

CNH District Convention

April 27th, 2012

Session 1

The 69th Convention of the California-Nevada-Hawaii District of the LC-MS was called to order at 3:02 PM by Pres. Robert Newton.

Introduction

President Newton offered opening remarks in keeping with the theme of the convention, "Following the Heart of our Shepherd". He reminded the attendees of how Jesus turned the lives of his disciples upside down and commented that Jesus continues to do the same to us. President Newton thanked Synod President Harrison for being with us today and tomorrow morning. President Newton introduced Jon Vieker, Senior Assistant to President Harrison and noted that Synod VP Paul Maier is also present and will be offering a period of Q & A tomorrow. Also introduced were Walt Tietjen, Past President of the CNH District and Loren Kramer, Past President of the PSW District.

The president noted that Rev. Greg Seltz, speaker of the Lutheran Hour will be the featured speaker for tomorrow. Tom Norris, director of communications for the District, will offer a presentation tomorrow. President Newton noted the passing of Kathy Lindquist, who served as regional lay director on the Board of Directors for the past triennium, and of Art Kroger who served as District Treasurer from 1994 until his death.

Opening Devotion

First VP Rev. Dr. Tom Zelt offered the opening devotion. Rev. Zelt spoke on John Chapter 10, the Good Shepherd, noting especially verse 16- "*I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen*". The message centered around the thought that Jesus is the shepherd of all and "*of necessity I must bring them in.*" Rev. Zelt stated that we are good at understanding the necessity of dying and rising, but the telling of Jesus is just as necessary as the cross, the crucifixion and the resurrection. The devotion closed with the singing of "Christ the Eternal Lord".

Convention Business

President Newton commented that, "what is necessary" to the heart of the shepherd will be accomplished. He went on to offer thanks to the many people who have worked to make the convention possible.

The district's newest congregation, Immanuel-Jackson was welcomed into the District by President Newton. It was noted that Pastor Davidenas was not able to be present due to the passing of his daughter, Binky.

Rev. Terrence Chan and Rufus Davis signed the Constitution of the District marking official acceptance of Christ for All Nations.

President Newton read the names of the pastors that have entered into the district in the past triennium. The pastors were asked to stand as their names were called and were welcomed by the assembly. This list can be found beginning on page 31 of the convention manual.

President Newton introduced registration Committee Chairman Rev. Bruce Betker. Rev. Betker offered the following report. In attendance: voting lay delegates-106, voting pastors-102. There

are 52 advisers, 42 guests for a total attendance of 302. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept his report.

Standing rules for the convention were presented by Parliamentarian Rev. Richard Rice. A motion was made to adopt the standing rules as presented. The motion was seconded and approved. Executive Director John Whaley presented the agenda for the convention. He noted that the Regional caucuses scheduled to be held at 10:30 AM on Saturday have been moved to 10:50 AM. A motion to accept the agenda as corrected was moved, seconded and approved.

Presidents Address-Part One

First VP Tom Zelt assumed the chair to introduce our "Mission President" Robert Newton for the first half of his report. President Newton began by noting that changes have caught us off guard. The church once mattered. For many now, the feeling is that the battle is being lost. Synod recognized the challenge and instituted the Revitalization program in 1994. The plan was to revitalize 2000 churches.

President Newton noted three factors of the process:

#1 - The heart of the Good Shepherd. We need to understand what the heart of God is about in the world.

#2 - That we recognize and share the heart of a Good Shepherd. God wills that we play a part in his cosmic plan. Scripture goes beyond heaven to include the world as well. We are a kingdom of Priests ruling with him on Earth.

#3 - That we rely on His resurrected power. The Good Shepherd affects the church, working through us by the power of the Holy Spirit. The call to repent belongs to God.

Repentance = Recalculate = Change direction. In using the analogy of the GPS, Newton stated that we have covenanted to go from point A to point B. God recalculates to accommodate when we go off course. Finally He says it in his Son. It is His voice that gets us back on course.

President Newton moved to the book of Revelation, recalling the message to the angel of the church of Ephesus, relating Christ's admonition to the church that they had forgotten their first love. "God so loved the world"- the emphasis of the church must be the same-thus Revitalization was born of this love.

