.

President Schultz reminded the 2022 Convention that the 2018 Convention passed a resolution authorizing the CID-CEF Board of Trustees to approve the minutes of the 2018 Convention, and it was so noted that said minutes of the 2018 Convention had been approved by the CID-CEF Board.

President Schultz gave the President's Report, in which he discussed changes in the Board, CID-CEF administrative activities, and financial results since the last convention.

President Schultz presented the David L. Goldhammer Award for Outstanding Service to former CID-CEF Trustee Kim Kleinschmidt, who previously served on the Board for twelve years, nine as President and three as vice-president. Mr. Kleinschmidt was not able to be in attendance due to illness.

The CID-CEF brought two resolutions to the Convention. Each was presented by President Schultz for separate vote by the delegates. The first resolution entitled "To Affirm the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund" was presented with no request for discussion from the floor and passed unanimously by voice vote. The second resolution entitled "To Continue Uninterrupted Operations of the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund" was presented, and discussion from the floor was requested, where the question was posed as to whether the language in this resolution should be similar to the language related to dissolution as used by the Endowment Fund. President Schultz explained that the situations are not similar. The second resolution passed unanimously by voice vote. No other resolutions were submitted during the allowed time, and discussion on resolutions ended.

The slate of candidates for the CID-CEF Board of Trustees was then presented by President Schultz. President Schultz called for nominations from the floor and requested that if such nominations were presented, the nominees would have already provided approval for their nomination. No nominations from the floor were received. President Schultz advised the delegates that there was one nominee per trustee position and called for a voice vote on the entire slate. The slate, consisting of nominees Darin Gehrke as President, David Ward as Vice President, Carol Radtke as Secretary/Treasurer, Rev. Chuck Olander and Rev. Chad Lueck as Trustees-Minister of Religion, and Kim Kleinschmidt and K. Rick Keller as Trustees, passed unanimously.

1 Executive Director Christine Anderson reviewed a PowerPoint presentation providing an update
2 to the delegates on the activities and financial results for the CID-CEF since the last convention,
3 including an update on new interest rates and an overview of the new CID-CEF website. The
4 significant drop in new investor activity in 2022 was also brought to the delegates' attention, with
5 a request to communicate the opportunity to invest in the future of the LCMS ministry in the CID
6 through investment in the CID-CEF.

7
8 President Schultz requested a resolution authorizing the Board of Trustees to approve the
9 minutes of the 2022 Convention at the next regular meeting of the CID-CEF. The motion was
10 made, seconded, and passed to allow this action.

11
12 Vice President/newly-elected President Darin Gehrke presented service recognition plaques to
13 the three members leaving the Board, thanking Dale Wolff for his seven years of service and legal
14 expertise, Rev. Terry O'Brien for his seven years of service and ministerial and financial expertise
15 brought to the Board, and President Kevin Schultz for his thirteen years of service and banking
16 expertise brought to the Board.

17
18 Central Illinois District President Mark Miller installed the following members of the Board of
19 Trustees: President Darin Gehrke, Vice President David Ward, Secretary/Treasurer Carol
20 Radtke, and Trustees Rev. Chuck Olander and Rev. Chad Lueck. Newly elected Trustees Kim
21 Kleinschmidt and K. Rick Keller were unable to be in attendance.

22
23 Newly elected President Gehrke called for a motion from the floor to adjourn the Convention.
24 The motion was seconded and passed.

25
26 Trustee Rev. Chuck Olander closed with prayer.

27
28 The Convention adjourned at 2:00 p.m.
29
30
31

32 Respectfully Submitted,

33
34 Christine Anderson
35 *Executive Director*
36 *Acting Secretary*
37

Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund
Board of Trustees 2022 - 2025

President – Mr. Darin Gehrke

Vice President – Mr. David Ward

Secretary/Treasurer – Mrs. Carol Radtke

Trustees – Mr. Rick Keller
Mr. Kim Kleinschmidt
Rev. Chad Lueck
Rev. Charles Olander

Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund

Nominations

CID-CEF President

(One person to be elected)

Mr. Darin Gehrke – Salem Lutheran Church, Jacksonville

Current Employment: Senior Vice President, Market Leader Central and Southern Illinois – SomerCor (a Certified Development Company that processes the SBA 504 loan program).

Prior Relevant Employment/Other Experience: President, Commercial Lender – Town and Country Bank, Jacksonville, Illinois. Village President – Woodson, Illinois.

LCMS/Charitable Organization Activities: Has served as Elder, Treasurer, and Athletic Director at Salem.

Anticipated Contribution to CID-CEF Board of Trustees: Brings 18 years of lending experience in a combination of commercial and SBA lending to the Board.

