

1 **Additional Bio From Nominations Committee**



2 **SIEVERT, Dean**

3 **Age:** 44; **Occupation:** Software engineer; **Region:** CE; **Education:** Marquette University;
4 **Degrees:** BS Electrical Engineering 1992; MS Engineering Management, 2002; **Experience**
5 **and activities—Congregation:** Sunday School Teacher 1994-98; Vice President 1994-97;
6 President 1998-03; Salary, Budget, Call Committees (various) 1998-; Treasurer 2004-05;
7 Stewardship 2006-07; Finance 2008-09; Christian Education 2009-; LHS A Representative
8 2009-; Adult, Festival Choirs 1989-; Bell Choir 2010; Trumpet, Brass Choir 1984-;
9 Substitute Organist 1990-; Lutheran Rangers Leader 2005-; 7-8 Boys B-Ball Coach 2011-13;
10 **District/circuit:** No direct experience or service, but during time as congregation treasurer
11 and on Board of Finance, worked with SWD representative of the Lutheran Church
12 Extension Fund for mortgage refinancing; and as member of congregation Board for
13 Christian Education, work with SWD Director of Schools, Youth and Family Ministries for
14 support during multiple school position Calls and when dealing with occasional difficult
15 situations with Called staff; **Community:** I try to stay current on local community issues,
16 including funding and decisions regarding local school district facilities maintenance and
17 updates, school board decisions and direction, and funding for local parks & recreation and
18 library programs. I vote regularly and occasionally send email correspondence to elected
19 school board members and other local officials to express opinions and recommendations, as
20 well as to offer support to work they have already done or are currently leading; **Present**
21 **congregation:** Our Father's, Greenfield; **Hopes for the District:** My hope for the South
22 Wisconsin District congregations is that we faithfully love God, and love and serve our
23 neighbors, making faithful disciples through the preaching and teaching of God's Holy
24 Scripture and the gracious work of the Holy Spirit. We do this by readily and regularly
25 offering the means of grace in the Divine Service - baptism, confession & absolution, the
26 preaching of God's Word, and communion - and by witnessing to the truth in our daily lives
27 whenever and wherever opportunities arise. My hope for the office of the SWD is to
28 successfully support our congregations in their mission to make faithful disciples through the
29 efficient use of the shared time, talents and treasures of our members; and the beneficial use
30 of the expertise and experience of our SWD office staff, and the tools and services they
31 provide.

32 **RESOLUTION 4-01 TO IDENTIFY AND RESPOND TO INCURSIONS AGAINST RELIGIOUS**
33 **FREEDOMS IN THE UNITED STATES BY RADICAL ELEMENTS OF ISLAM**

34 **WHEREAS**, the congregations of the LCMS accept without reservation the Scriptures of the Old and New
35 Testament as the written Word of God and the only rule and norm of faith and practice (LC-MS
36 Constitution, Article II); and

37
38 **WHEREAS**, the teachings and practices of Islam are in direct opposition to our faith and teaching (ie: "Infidels now
39 are they who say, 'Verily God is the Messiah, Son of Mary.'" The Qur'an, Sura 5, 19); and

40
41 **WHEREAS**, one of the stated duties of the LCMS is to "Provide protection for congregations, pastors, teachers, and
42 other church workers in the performance of their official duties and **the maintenance of their rights**"
43 (emphasis added)(Constitution of the LCMS Article III, 9); and
44

1 **WHEREAS**, radical elements of Islam are dedicated to the overthrow of democratic governments by violence and
2 other means, which undermine the freedoms of religion and speech we are guaranteed in the 1st
3 Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; therefore, be it
4

5 **RESOLVED**, that the LCMS dedicate resources to addressing the incursions of Islam in our legal system; and be it
6 further
7

8 **RESOLVED**, that the members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod be kept informed of the defense of our
9 faith in the legal and political spheres by appropriate agencies of the Synod (ie. "Free To Be Faithful" and
10 the new office in Washington D.C.); and be it further
11

12 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the South Wisconsin District continue to support actively the work of
13 POBLO (People Of The Book Lutheran Outreach) in its work of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to
14 people of the Islamic faith; and be it finally
15

16 **RESOLVED**, that upon approval this resolution be submitted for deliberation at the 66th Regular Convention of the
17 Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in Milwaukee in 2016.
18

19 Rev. Daniel Torkelson, chair
20
21

22 **RESOLUTION 4-02 TO ENCOURAGE COLLABORATION AND COOPERATION AMONG THE**
23 **CONGREGATIONS OF THE SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT IN THE PLANTING OF NEW**
24 **CONGREGATIONS**
25

26 **WHEREAS**, Christ our Lord has given His Church the command to go to all nations for the purpose of making
27 disciples by baptizing and teaching (Matt. 28:18-20); and
28

29 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is a missionary church body whose history is a history of the
30 planting of congregations in localities in order to meet Christ's mandate and share His love; and
31

32 **WHEREAS**, it can be shown that congregations which actively participate in the planting of a new congregation
33 often experience benefits to their own ministry; and
34

35 **WHEREAS**, there are locations within the geographical boundaries of the South Wisconsin District which are
36 growing in population but have no local Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod parish (ie. Richfield,
37 Mukwonago, Paddock Lake, *inter alia*); and
38

39 **WHEREAS** many congregations in urban, small town and rural locations are faced with aging facilities, higher
40 energy costs, and significant maintenance expenses and, as a result, should be encouraged to collaborate
41 and form partnerships in order to ensure a continued and strong Lutheran presence in their settings for years
42 to come; therefore, be it
43

44 **RESOLVED**, that the President and Mission Executive of the South Wisconsin District study and publish ideal
45 locations within the District where these church plants would best happen; and be it further
46