President Newton reminded the assembly that we need his loving touch. He noted that in the church, we have many problems facing us. He focused on two of those problems:

#1 - Fear - the evil one wanted to stop the Lord. He failed. Jesus did not want His church to fear.

#2 - Apathy - the churches at Sardis and Laodicea suffered from apathy. Sardis lived in the shadow of their once vibrant faith. Laodicea was living for itself. It ignored the word that could bring them back to life. Newton noted that we suffer similar effects. As He did for the churches of Revelation, Jesus promises that those who remain faithful would remain in His care.

Election of the District President

The chair of the election committee, Rev. Clarence Eisberg, was called forward. Rev. Eisberg noted that two names had been nominated for the office of District President, Rev. Dr. Robert Newton and Rev. Dr. Thomas Zelt. Sec. Standley was asked to read a letter from Rev. Dr. Zelt in which he thanked the assembly for the nomination but respectfully declined due to his desire to pursue other avenues of service thru the congregation at Prince of Peace, and the District. Rev. Zelt then took the chair and noted that there were a couple of ways to proceed, one being, a motion to elect president Newton by acclamation. A motion was made, seconded and approved

to elect President Robert Newton to his fourth term as president of the CNH district. The election was celebrated with the singing of the doxology.

Election of the First VP

Election committee chair Clarence Eisberg gave instructions for the process of electing the First VP. President Newton then asked for nominations from the floor. Rev. Dr. Thomas Zelt received a nomination from the floor. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations. Rev. Zelt stated that he felt that at this time he must decline the nomination. The motion and second was rescinded. Nominations continued from the floor with Rev. Paul Hoffmann and Rev. John Standley receiving nominations. There was a motion to close the nominations which was seconded and approved. President Newton asked that the voting be held over until tomorrow when electronic voting means will be available.

Report from CEF

Don Busse, President of District CEF, greeted the convention on behalf of the District CEF Board. He noted that the operation has been streamlined. CEF is confident for the future. While some loans have been restructured, the number of delinquent loans is low and the outlook is good. Busse noted that loan activity is approximately one third of the previous triennium. Major projects that have recently been completed include Sierra Lutheran High School, Zion North Highlands, Light of the Hills in Cameron Park, and Redeemer Fresno. It was noted that these projects were made possible by those who participate in investments with CEF. President Busse noted that the investment base of those under 50 years old is not growing. Financial goals for CEF include achieving positive income with lower interest rates. The district CEF Board of Directors has approved \$25,000 in grant awards to fund congregation mission projects. These grants will be given on a first-come first serve basis. It was noted that in the area of planned giving, half of the investments come from those 60 and above. At present there are 100 representatives in 180 congregations. Representatives will have the opportunity to attend a planned giving conference to enable them to reach out to others. President Busse urged congregations that don't currently have a representative to appoint one. Only those congregations who have a representative have a vote at the CEF Regional Meeting. The theme of the Regional Meeting will be "Time for Change".

LWML Report

President Newton introduced Marcia Houseworth, President of the CNH District LWML. President Houseworth noted that their convention theme for this year was "Extreme Service". She stated that Lutheran women are in service in many areas of our District. Money from mites goes to assist in funding projects in the district and the world. She invited attendees to visit the LWML display.

Report from Concordia University Irvine

President Newton introduced Loren Kramer, Past President of the Pacific Southwest District. Pres. Kramer brought greetings from the PSW District President. Pres. Kramer spoke of the mission of Concordia University Irvine, focusing on faithfulness and excellence. He noted a record enrollment for this year of 3250 students. He stated that 1200 students will receive diplomas at the end of this academic year. Pres. Kramer spoke of the core academic coursework at Concordia Irvine, noting that the nursing department will graduate the sixth group of 40

students and advising that each passed the State certification on the first try. While the numbers of those pursuing professional church work are down, the number of those working in programs leading to ordination is up. There are six students nearing completion of the requirements for ordination from the CNH district.

Pres. Kramer spoke of the university's program for teachers pursuing a Masters degree. He stated that there are approximately 1000 students enrolled. It was noted that a similar program would be offered soon in the Bay Area.

