



63rd Convention of the Texas District – LCMS

Minutes of June 5, 2025

Hosted by Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Nassau Bay, TX.

The 63rd Convention of the Texas District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod took place June 5-7, 2025 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Houston TX.

Pre-Convention Events: Events prior to the convention included registration of voting delegates, advisory delegates and guests. Floor Committee Open Hearings were also held on the morning of June, 5. The Prayer Center and vendor booths were open for delegates and prior to the convention being called to order a pre-convention video was shown to the assembly prior to the opening gavel.

General Session Called to Order:

President Newman's opening remarks included thanking Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Pastor Dan Schepmann, and the Gloria Dei Team for making this convention happen at one of our congregations. President Newman quoted President Friedrich Pfotenhauer from the 1929 LCMS Convention. President Newman discussed the blessing of being able to do God's business, in God's house for God's glory.

The 63rd Convention of the Texas District – LCMS was called to order by President Newman at 1:06 PM with a gaveled invocation.

President Newman introduced the front table of assistants including the vice presidents, Rev. Scott Schaller (Assistant Secretary), Rev. Dr. Brian Hesse (District Secretary), and Mr. Kirk Overby, Parliamentarian. The president also made several other announcements regarding opportunities available at the convention including prayer memorials, counseling, first aid, and information regarding sponsors and vendors.

President Newman welcomed various dignitaries as well.

Greeting from Mayor Phil Johnson

President Newman invited Mayor Phil Johnson, Nassau Bay Mayor, to the podium to offer greetings. Mayor Johnson made Proclamation of Welcome from the City of Nassau Bay to the 63rd Convention of the Texas District LCMS. The Mayor also made a Proclamation of Appreciation and Honoring the Life-time Faithful Service for President Mike Newman. Mayor Phil Johnson presented President Mike Newman a key to the city.

Opening Devotion and Bible Study: Pastor Steve Garrabrant was introduced and offered the opening devotion on the theme of the Commanders. This was followed by a Bible Study led by President Mike Newman. The Bible Study was a gospel centered response on "How To Respond When the Storms Come." The Bible Study used the Book of Daniel to offer 7 Gifts of How to Respond and Struggle Well.

Parliamentary Procedure Briefing and Keypad Orientation: Vice President Larry Krueger was welcomed to the podium to lead the assembly in a basic briefing in parliamentary procedure and standing rules. This was followed by instruction from District Secretary, Brian Hesse, on operation of the keypad voting devices with practice questions.

Registration Report #1:

REPORT DATE: 6/5/2025	REPORT TIME: 2:52 PM
VOTING DELEGATES	Clergy: 194 Lay: 192 TOTAL VOTING: 386
NON-VOTING DELEGATES	Advisory, Ordained: 45 Advisory, Commissioned: 23 TOTAL NON-VOTING: 68
GUESTS	Guests, Visitors, Exhibitors: TOTAL GUESTS: 195
TOTAL FOR CONVENTION	TOTAL: 649

A delegate moved for adoption of the Standing Rules and it was seconded by another delegate of the assembly. Rev. Nate Hill moved to amend the standing rules by striking language in Rule 3a and b about restricted seating assignments. A delegate of the convention seconded the amendment.

Vote to Amend the Standing Rules approved with 336 or 93.59% Yes votes and 23 or 6.41% No votes.

Adopting the Standing Rules as Amended was approved with 352 or 97.24% Yes votes and 10 or 2.76% No votes.

Election of President and Vice Presidents:

(NOTE: The full tally of each ballot result for all district officers, boards and committee members is reported in the Tally of Election Results section of the Convention Proceedings.)

A delegate moved to ratify the slate of candidates for the positions of President and Vice Presidents. A delegate seconded the motion. The motion was adopted with 361 or 98.8% Yes Votes and 4 or 1.10% No Votes. The vote approves the slate of candidates for the position of President and Vice Presidents.

Pastor Dan Schepman prayed for the elections.

Rev. Dr. Jon Braunersreuther was elected president on the 1st ballot.

Rev. Dr. Jon Braunersreuther addressed the assembly as the new District President.

The elections continued with the election of the district area vice presidents, resulting in the following individuals being elected.

Rev. Eric Hiner was elected as Vice President of Area A on the 1st ballot.

Rev. Larry Krueger was elected as Vice President of Area B on the 1st ballot.

Rev. Nathan Wendorf was elected as Vice President of Area C on the 1st ballot.

Rev. Dr. John F. Davis was elected as Vice President of Area D on the 1st ballot.

The elected district area vice presidents were also voted into the following rank:

First Vice President: Rev. Dr. John F. Davis was elected on the 2nd Ballot

Second Vice President: Larry Krueger was elected on the 1st Ballot

Third Vice President: Rev. Nathan Wendorf was elected on the 1st Ballot.

Fourth Vice President: Rev. Eric Hiner was elected by placement of the previous ballot.