CID-CEF Vice President

(One person to be elected)

Mr. David Ward – St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Varna

Current Employment: Retired from the banking industry.

Prior Relevant Employment/Other Experience: A career in banking spanning 40 years - most recently as President of North Central Bank – Hennepin, served as board member and Group Director of the Community Bankers' Association of Illinois, on the Regulatory Review Committee of the Independent Community Bankers of America, Founding President of the Hennepin Business and Betterment Association.

LCMS/Charitable Organization Activities: District Life Coordinator for CID, directed Creation Science Program for CID Lutheran schools. Has served as Co-treasurer, Elder, and Trustee at St. Paul's.

Anticipated Contribution to CID-CEF Board of Trustees: Broad experience in banking administration, lending, and real estate loans.

1
2
3 **CID-CEF Secretary/Treasurer**

4 *(One person to be elected)*

5 **Mr. Dale Dirks** – Immanuel Lutheran Church, Springfield

6
7 *Current Employment:* Tax CPA – Eck, Schafer & Punk, LLP, CPAs, Springfield – 2025.

8
9 *Prior Relevant Employment/Other Experience:* 18 years as a sole CPA practitioner after over 24
10 years with larger firms in the Springfield area, and 31 years operating a family grain farm
11 business.

12
13 *LCMS/Charitable Organization Activities:* CID Treasurer for 7 years, active in member churches
14 over the years as Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School teacher, church treasurer,
15 and church board member, active in local and professional activities in the Athens and
16 Springfield area as a volunteer and advisor.

17
18 *Anticipated Contribution to CID-CEF Board of Trustees:* With my extensive experience with
19 clients as their advisor and operating my own business, I understand what the investors expect
20 and what the congregations need. I look forward to being a part of the continuing long-term
21 success of the CID-CEF.

22
23
24
25 **CID-CEF Ministers of Religion**

26 *(Two persons to be elected)*

27
28 **Rev. Chad Lueck** – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Bloomington

29
30 *Current Employment:* Pastor at Good Shepherd, Bloomington since 1999.

31
32 *Prior Relevant Employment/Other Experience:* Pastor – Hope Lutheran in Shawnee Kansas
33 from 1996 - 1998, Pastor – Emmanuel Lutheran in Littlefield Texas from 1991 – 1995,
34 accountant for family business.

35
36 *LCMS/Charitable Organization Activities:* CID Circuit Visitor, Texas Circuit Secretary, Texas
37 LWML Zone Counselor, Kansas LLL Zone Counselor, Media Coordinator for Lutheran Hour
38 Ministries, LCMS 150th Anniversary Committee, Beta Sigma Psi National Pastoral Advisor.

39
40 *Anticipated Contribution to CID-CEF Board of Trustees:* The CID-CEF has held our church's
41 mortgage for years. Getting elected in 2022 has allowed me to see everything that this Board
42 does and accomplishes. Under Christine Anderson's great leadership and the wonderful make-
43 up of the Board we have great camaraderie and work well together. I have been blessed as
44 someone very involved in our church's finances to bring a unique perspective to the Board. We
45 thank the Lord for the work that gets done and looking forward it will be wonderful to assist
46 fellow CID congregations in their mission and work for the Lord's Kingdom.

Rev. Charles Olander, Emeritus – Zion Lutheran Church, New Holland

Current Employment: Retired LCMS Pastor, current CID Planned Gift Counselor.

Prior Relevant Employment/Other Experience: Pastor – Zion Lutheran in New Holland from 2005 – 2020 and 1980 – 1988, Pastor – Concordia Lutheran in Springfield from 1988 – 2005, Pastor – Trinity Lutheran in Winkler and Zion Lutheran in Morden, Manitoba, Canada from 1978 - 1980. Previous experience before entering the ministry includes banking, insurance, and construction.

LCMS/Charitable Organization Activities: Prior service on the CID-CEF Board of Trustees from 2003 – 2015, CID-CEF Special Loan Committee, CID Prison Chaplain, Circuit Counselor, delegate for 3 LCMS Synodical Conventions, delegate-at-large for the LCMS Lutheran Church Extension Fund for 11 years.

Anticipated Contribution to CID-CEF Board of Trustees: Having served on the CID-CEF Board for many years, I am very familiar with the mission and history of CID-CEF. I also know how the District CEFs work with, and are related to, the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCMS). I will encourage CID-CEF to continue to make needed loans to CID churches to better share the Gospel, and to make grants and gifts to CID missions, ministries, and students. I am conservative in theology and in lending practices, with zeal for missions and innovative ministries. If elected, I will serve with the strength, wisdom, love, and faith I receive from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

CID-CEF Trustees

(Two persons to be elected)

Mr. K. Rick Keller – St. John's Lutheran Church, Effingham

Current Employment: Attorney (of counsel) with Orr Law, LLC, Effingham, since 2015.