Synod President Matthew Harrison

President Harrison began by congratulating President Newton on his election. He noted that the Missouri Synod celebrated its 165th anniversary yesterday. A video presentation was offered dealing with the work of the Synod over the past two years. President Harrison stressed that caring for hurting people is part of the emphasis of the "Mercy-Witness-Life Together" theme. He went on to state that there were 34 new missionaries commissioned last year. Missions in places like Russia and the Dominican Republic can serve as seminary training facilities and are part of the Synod's Global Theology Initiative. The international aspect of Synod's mission program was illustrated with clips of the devastation from the tsunami in Japan and the Malaria Initiative, as well as many others. Examples of National Ministry included Campus Ministry, Church Planting, Reformation of Preaching and Women in the Church. President Harrison concluded by saying the Church of Jesus Christ has a future because Jesus has a future.

President's Address-Part Two

President Newton spoke of the three mission contexts: Pre-Church, Post-Church, Church. President Newton stated that he was allowed to attend "Mission School" while most pastors don't. He listed what he feels are three priorities for the District concerning mission: #1 - Mission School. #2 - Plant - We don't plant churches, the Holy Spirit plants churches-we plant the Word. #3 - Raise a Mission Minded people - We must identify, equip and release these people.

Report on TFM

VP Zelt noted that during the conference we would hear from several congregations that have experienced the Transforming for Ministry program. He introduced Rev. Jim Beyer who spoke about the success of the program at St. Mark - Santa Rosa. Rev. Beyer offered a short video showing the projects that were undertaken at St. Mark. These projects included letters to servicemen, food collection and others. There are six new events planned for the coming year.

Closing

The first session of the 69th convention of the CNH District was closed with prayer by VP Zelt.

The evening worship service was hosted by Redeemer Lutheran Ministries-Redwood City. The message was offered by Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

CNH District Convention
April 28th, 2012
Sessions 2 & 3

Opening

Session Two was called to order at 8:05 AM in the name of the Father Son and Holy Spirit by President Robert Newton. President Newton recognized Walt Tietjen's birthday with the singing of Happy Birthday.

President Newton welcomed Rev. Michael Lange for the opening devotion. Rev. Lange referred to John 3:1 (Jesus' evening conversation with Nicodemus). Nicodemus was a teacher and yet he did not understand "these things". It is important to the heart of the Shepherd that we know "these things" as God speaks his word to us. The assembly sang the hymn, "Come Thou Almighty King".

President Newton assumed the chair to introduce Rev. Ted Hartman director of the TFM program. Rev. Hartman introduced Mark Airey, Pastor of the Lutheran Church of Prayer in Bakersfield. Pastor Airey spoke of his congregation's work with the TFM process. He related the outward focus that he has witnessed in this small congregation, spurred on and energized by the revitalization program. Rev. Hartman led the assembly in prayer for Pastor Airey and the Lutheran Church of Prayer.

President Newton asked Rev. Bruce Betker to give an update on registration.

Voting lay delegates = 115 -- Voting pastoral delegates = 109 -- for a total of 224 Voting Delegates. There are 60 advisers and 50 guests for a total convention attendance of 334. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. The motion was approved.

Rev. Lange directed the delegates to "A Taste of the CNH" trifold handout located on the tables. The folder contains events concerning mission opportunities in the CNH District.

President Harrison's Bible study

President Newton welcomed Synod President Matthew Harrison to the podium. President Harrison spoke on the challenges of Synod reorganization. He went on to explain the thinking behind the theme Witness, Mercy, Life Together.

Witness-there are no islands for Christians. When you are in Christ you are in Him together. When you have 2-3 Christians together you have mercy. President Harrison encouraged Christians to "Stick your nose in the Bible". He referred to Galatians 2:8-9 and worked with the Greek word for Fellowship. Fellowship = common agreement in teaching and life together = witness. We need to make a conscious decision to get out in the midst of the people. He stated that Witness, Mercy, and Living Together are all found in this text.

Referring to John chapter 1, president Harrison noted that the Greek word for martyr means to bear witness. Witnesses are people who have seen with their eyes and witnessed with their mouths.