Following the election and ranking of the district area vice presidents, President Newman welcomed to the stage the current vice presidents along with their wives to thank them for their service during the past quadrennium.

President's Report

Following this recognition President Newman also recognized former district presidents and their wives. Recognized were Glenn and Sandra O' Shoney as well as Jeanne Lindermann could not be present. Rev. Dr. Jerry and Terry Kieschnick, Ken and Val Hennings were presented on stage and thanked by the assembly.

President Newman offered his report to the convention assembly which began with citing LSB 467 vs. 5. "Misfortunate now is play..." President Newman commented on play instead of play citing numerous encouraging scriptural examples. A Video: The Faith Story of Texas District Evangelist Estefania Fernadez was shown to the assembly. President Newman's encouragement was, "together we go forward." Additional report information is also available in the official convention workbook.

Registration Report #2:

Vice President and Convention Registrar Larry Krueger was called to the podium and offered the following registration report.

REPORT DATE: 6/5/2025	REPORT TIME: 4:01 PM
VOTING DELEGATES	Clergy: 194 Lay: 192 TOTAL VOTING: 386
NON-VOTING DELEGATES	Advisory, Ordained: 46 Advisory, Commissioned: 23 TOTAL NON-VOTING: 69
GUESTS	Guests, Visitors, Exhibitors: TOTAL GUESTS: 196
TOTAL FOR CONVENTION	TOTAL: 651

Additional Elections:

Following the Convention Registration Report #2, Pastor Dan Schepman was called forward and returned to the podium to offer prayer for the next elections.

Rev. Kevin Hintze, chair of the Nominating Committee and elections committee, and Mr. Keith Lund, Secretary of the nominating committee and elections committee led the convention through the process of the following elections:

Texas District Secretary: Rev. Dr. Brian Hesse was elected on the 1st ballot.

Texas District Board of Directors Lay Member Area A: Mr. Thomas Wolfmueller was elected on the 1st ballot.

Texas District Board of Directors Lay Member Area B: Mr. Chris Rodgers was elected on the 1st ballot.

Texas District Board of Directors Commissioned Minister: Mrs. Charessa Koontz was elected on the 1st ballot.

Texas District Board of Mission Administration Ordained Member (First Election): Rev. Ted Doering was elected on the 2nd ballot.

Texas District Board of Mission Administration Ordained Member (Second election): Rev. David Murillo was elected on the 3rd ballot.

Texas District Board of Mission Administration Lay Member: Mrs. Gladys Franco was elected on the 1st ballot.

Texas District Nominating Committee Ordained Area A: Rev. Nathan Misch was elected on the 2nd ballot.

Texas District Nominating Committee Ordained Area B: Rev. Kevin Hintze was elected on the 1st ballot.

Texas District Nominating Committee Ordained Area C: Rev. Martin Danner was elected on the 1st ballot.

Texas District Nominating Committee Ordained Area D: Rev. Dan Schepman was elected on the 1st ballot.

Texas District Nominating Committee Commissioned Member (1st Election): Mr. Paul Krentz was elected on the 3rd ballot.

Texas District Nominating Committee Commissioned Member (2nd Election): Mr. Scott Browning was elected on the 2nd ballot.

Texas District Nominating Committee Lay Member (1st Election): Mrs. Christine Armstrong was elected on the 3rd ballot.

Texas District Nominating Committee Lay Member (2nd Election): Mrs. Kelly Bernhardt was elected on the 1st ballot.

Texas District Nominating Committee Lay Member (3rd Election): Mr. Larry Harvey was elected on the 3rd ballot.

President Newman called Rev. Kevin Jennings and Mr. David Baldner forward for recognition. Rev. Kevin Jennings served 13 years as Circuit Visitor. Mr. David Baldner has completed his time as Lay Member of the Texas District Board of Directors. Both men were given honorary recognitions.

Recognition of Retiring President Michael Newman: President Newman transferred the chair of the convention to Vice President Larry Krueger. As Chair, Vice President Larry Krueger called forward Vice President John F. Davis for a presentation honoring the completed service President Mike Newman. The Assembly joined in singing the doxology giving thanks to President Newman's service. There was also an update given to commemorate his service in the Mike and Cindy Newman Mission fund, the offerings totaled \$280,004.30. A story video was shared with the assembly. Rev. Dr. Jon Braunersreuther spoke on behalf of the District Staff. President Newman shared his thanks for his family and the ministry opportunities to serve.

Orders of the Day: Vice President Larry Krueger returned the chair to President Newman. At 5:50 PM are the orders of the day. Pastor Dan Schepman returned to the podium, he recognized the tech team of Gloria Dei and closed the meeting with

Opening Worship: The Convention opening worship service was held at 7:30 PM and was led by President Newman and the Vice Presidents of the District with the assistance of the Gloria Dei team. The preacher was Rev. Dr. Scott Murray, Third Vice President of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. A Convention reception followed the opening worship service.