Prior Relevant Employment/Other Experience: Partner at Keller & Runde from 1993 – 2015, attorney at Meyer, Keller & Runde from 1991 – 1993, attorney at Braden & Keller from 1984 – 1991, Effingham County State's Attorney from 1979 – 1984, former member of the Illinois Commission on Juvenile Delinquency.

LCMS/Charitable Organization Activities: Has served as Elder, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, member of Board of Education, Communion Assistant, and in the Church Praise Band at St. John's.

Anticipated Contribution to CID-CEF Board of Trustees: Having served on the CID-CEF Board for 3 years, I am more familiar with the workings of the Board and better prepared to help in the mission of the CID-CEF to aid our churches, schools, and other LCMS agencies in growing God's Kingdom.

1
2
3 **Mr. Kevin Schultz** – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Sherman

4
5 *Current Employment:* Senior Vice President for Hickory Point Bank since 2008, with
6 responsibility for relationship management for commercial clients, including real estate loans,
7 operating lines of credit, and deposit services, managing a loan portfolio in excess of \$35
8 million.

9
10 *Prior Relevant Employment/Other Experience:* Marketing President for First Bank responsible
11 for the Springfield and Jacksonville markets from 2000 - 2005.

12
13 *LCMS/Charitable Organization Activities:* Prior service on the CID-CEF Board of Directors from
14 2009 – 2022, current member of the CID-CEF Special Loan Committee, has served as Elder at
15 Good Shepherd and on the Board of Directors and as Treasurer for Land of Lincoln Goodwill.

16
17 *Anticipated Contribution to CID-CEF Board of Trustees:* Using my experience in commercial
18 real estate and cash management to assist the Executive Director in maintaining the safety and
19 soundness of the CID-CEF.

**THE CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT
CHURCH EXTENSION FUND, INC.
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2024, 2023 AND 2022

The Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.

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Capital Accounting & Audit, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

2800 Montvale Drive
Springfield, IL 62704
217-528-8475

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees
Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc.
Springfield, Illinois

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc. (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc. as of December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Prior Period Financial Statements

The financial statements of Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc. as of December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 were audited by other auditors whose reports dated July 26, 2024 and June 23, 2023 expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Capital Accounting + Audit, LLC

Certified Public Accountants
Springfield, Illinois

May 6, 2025

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

Statement 1

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 2,477,226	\$ 1,218,707	\$ 1,644,349
Deposits and investments:			
Investments – Lutheran Church Extension Fund – LCMS.....	7,400,000	7,706,669	8,906,669
Certificates of deposit.....	6,575,763	8,749,000	5,395,000
U.S. Treasuries	<u>1,244,788</u>	<u>260,262</u>	<u>1,001,821</u>
Total deposits and investments	<u>15,220,551</u>	<u>16,715,931</u>	<u>15,303,490</u>
Loans Receivable:			
Congregations, schools, and other LCMS entities.....	18,617,593	17,747,323	19,646,996
Less allowance for loan losses.....	(1,895,000)	(1,895,000)	(1,895,000)
Net loans receivable	<u>16,722,593</u>	<u>15,852,323</u>	<u>17,751,996</u>
Accrued interest and other receivable	71,662	103,047	63,135
Fixed assets – net	63,450	9,757	3,353
Prepaid expense.....	<u>18,497</u>	<u>21,602</u>	<u>38,725</u>
TOTAL ASSETS.....	<u>\$34,573,979</u>	<u>\$33,921,367</u>	<u>\$34,805,048</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
LIABILITIES			
Interest-bearing debt instruments:			
Flex accounts.....	\$ 1,000,697	\$ 1,311,526	\$ 1,582,735
Investment certificates	<u>23,397,155</u>	<u>22,794,659</u>	<u>23,714,096</u>
Total interest-bearing debt instruments	24,397,852	24,106,185	25,296,831
Accounts payable & other payables	151,266	135,981	163,933
Accrued interest payable.....	190,571	154,516	81,711
Interest rebates payable.....	<u>150,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
Total liabilities	<u>24,889,689</u>	<u>24,521,682</u>	<u>25,692,475</u>
NET ASSETS			
Without donor restrictions:			
Undesignated.....	9,022,013	8,721,302	8,448,921
Board Designated	<u>662,277</u>	<u>678,383</u>	<u>663,652</u>
Total net assets.....	<u>9,684,290</u>	<u>9,399,685</u>	<u>9,112,573</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$34,573,979</u>	<u>\$33,921,367</u>	<u>\$34,805,048</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