In John 1:8, the president noted that John was not the light but he came as a witness to the light. Our task is to bear witness to what we see in holy Scripture. We need to speak in a way that people can understand what we are saying.

The assembly was directed to 1 John 5:10. President Harrison noted that the church without witness is dead. "Stick your nose in the Bible", step back and look at your congregation. Look at

your preaching. Synod is looking toward more continuing education for pastors to assist pastors in their task.

Mercy- in Mark 1:39, we see that Jesus was moved with pity. This is a deep set compassion, visceral. President Harrison went on to relate several passages using the Greek word for compassion. In first John 3:16 we read "By this we know love, that he lay down his life for us". Harrison noted that Jesus never fails to act. He puts his compassion in us.

Lutheran Malaria Initiative

President Harrison introduced Martha Mitkos who spoke on behalf of the Synod's Malaria Initiative. She noted that 170,000 children were saved in Africa in the last year. \$4.7 million has been raised so far. Martha related the story of Rev. Walter Obare, Bishop of the Lutheran Church of Kenya who is one survivor of five from a family of 10 children, the rest taken by malaria. She noted that the CNH District is looking for a champion for this program.

Rev. Jim Beyer introduced Gloria Edwards who addressed the convention concerning the Malaria Initiative. The delegates received a copy of resolution 1-1 - TO COMBAT MALARIA.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the resolution. With no discussion the question was called and the resolution passed with the vote of 203 yes votes, to 5 no votes.

Worship Service Offering

Rev. Hal Draeger was recognized by the chair. Pastor Draeger moved that the offering taken at the Friday evening worship service be dedicated to the Lutheran Malaria Initiative. The motion was seconded and approved with no discussion.

Lutheran Hour Ministries

John Hawkins from Lutheran Hour Ministries spoke to the assembly concerning the work of the LHM. John invited all attendees to visit the Lutheran Hour display.

Greg Seltz - Lutheran Hour Ministries

President Newton welcomed Rev. Greg Seltz, Lutheran Hour speaker. The title of his presentation was "Can I Get a Witness". In the Technology Generation, how can we seize the opportunity to share the Christian faith in love with the "i" generation.

Seltz asked the question "What price do we want to pay to get this done?". ref. 1 Corinthians 1:27-31. In reference to Romans 10:8-15 Rev. Seltz raised the question "What is so unique about the Lutheran message?" His answer was: Jesus loves us so much that he comes to us-we talk about a Jesus that comes near.

Is it harder to become a Christian today? Why did Christ come at such a technologically backward time? Television promised to bring the truth-the fact is, television sells product. In fact all technology sells products. How do you share the Gospel with someone with an iPod in their ear? Some say the Bible as a book is finished. However in the midst of it all, people are still looking for love. The Bible is a "public love story". It is love in the lives of real people.

Is today a problem or an opportunity? Lutherans don't have a way to "satellite". We can use Twitter, Facebook and all types of social media to bring people in. Lutheran Hour ministries can help in this.

Receive and Believe - His love is for you. Christmas comes every year-some things are so good you want to hear them over and over.

Know and Grow- in His love for you in the middle of real life. Come to the place where you're willing to pay the price.

Show-show his love in our lives. ref. John 13:35. People want to "Know what you know, when they know you care..."

Be Ready to Share-seize the opportunity. Be a 150% person. Be prepared to lose some of yourself, and pick things up from those around you. Jesus is the only 200% person. Use tech to keep the conversation going-but in the end God needs people who are willing to meet people face-to-face.

Convention Business

Rev. Clarence Eisberg announced the room assignments for the regional caucuses.

Pastor Eisberg conducted the election for First Vice President. Rev. Paul Hoffmann received 117 votes. Rev. John Standley received 84 votes. Rev. Hoffmann was elected as the district's First VP.

Hispanic Task Force

President Newton introduced Enrique Vallejo. Rev. Vallejo spoke of the work being accomplished in the CNH District among the Hispanic community. He then introduced Rev. Zabdi Lopez. Pastor Lopez presented a video and covered many of the aspects of reaching out to the Hispanic community.

TFM Snapshot

Rev. Ted Hartman introduced Pastor Jonathan Oetting, who offered insight into the TFM process as experienced at Our Savior-Sparks Nevada. He spoke of the importance of coaches in the TFM program.