47 **RESOLVED**, that the South Wisconsin District establish specific goals for the number of new congregations it
48 wishes to plant in the next ten years and publish them; and be it finally
49

50 **RESOLVED**, that the nearest congregations to these target areas be encouraged to participate willingly and actively
51 in the discussion, and possible formation, of new congregations at these target locations.
52

53 Rev. Daniel Torkelson, chairman
54

1 **RESOLUTION 4-03 TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS TO REVIEW AND UPDATE THEIR**
2 **POLICIES AS THEY PERTAIN TO THE BIBLE'S TEACHING ON MARRIAGE**

3
4 **WHEREAS** the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod holds unswervingly to the Biblical teaching that marriage is the
5 lifelong union of one man and one woman; and
6

7 **WHEREAS** the legalization of same sex marriage is putting increased pressure on faithful congregations to
8 disregard our confession to accommodate this trend; and
9

10 **WHEREAS** legal challenges to the Church on the issue of same sex marriage are already happening and will likely
11 continue in the future; and
12

13 **WHEREAS** many congregations need to write and/or update their marriage policies to state clearly the
14 aforementioned teaching of Biblical marriage; and
15

16 **WHEREAS** the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has published sample statements affirming Biblical marriage for
17 policies for adoption by congregations; and
18

19 **WHEREAS** other policies also may need to be updated in order to properly confess the Bible's teaching on
20 marriage including, but not limited to, facilities use and employment policies; therefore be it
21

22 **RESOLVED** that the congregations of the South Wisconsin District review their marriage policies and amend them
23 to define marriage Biblically as the union of one man and one woman; and be it further
24

25 **RESOLVED** that congregations without marriage policies be encouraged to write one which is careful to
26 specifically affirm the Bible's teaching on marriage; and be it further
27

28 **RESOLVED** that congregations review all their policies and edit them accordingly to prohibit any activity which
29 might endorse same sex behavior and, thus, compromise the congregation's confession and integrity; and
30 be it finally
31

32 **RESOLVED** that upon approval this resolution be forwarded to the 66th Regular Convention of the Lutheran
33 Church-Missouri Synod in Milwaukee in 2016.
34

35 Rev. Daniel Torkelson, chairman
36
37
38

1 **RESOLUTION 5-01A TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS TO EMPHASIZE ANNUAL BIBLICAL**
2 **STEWARDSHIP**

3
4 **WHEREAS**, God's Word clearly teaches that everything we have been given is the Lord's (Psalm 24:1) and we are
5 simply the managers or stewards of His blessings (Lk. 12:48) and
6

7 **WHEREAS**, Jesus our Lord specifically addresses the management of His blessings in the Gospels (e.g. Mt. 25: 14-
8 30) and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, we are graciously called to faithfully use the blessings He has entrusted to us including our time,
11 talents, and treasures in our lives and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, there is joy in sharing the blessings God has given to us for the sake of His kingdom and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, resources are available from Lutheran Church Extension Fund and the South Wisconsin District Task
16 Force on Stewardship, including but not limited to, "The Joy of Generosity" to assist congregations in their
17 spiritual growth in this most important aspect of Biblical teaching, therefore be it
18

19 **RESOLVED**, that our congregations make Biblical stewardship a high priority by adding an annual stewardship
20 emphasis as part of their mission to proclaim the Gospel of Christ crucified and risen and make use of
21 resources available to accomplish this.
22

23 Rev. Mark Wenzel, chairman

Jed Frank, secretary

24
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26 **RESOLUTION -5-02 TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERS TO GROW IN THEIR**
27 **PERSONAL STEWARDSHIP**

28
29 **WHEREAS**, God desires all people to be saved (1 Tim. 2:3-4); and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, God has called upon His people to be Christian stewards (1 Peter 4; 1 Thess. 3: 9-13; James 2: 14-18);
32 and
33

34 **WHEREAS**, the church is to assist God's people in becoming mature disciples by teaching Biblical stewardship
35 (Eph. 3: 14-19; Eph 4: 22-24; Col. 3: 12-17); therefore
36

37 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the South Wisconsin District work to develop and teach their
38 members to grow in their personal stewardship utilizing a means of "proportionate giving" according to
39 the Biblical model; and be it finally
40

41 **RESOLVED** that they consider all the means available for their personal stewardship such as electronic giving (e.g.
42 Lutheran Church Extension Fund and Thrivent).
43

44 Rev. Mark Wenzel, chairman

Jed Frank, secretary

1 **RESOLUTION 5-03 TO ESTABLISH OR FUND A CONGREGATIONAL ENDOWMENT**

2
3 **WHEREAS**, God desires all people to be saved, utilizing congregations to share the Gospel both today and in the
4 future (1 Tim. 2:4; Matt. 28:19-20); and

5
6 **WHEREAS**, God has called upon His people to utilize the talents entrusted to their care for the ministry of the
7 Gospel; and

8
9 **WHEREAS**, congregations desire to perpetuate their ministries in the future; therefore be it

10
11 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the South Wisconsin District examine establishing or further funding a
12 congregational endowment and by encouraging congregational members to support the Lord's work
13 through legacy gifts (such as wills, trusts, life insurance, etc.).

14
15 Rev. Mark Wenzel, chairman

Jed Frank, secretary

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17

LIST OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS (Revised – Replaces Today's Business Page 21)

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Resolution 6-02	To Utilize And Support The Lcms Disability Ministry Task Force	29
Resolution 6-03	To Call The Rev. Dr. Matthew Becker To Repentance, Implore The Rev. Paul Linnemann To Exercise Ecclesiastical Supervision, And Thank And Encourage President Matthew Harrison	29
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