Statement 2

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
REVENUE			
Interest income:			
Interest on loans	\$ 839,557	\$ 766,769	\$ 767,324
Interest on investments.....	<u>765,037</u>	<u>560,917</u>	<u>373,608</u>
Subtotal	1,604,594	1,327,686	1,140,932
Less loan interest rebate	(<u>150,000</u>)	(<u>125,000</u>)	(<u>150,000</u>)
Total interest income	1,454,594	1,202,686	990,932
Interest expense	(<u>694,649</u>)	(<u>484,401</u>)	(<u>341,752</u>)
Net interest income	759,945	718,285	649,180
 Provision for loan loss.....	 -	 -	 (1,055,000)
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	759,945	718,285	(405,820)
 Support and other income:			
Gifts and bequests	7,785	7,700	12,660
Miscellaneous income.....	<u>-</u>	<u>492</u>	<u>-</u>
Total revenue and other support	<u>767,730</u>	<u>726,477</u>	(<u>393,160</u>)
EXPENSES			
Salaries and benefits	307,733	293,608	273,301
Office expenses.....	15,621	13,756	13,798
Occupancy and insurance	36,212	33,947	34,253
Professional and computer services.....	51,518	36,992	44,318
Depreciation.....	10,204	2,470	4,531
Grants.....	43,963	38,469	75,310
Other expenses.....	<u>17,874</u>	<u>20,123</u>	<u>28,979</u>
 Total expenses.....	<u>483,125</u>	<u>439,365</u>	<u>474,490</u>
NET INCOME (LOSS)	284,605	287,112	(867,650)
 NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS – BEGINNING OF YEAR	 <u>9,399,685</u>	 <u>9,112,573</u>	 <u>9,980,223</u>
 NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS – END OF YEAR.....	 <u>\$9,684,290</u>	 <u>\$9,399,685</u>	 <u>\$9,112,573</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

Statement 3

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Net income (loss).....	\$ 284,605	\$ 287,112	(\$ 867,650)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used for) operating activities:			
Depreciation	10,204	2,470	4,531
Increase in provision for loan loss	-	-	1,055,000
(Increase) Decrease in Assets:			
Prepaid expense.....	3,105	17,123	15,356
Accrued interest and other receivable	31,385	(39,912)	(23,073)
Increase (Decrease) in Liabilities:			
Accounts and other payables.....	15,285	(27,952)	36,737
Interest payable	36,055	72,805	(8,890)
Interest rebates payable	<u>25,000</u>	<u>(25,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities ..	<u>405,639</u>	<u>286,646</u>	<u>212,011</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchase of equipment.....	(63,897)	(8,873)	(1,736)
Congregations, schools, and other LCMS entities loan advances	(3,433,172)	-	(1,160,350)
Congregations, schools, and other LCMS entities loan repayments	2,562,903	1,899,672	2,487,308
Redemption of investments	10,501,669	5,170,113	4,434,950
Purchase of investments	<u>(9,006,289)</u>	<u>(6,582,554)</u>	<u>(5,906,821)</u>
Net cash provided by (used for) investing activities.....	<u>561,214</u>	<u>478,358</u>	<u>(146,649)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchase of interest-bearing debt instruments.....	3,123,337	2,324,773	1,502,801
Redemptions of interest-bearing debt instruments	<u>(2,831,671)</u>	<u>(3,515,419)</u>	<u>(2,961,629)</u>
Net cash provided by (used for) financing activities.....	<u>291,666</u>	<u>(1,190,646)</u>	<u>(1,458,828)</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	1,258,519	(425,642)	(1,393,466)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS – BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>1,218,707</u>	<u>1,644,349</u>	<u>3,037,815</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS – END OF YEAR.....	<u>\$ 2,477,226</u>	<u>\$ 1,218,707</u>	<u>\$ 1,644,349</u>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:			
Cash paid during the year for interest.....	\$ 658,594	\$ 411,596	\$ 350,642

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 1 – ORGANIZATION

The Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc. (Church Extension Fund) is one of four District-based Church Extension Funds under the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS). The Church Extension Fund is a church organization of the LCMS and as such is a charitable exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and relies on investments by individuals and entities located primarily in central Illinois. Investors are subject to fluctuations in the economic status of the geographic region of central Illinois. No provisions have been made for changes in the economic environment.

The purpose of this corporation is to aid the member congregations and agencies of the Central Illinois District of the LCMS to finance the acquisition of land and in the purchase, erection or improvement of facilities for effective programs of ministry, witness, outreach, and service for the expansion of God's Kingdom in the Central Illinois District of the LCMS.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting - The financial statements of the Church Extension Fund have been prepared on the accrual basis in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

The significant accounting policies followed by the Church Extension Fund are described below to enhance the usefulness of the financial statements to the reader.