Rev. Hartman prayed for Pastor Oetting and the people of Our Savior, Sparks.

President Newton adjourned the second session. Attendees met in Regional Caucuses. Lunch followed the Caucuses.

Session 3

President Newton called the third session of the convention to order at 1:35 PM. He called on Secretary Standley for approval of the minutes. It was noted that the date was incorrect. It was moved and seconded to approve the corrected minutes. With no further discussion the minutes were approved as corrected.

Address-Rev. Tom Norris

President Newton introduced Rev. Tom Norris who serves as the district's Director of Communications. He opened with the singing of "This Joyful Eastertide".

Rev. Norris started by telling of the devastation caused by hurricane Mitch. The hurricane was so powerful that it changed the course of the river. The bridge was unharmed but the river no longer went underneath. The bridge was perfectly fine, it just didn't serve a purpose anymore. How often in the church have we seen the water move from under the bridge. In the same way, advertising in newspapers and the yellow pages used to work. These days people go to the web for information.

Rev. Norris presented a PowerPoint presentation illustrating what goes on over the Internet in just 1 minute. Hours of video can be downloaded in less than a minute.

He noted how sermons on YouTube can attract many more viewers than are in church on any given Sunday. People meet on the web - that's where we need to be. Over 50% of the world's population is under 30. Norris showed a video outlining the explosion of web based activities. We are living in the time of the Social Media Revolution. Blogging continues to grow in popularity.

What has changed? #1- How they find you. #2 - What they expect to find. (Your competition is everything that populates the web.) Sites are designed to welcome people - "Click Here".

Rev. Norris spoke about Leonard Sweet's book-Viral.

He talked about:

Gutenbergers	versus	Googlers.
<i>Need to be right</i>		<i>Need to be in relationship</i>
<i>God is in charge</i>		<i>God is among us</i>
<i>Need good light</i>		<i>Need to recharge the reader</i>
<i>Theology explains God</i>		<i>Jesus explains life</i>
<i>Statement of faith</i>		<i>life of faith</i>

Rev. Norris went on to offer some help from the web:

Project Burning Bush
Cutting-edge website
Global Internet radio
Online studies and forums

Other help from the District:

Communication plan
Website help
Social media
Mission leadership
G + Hang Out

He closed by saying that we need to speak the Gospel in the language of the people. There is always a place to start. We don't need to feel incapacitated in regards to technology. The web was made for the church. God made all things for the church. We have the privilege of taking the gospel to people who won't hear it unless we speak it.

Rev. Norris noted that he is available to assist individual congregations with websites.

Convention Business

President Newton called Rev. Bruce Betker to advise the convention of the final Registration Report. Voting lay delegates = 117. Voting Pastoral delegates = 109. Guests = 53. Advisory = 61. Total attendance 340. A motion to accept the report was moved and seconded. Hearing no discussion, the question was called and the report approved.

Rev. Betker advised the delegation that there were several delegates that need to revise their yellow President Voting Certification.

Lutheran Social Services Report

Nancy Nielsen representing Lutheran Social Services reported on the work that LSS is doing for foster care children who are no longer in the system. LSS will offer two additional years of housing. They also offer help with getting a GED. They offer assistance to adults with permanent housing, helping them to stay off the streets by giving resources to help them assimilate into society.

Board Representatives

Pastors elected by their regional caucus to serve as Regional Vice President are:

Rev. Bruce Betker - Hawaii
Rev. Mark Kliewer - Nevada
Rev. Mark Haas - Northern Region
Rev. Hal Draeger - Pacific Region
Rev. Richard Rice - Southern Region

Members elected to serve as Lay Directors:

Pedar Wold - Hawaii
Henry Wentzlaff - Nevada
Ken Shotts - Northern Region
Tim Kramer - Pacific Region
Dave Bultena - Southern Region

Both slates were ratified by acclamation (Applause)

There were five nominees for Commissioned Minister to the Board of Directors

Stephen Dinger
Lonnie Karges
Fred Karlen
Mike Mancini
Marla Kuefner

After three rounds of voting, Mike Mancini and Marla Kuefner remained. In the fourth round of voting Marla Kuefner had 103 votes. Mike Mancini had 72 votes. Marla Kuefner was elected as the commissioned Minister to the Board of Directors.

