



MINUTES

Thursday, Aug. 3, 2023

The morning session was called to order at 8:00 a.m. The opening devotion was presented by Rev. Adam Mueller based on Revelation 19:1-9. The hymn "He Will Hold Me Fast" was sung. Mueller was thanked for his devotion.

President Schroeder announced that the service offering totaled \$5,965. It will be given to Obadiah Lutheran Synod of Uganda and *Iglesia Cristo WELS Internacional*.

Rev. Andrew Mueller, chairman of Committee #2: Conference of Presidents, returned to the podium. It was moved to take Resolution 02-03 off the table. The motion carried. The committee withdrew the resolution. A revised Resolution 02-03 was moved and supported. An amendment to Resolution 02-03 was proposed. The original asked the Conference of Presidents to "prepare a pastoral brief on critical theories in light of Scripture." The amended version reads to "prepare a pastoral brief emphasizing the importance of justice and analyzing critical theories in light of Scripture." The amendment was moved and supported. After the vote on the amendment, a division of the house was called. With a show of hands, Floor Committee #19: Elections counted the votes "for" and "against" the amendment. The motion to amend the resolution carried. The motion to adopt the amended Resolution 02-03 carried. The committee was thanked for its work.

Rev. David Koelpin, chairman of Committee #8: Home Missions, presented the committee's report. Report 08-01 was read. It was moved and supported to accept the report. Discussion followed. The motion carried. Report 08-02 was read. It was moved and supported to accept Report 08-02. The motion carried. The committee was thanked for its work.

Rev. David Barkow, chairman of Committee #14: Support Services, presented the committee's reports. Reports 14-01, 14-02, 14-03, and 14-04 were read. It was moved and supported to accept all the reports with thanks.

Rev. Jason Hacker, chairman of Committee #1: President's Report, presented the committee's work. Report 01-01 was read. It was moved and supported to accept Report 01-01. The motion carried. Report 01-02 was read. It was moved and supported to accept Report 01-02. The motion carried. Resolution 01-01 was moved and supported. The motion carried. Resolution 01-02 was moved and supported. The motion carried. Resolution 01-03 was moved and supported. There was discussion. The motion carried. Resolution 01-04 was moved and supported. The motion carried. The committee was thanked for its work.

Rev. Daniel Balge, chairman of Committee #18: Constitutional Matters, presented the committee's report. Resolution 18-01 was moved and supported. The motion carried by the two-thirds majority needed for a bylaw change. Resolution 18-02 was moved and supported. The motion carried by the two-thirds majority needed for a bylaw change. Resolution 18-03 was moved and supported. The motion carried by the two-thirds majority needed for a bylaw change. The committee was thanked for its work.

Rev. Geoff Cortright, chairman of Committee #15: Subsidiaries, presented the committee's work. Reports 15-01, 15-02, 15-03, 15-04, and 15-05 were read. It was moved and supported to accept the reports. The motion carried. The committee was thanked for its work.

Rev. Matthew Brown, chairman of Committee #7: Ministry Financial Plan, presented the committee's report. Report 07-01 was read. Resolution 07-01 was moved and supported. The motion carried. Report 07-02 was read. It was moved and carried to receive the reports with thanks. The motion carried. The committee was thanked for its work.

Rev. Korey Van Kampen, chairman of Committee #16: Northwestern Publishing House, presented Reports 16-01, 16-02, and 16-03. It was moved and supported to receive the reports. The motion carried. The committee was thanked for its work.

Rev. Joel Seifert, chairman of Committee #17: WELS Christian Aid and Relief, presented Report 17-01. It was moved and supported to accept the report. The motion carried. The committee was thanked for its work.

Rev. Mark Luetzow, Michigan Lutheran Seminary president, once again thanked all for their attendance and also made several announcements.

President Mark Schroeder offered closing words, speaking of the world into which we are returning. We know we will have challenges but we also know how the story ends. We have amazing promises. Among them, the gates of hell itself will not stand against the Lord's church. We have the sword of the Spirit and the Word of God. The cross wins the victory for us both now and in eternity. The delegates were thanked

for their attention and diligence and they were asked to share information from this convention with others. Information is available at **welsconvention.net**. God's blessings!

It was moved and supported to adjourn at 10:10 a.m. The motion carried.

The closing service was held in the chapel at 10:45 a.m. The presiding minister was Rev. Mark Luetzow, Michigan Lutheran Seminary president. The preacher was Rev. Joel Zank, Northern Wisconsin District president. The organist was Prof. Joshua Wendt. The devotion was based on Revelation 22:12-21, "Come." Installed were President Mark Schroeder and Second Vice President Joel Voss. Hymns sung included "We Are Called to Serve Together"; "Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor"; and "Rise to Arms! With Prayer Employ You."

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Robert W. Pasbrig,

WELS recording secretary