Basis of Presentation - The financial statements of the Church Extension Fund have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP"), which require the Church Extension Fund to report information regarding its financial position and activities accordingly to the following net asset classifications:

Net assets without donor restrictions - Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions and may be expended for any purpose in performing the primary objectives of the organization. These net assets may be used at the discretion of the Church Extension Fund's management and the board of trustees.

Governing Board Designations - Board designated net assets represent bequests received by the Church Extension Fund. The Board designated the funds from net assets without restrictions for future approved projects or expenditures of the Church Extension Fund. The balances are \$662,277, \$678,383 and \$663,652 as of December 2024, 2023 and 2022.

Net assets with donor restrictions - Net assets subject to stipulations imposed by donors and grantors. Some donor restrictions are temporary in nature; those restrictions will be met by actions of the Church Extension Fund or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, whereby the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity.

Donor restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets are reclassified from net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions in the statement of activities.

Cash and Cash Equivalents - For the purposes of the statements of cash flows, highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less at the date of acquisition generally are considered to be cash equivalents.

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, (Continued)

Investments - Investments consist of notes and certificates of deposit with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund – LCMS and financial institutions as well as U.S. Treasuries at various rates and are carried at cost which approximates market value, or, in the case of U.S. Treasuries, including amortization of discount at purchase.

Fixed Assets - Fixed assets are recorded at cost and consist of office equipment, furniture and software which is depreciated over their estimated useful lives using the straight-line method of depreciation. Management's policy is to recognize depreciation in the month the asset is acquired through the life of the asset.

Use of Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recorded in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Tax Status - The Church Extension Fund is a church organization of the LCMS and as such is a charitable exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and as a church entity is exempt from filing requirements.

Functional Expenses - The costs of providing program and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among program services, management and general, fundraising, occupancy and supporting services benefited. Such allocations are determined by management on an equitable basis. See Note 11 for presentation of fiscal years ending December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022.

NOTE 3 – LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY

Financial assets available for general expenditure, that is, without donor or other restrictions limiting their use, within one year of December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022 are:

	<u>12-31-24</u>	<u>12-31-23</u>	<u>12-31-22</u>
Financial assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,477,226	\$ 1,218,707	\$ 1,644,349
Short-term investments	<u>4,419,000</u>	<u>11,528,931</u>	<u>3,410,241</u>
Total financial assets available within one year	<u>\$ 6,896,226</u>	<u>\$12,747,638</u>	<u>\$ 5,054,590</u>

The organization's cash flows have variations during the year attributable to timing of payout of notes payable and advances on loans. To manage liquidity, the organization structures its financial assets to be available as general expenses, liabilities, advances on loans and other obligations come due. Short-term investments include those that will mature within one year.

NOTE 4 – FIXED ASSETS

Fixed assets are stated at cost and are comprised of the following for the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022:

	<u>12-31-24</u>	<u>12-31-23</u>	<u>12-31-22</u>
Computer equipment and software	\$ 54,680	\$ 102,616	\$ 101,387
Office furniture and equipment	25,866	18,580	14,624
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(<u>17,096</u>)	(<u>111,439</u>)	(<u>112,658</u>)
Total – net	<u>\$ 63,450</u>	<u>\$ 9,757</u>	<u>\$ 3,353</u>

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 5 – LOANS RECEIVABLE AND ALLOWANCE FOR LOAN LOSSES

Loans Receivable:

Loans that management has the intent and ability to hold for the foreseeable future, or until maturity or payoff, are reported at the principal balance outstanding, net of allowance for loan losses. The loans receivable consist of loans with various maturity dates and with interest rates ranging from 2.20% to 6.00%. The balance of loans receivable for the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022 was \$18,617,593, \$17,747,323, and \$19,646,996, respectively.

Interest income earned on loans receivable for the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022 was \$839,557, \$766,769, and \$767,324 and accrued interest amounted to \$1,570, (\$8,331), and \$2,664, respectively. The board of trustees approved interest rebates of \$150,000 for 2024, \$125,000 for 2023, and \$150,000 for 2022.

In accordance with the Church Extension Fund's policy, titles, deeds of trust, and mortgages to properties are held by the Church Extension Fund until the related indebtedness has been satisfied by the respective borrower.

Allowance For Loan Losses:

During 2023, the Church Extension Fund implemented FASB ASU 2016-13 Financial Instruments – Credit Losses (Topic 326). Commonly referred to as the Current Expected Credit Loss (CECL) Model, this guidance was used to estimate the Allowance for Loan Losses on loans held by the Church Extension Fund as of December 31, 2024. Under CECL, the Loss Rate Method of evaluation was utilized, with management estimating the allowance balance using relevant available information, from internal and external sources, relating to historical information, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts.

