

Floor Committee #14 Report

Floor Committee #14 – Delegate Report/Press Release

Reference: The 47th Biennial Convention of the Nebraska District, WELS

Subject: Delegate Report

The 47th Biennial Convention of the Nebraska District of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod met June 14-16, 2010, at Nebraska Evangelical Lutheran High School, Waco, NE, using the theme “Christ’s Love, Our Calling.” The convention was attended by one hundred forty-five laymen, pastors, teachers and staff ministers.

Here are some highlights:

- Pastor Philip Kieselhorst of Shepherd of the Valley, Westminster, CO, preached for the opening communion service. Using Luke 24:36-39, he reminded us that even though we live in a dangerous world, we have a living dangerous Savior with a powerful message with which to confront the world. May the Lord continue to empower us by His Spirit to be “witness of all these things.”
- Mr. Kurt Austad, our district’s representative on the WELS Synodical Council, presented a report highlighting the work of the Synodical Council. He reminded us of both the challenges we face as a church body (we need to either raise or cut over 4 million dollars in each of the next two fiscal years) and also the opportunities of sharing the Gospel with many throughout the world who are eager to hear the Good News of their Savior. Both Pastor Frank and Pastor Earle Treptow, member at large of the Synodical Council, reminded us of the importance of our Congregational Mission Offerings.
- Elections: Pastor Joel Frank has retired after 20 years of service as District President. We praise God for his years of faithful service to the Lord and to us. The delegates elected Pastor Earle Treptow, Pastor of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Denver, CO, to serve as District President. Pastor Phil Hirsch of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, Manhattan, KS, was elected to be the District’s First Vice President. Pastor Mark Voss of Christ Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, Aurora, CO, was re-elected to be the District’s Second Vice President. Pastor Phillip Sievert of Lord of Life, Thornton, CO, was elected to be the Secretary of the District. Other election results are available online at www.welsne.org. We encourage congregations to offer prayers of thanksgiving for those who have served our Nebraska District and prayers for wisdom and guidance for those who were elected to new positions and who continue to serve the Lord and us.
- Nebraska District Mission Board: Pastor Jonathan Rockhoff completed eighteen years of service with fourteen of those as chairman, and Mr. Jeff McKee completed twelve years of service. They were not eligible for re-election because of term limits. We thank them for their faithful service.

- LWMS: Mrs. Linda Glisson, President of the Central Plains Circuit of the LWMS, shared information about the valuable support the LWMS provides for mission work in the WELS. She reminded us of the LWMS Super Rally that will be held at Nebraska Lutheran High School on Saturday, October 9th.
- Essay: Pastor Charles Westra, Pastor of Christ Our Savior, Columbia, TN, and Chairman of our Synod's Home Mission Board, presented an essay entitled, "God's Mission: The Means and the Methods." He encouraged us to hold on to the truth that conversion is God's work alone and at the same time to be aggressive in reaching out with the Gospel.
- Long Range Plan: Floor Committee #3 resolved to thank the Synodical Council for their work on the WELS Long Range Plan for 2017. They concurred with the development of the plan and encouraged continued joint planning in the future beyond 2017 by Home Missions, World Missions and Ministerial Education.

We encourage everyone to make use of the District Website to read and study the essay as well as all the reports and resolutions from the convention. The address is www.welsne.org.

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Subject: Press Release

For Immediate Release

For information contact: _____ (insert your name and contact information)

Nebraska District Convention of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

145 pastors, teachers, staff ministers and lay delegates from the Nebraska District of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) met in convention June 14-16 at Nebraska Evangelical Lutheran High School, Waco, Nebraska. This represents congregations from Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Utah, and parts of Iowa, New Mexico, South Dakota and Missouri. This, the 47th Biennial convention of the Nebraska District, followed the theme "Christ's Love, Our Calling." Pastor Joel Frank has retired after 20 years of service as District President. The delegates elected Pastor Earle Treptow, Pastor of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Denver, Colorado, to serve as District President. Pastor Charles Westra, of Columbia, TN, (chairman of the WELS Board for Home Missions) presented the essay entitled "God's Mission: the Means and the Methods." The delegates heard reports on the Gospel work being done in the Nebraska District and throughout the world. They gave input on issues that will be addressed at the next Synod Convention in 2011.

Rev. Mark Hayes, Chairman

Rev. Mark Haefner, Secretary
Rev. Steve Helwig
Teacher Tom Plitzuweit
Mr. Bruce Lietz
Mr. Jim Schroeder