

Floor Committee #8 Report

Floor Committee # 8- Board for Ministerial Education - RTTD p. 79-93

Reference: RTTD: p.79-80

Subject: BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

The Floor Committee appreciates the response of the BME to the direction given by the 2009 Synod Convention in the following areas; lowering student costs, addressing the educational needs of ethnic groups, providing continuing education for called workers, school governance, facilities maintenance, and the addition of Mandarin Chinese to the curriculum.

Reference: RTTD: p. 91-93

Subject: Michigan Lutheran Seminary

We thank God for the gracious blessing of MLS in Saginaw, MI, as the school celebrated 100 years of training students for the public ministry of the gospel. Largely due to a vote of confidence from the 2009 synod convention, MLS is expecting to receive the largest increase of freshmen since 1998. MLS continues to keep its mission central by providing excellent encouragement and experience to prepare students for entrance to Martin Luther College. While adopting a budget that required the elimination of seven called workers and seven staff positions, the remaining workers are dedicated to their increased service and purpose in Christ's kingdom. MLS welcomes a new president, Rev. Aaron C. Frey. His brothers and sisters of the Nebraska District ask God to bless him and all the staff in the continuing work at MLS.

Reference: RTTD: p. 90-91

Subject: Luther Preparatory School

We note with appreciation that 55 percent of LPS graduates have enrolled at Martin Luther College since its inception in 1995. We also appreciate the many pointed efforts being undertaken to keep students focused on the public ministry. We agree that LPS fills a key role in our Synod's efforts to raise up workers for the Lord's vineyard. We thank God for the dedication and love shown by the LPS staff who labor to keep offering the quality programs of the school with fewer resources.

Reference: RTTD: p. 86-89

Subject: Martin Luther College

We thank God for his gift of the new chapel. We thank, commend, and appreciate the staff of MLC for their efforts to provide an opportunity for an education that is grounded in Christ. We support offering expanded programs to Synod members; growing the Early Childhood Education program and including Mandarin Chinese, as well as other languages, as part of the curriculum. We recognize that MLC has asked the District for input on how they can assist training members for ministry in their congregations without serving as full time called

workers. We support this concept and the areas of training included in their report. May God bless your work with continued success in turning out strong Christian men and women.

Reference: RTTD: p. 80-85

Subject: Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

We commend the seminary for continuing to focus on its mission to prepare men to enter the pastoral ministry based on the inspired inerrant word of God. A mentoring program for pastors who are newly called into their full time ministries has been initiated. We also note with concern the future declining enrollment and pray for success in future student recruiting efforts. Thank you for putting forth extra effort to provide continued education for pastors in our synod. God's continued blessings on your work.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Joel Spaude, Chairman

James Deck, Secretary

Rev. Kurt Ebert

Rev. Joel Pankow

Rev. Chad Walta

Rev. Wayne Uhlhorn

John Shelbourn

Neal Platzer

Marty Rehm

Bill Bauer