Management has assessed the Church Extension Fund loan portfolio and identified the following three types of borrowers as portfolio segments, or pools, to be used under the Loan Rate Method CECL model:

- Churches/organizations without schools
- Churches with schools
- Associations/stand-alone schools

Historical credit loss experience provides the basis for estimation of expected credit losses. Having not experienced any loan loss since the inception of the Church Extension Fund, the historical loss rate for the Fund stands at 0.00%. If loan losses are experienced in the future, more detailed information may be tracked on loans at that time where relevant to the occurrence of loss.

Current qualitative, or environmental, conditions likely have some degree of variation throughout the lives of the loans in the loan pools. Due to a historical loss rate of 0.00% over the existence of the Church Extension Fund, no correlation between the variations in these conditions and an impact on the loss rate can be identified and readily supported because no losses were incurred. The Church Extension Fund will continue to monitor these qualitative conditions going forward to seek to identify any correlation for adjustment to the historical loss rate should a loss occur.

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 5 – LOANS RECEIVABLE AND ALLOWANCE FOR LOAN LOSSES, (Continued)

Reasonable and supportive forecasts are based on qualitative, or environmental, conditions which are very similar to the impact of current conditions in that they also are likely to have some degree of variation throughout the lives of the loans in the loan pools. Given the historical loss rate of 0.00% over the existence of the Church Extension Fund, no correlation between the variations in these conditions and an impact on the loss rate can be identified and reasonably and readily supported because no losses were incurred. As of December 31, 2024, management assessed the situation and assigned overall qualitative adjustments to the pools referenced above based on factors with the potential to affect the forecasted loss rate in each pool.

The balance of the allowance for loan losses account was \$1,895,000, \$1,895,000 and \$1,895,000 for the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Prior to implementation of CECL in 2023, the allowance for loan losses complied with generally accepted accounting principles applicable at the time. In 2022, the board of trustees increased the allowance for loan losses by \$1,055,000 to \$1,895,000, after impairment of a loan. The loan is currently on interest only payments.

Management considers a loan to be impaired when it is placed on nonaccrual status, among other considerations. As of December 31, 2024, the balance of impaired loans with a specific valuation allowance outside of the standard portfolio segments (pools) was \$2,181,594, and without a specific valuation allowance was \$23,078. The valuation allowance related to impaired loans totaled \$1,461,668 as of December 31, 2024. The valuation allowance attributed to impaired loans is a component of the overall allowance for loan losses.

There have been no loan delinquencies related to the financial condition of any borrowers (more than 90 days delinquent) during the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022. No loans are delinquent at year end (over 90 days past due).

Loan Commitments:

As stated in each promissory note, the Church Extension Fund does not have an obligation to extend credit under its loan commitments where the borrower is in default under the terms of any agreement, is no longer in existence or is insolvent, has applied funds for other than their authorized purpose, or where the Church Extension Fund in good faith believes itself insecure. Given that credit will not be extended where any possibility of loss exists or would be expected, the Church Extension Fund will not be including loan commitment in its calculation of loan loss.

Unexpended loan commitments as of December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022 are \$-0-, \$4,000,000, and \$-0-, respectively.

NOTE 6 – INVESTMENTS

Investments are mainly comprised of notes and certificates of deposit with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund – LCMS and financial institutions at varying rates and with terms up to 60 months. Investments are carried at cost which approximates market value. The Church Extension Fund also holds investments in U.S. Treasury Bills and Notes. Those are valued at cost, and any discount at time of purchase is amortized over the life of the note.

Raymond James provides investment services for a portion of the certificates of deposit in the Church Extension Fund's portfolio. The certificates of deposit listed under Raymond James are not investments in Raymond James.

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 6 – INVESTMENTS, (Continued)

Investments consisted of the following at December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022:

		<u>Current Rates/Yield</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Cost/Market 12-31-24</u>	<u>Cost/Market 12-31-23</u>	<u>Cost/Market 12-31-22</u>
Lutheran Church Extension Fund – LCMS						
Notes		2.250% - 2.500%	2023	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700,000
Notes		2.625% - 3.000%	2024	-	5,206,669	7,206,669
Notes		3.00% - 5.00%	2025	1,500,000	1,250,000	1,000,000
Notes		4.25% - 6.25%	2026	3,200,000	1,250,000	-
Notes		4.25%	2027	700,000	-	-
Notes		4.00%	2028	500,000	-	-
Notes		4.50%	2029	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Lutheran Church Extension Fund – LCMS				<u>7,400,000</u>	<u>7,706,669</u>	<u>8,906,669</u>
 Raymond James, Springfield, Illinois						
Certificates of Deposit		2.45% - 3.45%	2023	-	-	1,470,000
Certificates of Deposit		1.60% - 5.55%	2024	-	5,364,000	3,435,000
Certificates of Deposit		5.00% - 5.50%	2025	2,187,000	1,952,000	-
Certificates of Deposit		4.10% - 5.40%	2026	1,486,000	490,000	-
Certificates of Deposit		3.90% - 4.00%	2028	494,000	-	-
Certificates of Deposit		4.00%	2029	<u>249,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
				<u>4,416,000</u>	<u>7,806,000</u>	<u>4,905,000</u>
 U.S. Treasuries:						
US Treasury Bills	<u>Par Value</u>	3.869%	2023	-	-	249,579
US Treasury Bills	\$259,000	3.990%	2023	-	-	249,534
US Treasury Notes	\$256,000	4.000%	2023	-	-	249,307
US Treasury Notes	\$261,000	4.340%	2024	-	249,654	249,654
US Treasury Notes	\$259,000	3.889%	2026	249,030	-	-
US Treasury Notes	\$260,000	3.929%	2026	249,705	-	-
US Treasury Notes	\$257,000	4.079%	2026	246,628	-	-
US Treasury Notes	\$268,000	4.116%	2029	249,332	-	-
US Treasury Notes	\$257,000	4.125%	2029	<u>247,532</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
				<u>1,242,227</u>	<u>249,654</u>	<u>998,074</u>
Discount paid on US Treasuries				<u>2,561</u>	<u>10,608</u>	<u>3,747</u>
Total Raymond James Investments				<u>5,660,788</u>	<u>8,066,262</u>	<u>5,906,821</u>

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 6 – INVESTMENTS, (Continued)

	<u>Current Rates/Yield</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Cost/Market 12-31-24</u>	<u>Cost/Market 12-31-23</u>	<u>Cost/Market 12-31-22</u>
Other Financial Institutions – Certificates of Deposit:					
Bloomsdale Bank, Bloomsdale, MO	1.000%	2023	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 245,000
Prime Alliance	5.300%	2025	238,000	-	-
State Bank of Texas, Dallas, TX	5.350% - 5.500%	2025-24	249,000	249,000	-
US Alliance Financial, Rye NY	1.000% - 4.850%	2025-23	245,000	245,000	245,000
INOVA Federal Credit Union, Elkhart, IN	4.310% - 5.500%	2026-24	249,402	249,000	-
Vibrant Credit Union, Moline, IL	5.000%	2027-24	210,861	200,000	-
Lafayette Federal Credit Union, West Kensington, MD	4.500%	2027	247,500	-	-
EFCU Financial, Baton Rouge, LA	4.750%	2027	222,500	-	-
Heartland Credit Union, Hutchinson, KS	4.090%	2027	247,500	-	-
Heartland Credit Union, Springfield, IL	4.400%	2028	<u>250,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Other Financial Institutions – Certificates of Deposit			<u>2,159,763</u>	<u>943,000</u>	<u>490,000</u>
TOTAL INVESTMENTS			<u>\$15,220,551</u>	<u>\$16,715,931</u>	<u>\$15,303,490</u>

Interest income on investments for the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022 was \$765,037, \$560,917, and \$373,608, respectively. The accrued interest amounted to \$70,092, \$104,968, and \$60,471, respectively.

NOTE 7 – CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

Financial instruments, which potentially subject the organization to concentration of credit risk, include cash and cash equivalents and investments. The organization places its temporary cash with credit-worthy, high quality financial institutions. There were no uninsured balances at these financial institutions at December 31, 2024.

Investments and cash on demand with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund – LCMS of \$7,951,414 are not SIPC or FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts, and repayment of principal and interest is dependent upon the general financial condition of LCEF. Management has reviewed the financial condition of LCEF and has been made aware of a lawsuit in which LCEF has been named as one of multiple defendants. LCEF maintains that the lawsuit and its claims are spurious and will vigorously defend against them. Management will continue to monitor the status of the lawsuit and LCEF's financial condition to ensure the investments held with the LCEF remain unimpaired.