Voting for District Secretary

President Newton opened nominations from the floor for the office of District Secretary. Hearing none, a motion was made to close the nominations which was seconded and approved.

Candidates for the office of District Secretary:

Rev. John Standley - 156 votes
Rev. David Rose - 35 votes
Rev. Standley will continue to serve as District Secretary.

Voting for District Treasurer

President Newton opened nominations from the floor for the office of District Treasurer. Hearing none, the nominations were closed. Donna Herzog received 184 votes and is elected as District Treasurer.

Disability Ministry Task Force

President Newton introduced Rev. Geta Dirasse representing the Disability Ministry task force. After a short video Rev. Dirasse spoke concerning the activities of the Synod's Disability Task Force. People with disabilities are found around the world. The love of Christ tells us to reach out to people with disabilities. President Newton prayed for the continued success of this ministry.

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Conference Business

President Newton called on Rev. Norm Milz, Chairman of Committee # 3- Parish Services. There was a motion from the floor requesting the reading of only the resolution "Resolves" unless otherwise deemed necessary. It was moved, seconded and approved without discussion.

Resolution 3-2 - TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE FOR MINISTRY TO AND WITH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

A motion to approve resolution 3-2 was moved and seconded. A motion to amend the resolution by adding the words "and ministry opportunities" after the word "needs" in-line 36 was moved, seconded and approved. A motion was made to close the discussion which was seconded and approved. The question was called to accept the resolution as amended. Yes = 178, No = 11. The motion carried.

TFM Snapshot

President Newton welcomed Rev. Ted Hartman to the podium who introduced Rev. Shawn Hazel. Pastor Hazel spoke on the positive change in governance in the context of TFM. Rev. Hartman prayed for Shawn and the ministry of the congregation at Wahiawa, HI.

Dr. Paul Maier - Q&A

President Newton introduced Synod VP Paul Maier. Dr. Maier offered reaction to what he has heard so far at this convention. He mentioned some of the archaeological discoveries that point to the reality of the Old and New Testament. He stated that Christianity is the single most successful phenomenon in the history of the world. Dr. Maier opened the floor to a period of Q & A. Discussion included Continuing Education for pastors, the theology of Tom Wright, closing of campus ministries, government involvement in contraception, Hosanna-Tabor case, Jesus/John relationship, Synodical restructuring, the Manhattan Declaration and finally, Paul Maier the author.

Convention Business - Nominating Committee

President Newton called Rev. Clarence Eisberg to the podium to select a pastor for the Nominating Committee. The floor was opened for nominations. Hearing none a motion to close nominations was moved, seconded and approved. The names of the nominated pastors are:

Rev. Jason Bredeson

Rev. David Floyd

Rev. Hank Scherer

Rev. Floyd was eliminated after the first round. In the second round Rev. Jason Bredeson received 112 votes. Rev. Scherer received 66 votes. Rev. Jason Bredeson will serve on the Nominating Committee.

President Newton asked for nominations from the floor for the Commissioned Minister for the nominations committee. Hearing none, a motion to close the nominations was moved, seconded and approved. Jamie McCormick was the lone nominee and was elected by acclamation.

Nominations from the floor were opened for the two layperson positions on the nominating committee. Hearing none, a motion was made and seconded and approved to close the nominations. Instructions were given to vote for the number one choice on the first round. On the second round instructions were given to vote for the number two choice, not to include the first pick. After the second round, the total of the two rounds were as follows:

Marcia Houseworth = 141

Terence Lung = 131

Ron Root = 88

Marcia Houseworth and Terence Lung were declared elected to the Nomination Committee.