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 8 – INTEREST-BEARING DEBT INSTRUMENTS

The balances in interest-bearing debt instruments represent amounts that members of LCMS have invested in the Church Extension Fund in the following:

	<u>12-31-24</u>	<u>12-31-23</u>	<u>12-31-22</u>
Flex Accounts	\$ 1,000,696	\$ 1,311,527	\$ 1,582,735
Investment certificates:			
6 months	113,116	112,382	127,365
11 months	1,741,357	-	-
12 months	2,355,060	2,195,402	2,062,461
18 months	12,277,821	10,570,921	1,300,662
24 months	-	1,002,015	7,816,637
36 months	1,681,958	2,171,520	2,938,725
60 months	<u>5,227,844</u>	<u>6,742,419</u>	<u>9,468,246</u>
Total interest-bearing debt instruments	<u>\$24,397,852</u>	<u>\$24,106,186</u>	<u>\$25,296,831</u>

Interest rates on outstanding interest-bearing debt instruments range from 0.40% to 4.50%. The accounts held in each of the above investments are not SIPC or FDIC insured.

Future scheduled maturities of investment certificates are as follows:

2025	\$16,008,602
2026	3,870,459
2027	1,444,465
2028	1,353,277
2029	<u>720,352</u>
Totals	<u>\$23,397,155</u>

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 9 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Office space is provided to the Church Extension Fund under a lease agreement with the District with monthly payments of \$1,150 for rent and utilities.

The Church Extension Fund also provides various grants to member congregations and other entities including the District.

The following represents payments made to the District from the Church Extension Fund for the years ended December 2024, 2023, and 2022:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Ministry Outreach Grants	\$ 2,615	\$ 473	\$ -
Board Grants	-	12,095	3,683
Bequest Grants	4,250	-	5,656
Rent and utilities	13,800	13,200	13,200

The District had 2 outstanding loans with the Church Extension Fund on December 31, 2024 with a balance due of \$66,045, 2 loans on December 31, 2023 and 2 loans on December 31, 2022 with balances due of \$88,416 and \$109,723, respectively.

NOTE 10 – RETIREMENT PLAN

The Church Extension Fund participates with other organizations affiliated with the LCMS in a multiemployer noncontributory, defined-benefit pension plan covering substantially all employees. Benefits are provided through Concordia Plan Services (the Plan). The cost of these benefits to the Church Extension Fund for the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022 was \$17,774, \$16,994, and \$15,120, respectively.

Accumulated plan benefits information, as provided by consulting actuaries, has not been distinguished from the benefits of the other organizations participating in the multiemployer Plan and, accordingly, such information is not presented herein. The most recent available financial information for the Plan is as of December 31, 2023. The December 31, 2023 audited financial statements of the Concordia Retirement Plan reflected approximately \$3.9 billion in net assets available for benefits and \$4.5 billion of actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits. Therefore, the Plan was approximately 86% funded and is in the “Green Zone” for classification under the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA). The PPA considers Plans that are neither endangered nor critical to be in the “Green Zone” and are not required to take action. Plans considered endangered are “Yellow Zone” and critical are considered “Red Zone.” Pension Plans in critical and endangered status are required to adopt a plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the Pension Plan.

In addition, the Church Extension Fund also offers a retirement plan under Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code for employees. The employer matching contributions for the years ending December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022 was \$3,627, \$3,455, and \$3,290, respectively.

Central Illinois District
Church Extension Fund, Inc.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2024, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 11 – EXPENSES BY NATURE AND FUNCTION

The table below presents expenses by their function for fiscal years ending 2024, 2023 and 2022.

	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>December 31, 2024</u>			
Salaries and benefits	\$157,573	\$150,160	\$307,733
Office expenses	7,999	7,622	15,621
Occupancy and insurance	18,542	17,670	36,212
Professional and computer services	38,638	12,880	51,518
Depreciation	7,654	2,550	10,204
Grants	43,963	-	43,963
Other expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>17,874</u>	<u>17,874</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$274,369</u>	<u>\$208,756</u>	<u>\$483,125</u>
<u>December 31, 2023</u>			
Salaries and benefits	\$150,461	\$143,147	\$293,608
Office expenses	7,049	6,707	13,756
Occupancy and insurance	17,396	16,551	33,947
Professional and computer services	27,744	9,248	36,992
Depreciation	1,853	617	2,470
Grants	38,469	-	38,469
Other expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>20,123</u>	<u>20,123</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$242,972</u>	<u>\$196,393</u>	<u>\$439,365</u>
<u>December 31, 2022</u>			
Salaries and benefits	\$140,527	\$132,774	\$273,301
Office expenses	7,095	6,703	13,798
Occupancy and insurance	17,612	16,641	34,253
Professional and computer services	33,238	11,080	44,318
Depreciation	3,399	1,132	4,531
Grants	75,310	-	75,310
Other expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>28,979</u>	<u>28,979</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$277,181</u>	<u>\$197,309</u>	<u>\$474,490</u>

NOTE 12 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The organization reviewed events for inclusion in the financial statements through May 6, 2025, the date that the financial statements were available to be issued.