Ratification of Circuit Counselors

The list of Circuit Counselors as elected by their Circuit Forums is as follows:

Circuit # 1	Rev. Terrence Chan
Circuit #2	Rev. David Sauer
Circuit #3	Rev. Timothy L. Huber
Circuit #4	Rev. Henry Adam Scherer
Circuit #5	Rev. Daniel Conrad
Circuit #6	Rev. Lon R. Haack
Circuit #7	Rev. David Moore
Circuit #8	Rev. Stewart Crown
Circuit #9	Rev. Herbert W. Burch Jr.
Circuit #10	Rev. Norm Milz
Circuit #11	Rev. Mitchell Gowen
Circuit #12	Rev. James Cavener
Circuit #13	Rev. Donald Schatz
Circuit #14	Rev. James Beyer
Circuit #15	Rev. Clarence Eisberg
Circuit #16	Rev. Stanley R. Abraham
Circuit #17	Rev. Robert O'Sullivan
Circuit #18	Rev. John Bestul
Circuit #19	Vacant
Circuit #20	Rev. Alan R. Hilton

Rev. Mark Haas - Circuit #19 was elected by the Northern Region caucus to serve as Regional Vice President. Rev. Haas elected to accept the Regional Vice President position making him

ineligible to serve as Circuit Counselor. A replacement will be selected by President Newton. The remaining slate of Circuit Counselors was ratified by acclamation.

District Church Extension Fund Board of Directors

President Newton opened nominations from the floor for the three available positions for the District Church Extension Fund Board of Directors. Hearing none the nominations were closed. The names of the nominees are as follows: Page | 8

Rev. Robert Fickenscher - Fair Oaks, CA
Janice Killingsworth - Auburn, CA
Richard Schultz - Rocklin, CA

The vote count was: Yes = 179 -- No = 8 The slate was duly elected.

Convention Survey

The Elections Committee conducted an electronic survey of various aspects of the convention to be used in future planning.

HMong Ministry Update

President Newton welcomed Rev. Kou Seying for an update on HMong ministry. A video was shown illustrating HMong worship as well as the work that is being done in HMong ministry in the District through the Joy of Harvest Ministry. Joy of Harvest Ministry is an extension of the seminary for HMong ministry. Pastor Seying reported there are 91,000 HMong in California according to the latest census.

Convention Business

President Newton called Rev. Mitch Gowen, Chairman for Committee # 4 - Administration to the podium.

Resolution 4-01- TO BRING THE CNH BYLAWS INTO LINE WITH CURRENT PRACTICE
Mr. Rufus Davis read the resolved statements. A motion to adopt the resolution was made and seconded. The floor was opened for discussion. A motion was made to amend section VI.J.4 of the bylaws to change the word committee to task force. The motion was seconded and approved. A motion to call the question was moved, seconded and approved. The resolution was approved with the above bylaw change duly noted.

President Newton called Rev. Mark Kliewer for Committee #2 - Theology to the podium.

Resolution 2-01 - RE: TO AFFIRM THE EUCHARISTIC PRACTICE OF THE SYNOD
A motion to adopt the resolution was moved and seconded. President Newton called for discussion. At the end of discussion the motion to adopt resolution 2-01 was approved

Resolution 2-02 - TO ENCOURAGE FAITHFUL SPIRITUAL OVERSIGHT IN THE CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
A motion to adopt Resolution 2-02 was moved and seconded. As there was no discussion, the question was called and the motion was approved.

Resolution 2-03 - TO APPLY CHRISTIAN FREEDOM INFORMED BY LOVE IN PREPARING DIVINE SERVICES FOR DISTRICT AND SYNODICAL GATHERINGS

it was noted that the last two "WHEREAS" in lines 34 and 38 should be changed to "RESOLVED"

A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 2-03 as corrected. As there was no discussion, the question was called and the motion was approved as corrected.

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President Newton called Rev. Beyer, chairman of Committee #1 Missions to the podium.

Resolution1-02 - EMPHASIS ON HEIGHTENED MISSION FOCUS FOR SYNOD

A motion to adopt resolution 1-02 was moved and seconded. The floor was opened for discussion. There was a motion to amend the resolution by adding the word schools between the words churches and communities in line 30. The motion to amend was moved seconded and approved. The question was called, the resolution was adopted as amended.

Resolution 1-03 - EMPHASIS ON EQUIPPING THE LAITY FOR MISSION

A motion was made and seconded to approve resolution 1-03. At the end of discussion the question was called and the motion was approved.

Resolution 1-06 - TO AFFIRM THE WORK OF TRANSFORMING CHURCHES NETWORK

A motion was moved and seconded to adopt Resolution 1-06. At the end of discussion the question was called and the motion was approved.

TFM Snapshot

President Newton called Rev. Hartman to the podium who in turn invited Rev. David Moore from Trinity, Walnut Creek to come forward. Pastor Moore related his congregation's experience with TFM. Rev. Hartman prayed for Rev. Moore and the people and ministry of Trinity, Walnut Creek.

Closing

The assembly sang "Lamb of God" as the closing hymn / prayer.

CNH District Convention
April 29th, 2012
Session 4

Opening

The 4th session of the 69th convention of the CNH District, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was called to order by President Robert Newton at 8:40 AM in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

President Newton requested a change in the agenda to remove the scheduled Bible Study, shortening the agenda by one hour to allow delegates more time to travel. President Newton noted that while he hesitated to bypass the time for study, he also recognized that during the course of the convention we have been fully immersed in the Word. A motion was made and seconded to remove the Bible study from the agenda. Hearing no requests for discussion the question was called and the motion was approved.

The congregation joined in singing the hymn "This Joyful Easter Tide". President Newton offered an opening prayer.

Convention Business

President Newton called Rev. Norm Milz to the podium to continue the work of Committee #3 - Parish Services.

Resolution 3-05 - TO PROVIDE STAFF AND MATERIAL RESOURCES AND SUPPORT OF RURAL MINISTRY - A motion was made and seconded to approve resolution 3-05. There was some discussion concerning the definition of rural ministry and the cost of the program. As the discussion ended the question was called by the chair. The resolution was approved.

Resolution 3-03 - TO ENCOURAGE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS IN CONGREGATIONS AND MINISTRIES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution. The chair called for discussion. Rev. Phil Zabell, Chairman of the District Human Care Committee offered some insight into the programs mentioned in the resolution. As discussion concluded, the chair called the question. The motion was approved.

Resolution 3-04 - TO AFFIRM OUR COLLABORATION WITH AND PARTICIPATION IN TRI-LERT

A motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution. The floor was opened for discussion. A motion was moved and seconded to add an additional Resolved clause, *"to include in this endeavor, those new church bodies that have spun off from other synods"*. Following a considerable period of discussion and multiple suggestions on the wording, a motion was made and seconded to consider a substitute motion adding a resolve before the final resolve *"that other Lutheran church bodies within the CNH District will be invited to participate in Tri-Lert with us"*. After discussion the substitute motion was approved. Seeing no more discussion, the

Chair called for the question to approve the original motion as amended. The motion as amended was approved.

At this time President Newton invited first VP, Rev. Thomas Zelt to the podium. The president commended Rev. Zelt on his work in the district and thanked him for his faithful service. The president also expressed his appreciation to all of the staff and volunteers who worked to make this convention possible.

President Newton called Rev. James Beyer, chairman of Committee #1 - Missions, to the podium.

Resolution 1-04 - TO AFFIRM AND SUPPORT THE SPECIALIZED MINISTRY PASTOR PROGRAM (SMP)

A motion was made and seconded to adopt resolution 1-04. The floor was opened for discussion. President Newton noted that he serves on a committee tasked to evaluate the work of the SMP program. He mentioned that the reports coming from the seminaries are very favorable. There was considerable discussion on this resolution. The majority of the discussion was informational in nature. There were concerns raised about the program. As the discussion came to a close the question was called from the floor. The motion to end debate was approved. The motion was approved.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the previous day. After a brief period of discussion, the motion was approved. President Newton noted that the minutes of the Convention would soon be posted on the District Website. He also stated that the minutes of the final session would be approved by the District Board of Directors.

At 9:54 AM President Newton closed the 69th Convention of the CNH District of the LC -MS, in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

A worship service followed led by Rev. Dr. Harold Drager. Rev. Dr. Thomas Zelt provided accompaniment for the hymns. President Robert Newton offered the message for Good Shepherd Sunday. After the message, Rev. Dr. Robert Newton was installed as president of the CNH district by Synod 3rd VP, Paul Maier. Following his installation President Newton installed the remaining District officers.

Submitted by Rev. John M. Standley
CNH District Secretary