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1 THESS 5:16-18

REJOICE / PRAY / GIVE THANKS

The 67th Regular Convention

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

WHAT IS THE LCMS?

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Synod

- “Synod” means “walking together”
- Congregations joined together to form the Synod and relate to one another through it
- Association of Lutheran congregations and its agencies
- “Members” are congregations, pastors and commissioned ministers

Voting Members

A number of congregations will form a group to be represented by two voting delegates:

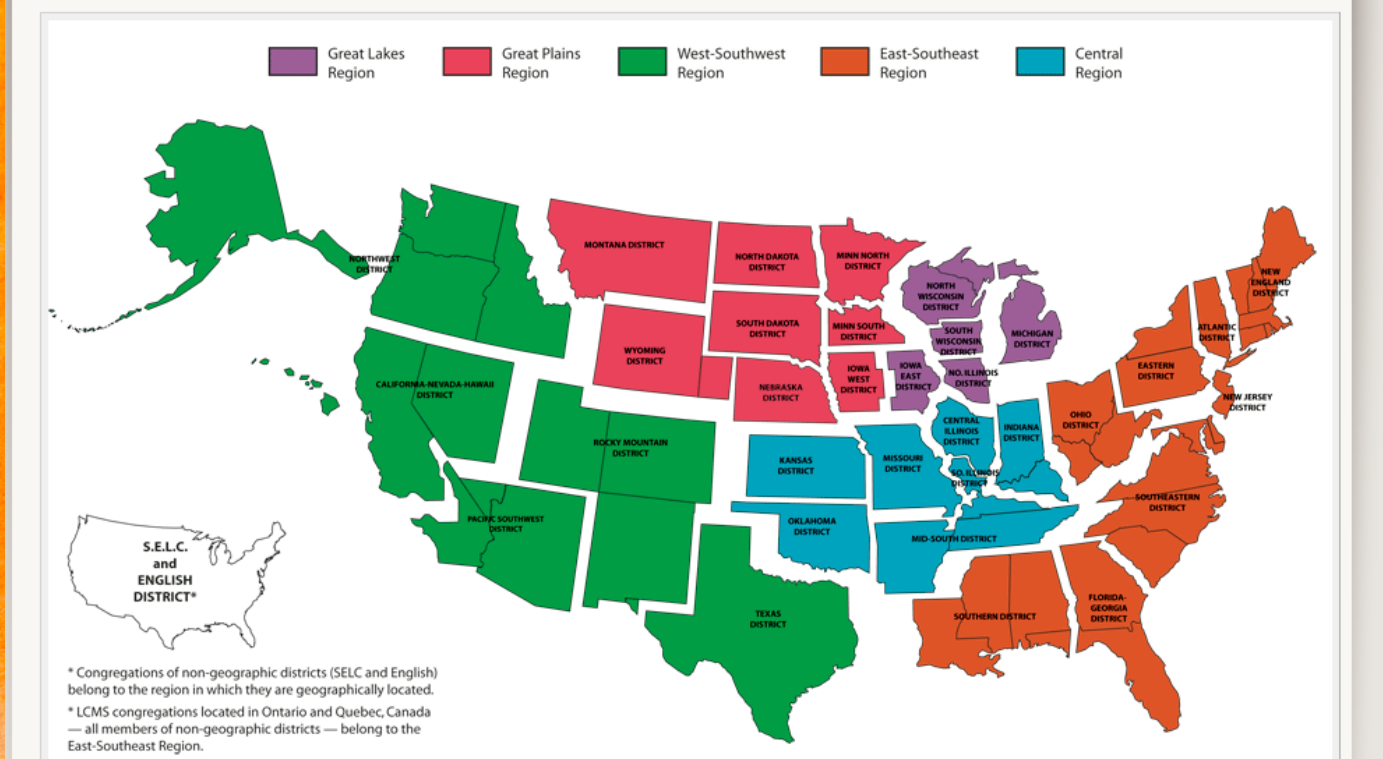
- One Pastor
- One Lay Delegate

Advisory Members

Various individuals:

- Assistant Pastors
- Ministers not in charge of congregations
- Professors of Synod educational institutions
- Teachers
- DCE, DCO
- Deaconesses
- Others

35 Districts



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5 Regions

- **LCMS Board of Directors and COP designate regions 24 months prior to convention**
- **Used for elections requiring regional representation**
- **Regional positions for Vice-Presidents, LCMS Board of Directors, Boards for National and International Mission**

LCMS Statistics

- **Baptized: 1,968,641**
- **Confirmed: 1,545,124**
- **Congregations: 6,046**
- **Ordained Ministers*: 6,055**
- **Teachers*: 5,868**
- **DCE*: 588**
- **Deaconess*: 178**
- **Military chaplain: 72**

More Statistics

- Schools: 1950
- Student: 201,307
- Colleges: 8
- College Students: 35,000+
- Full- and part-time faculty: 4,000
- Seminaries: 2
- Career Missionaries: 96
- GEO Missionaries: 17
- Partner Churches: 38

Confession of the LCMS

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Article II

(from the LCMS Constitution)

- **The Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament as the written Word of God and the only rule and norm of faith and of practice.**
- **All the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as a true and unadulterated statement and exposition of the Word of God.**
- **Apostles', Nicene and Athanasian Creeds**

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Article II

(from the LCMS Constitution)

- **Unaltered Augsburg Confession**
- **Apology of the Augsburg Confession**
- **Smalcald Articles**
- **Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope**
- **Luther's Small & Large Catechism**
- **Formula of Concord**

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Conditions of LCMS Membership

Conditions of LCMS Membership

- Acceptance of the confessional basis of Article II.
- Renunciation of unionism and syncretism of every description
- Regular call of pastors, teachers, and other church workers
- Regular election of lay delegates by the congregations
- Exclusive use of doctrinally pure agenda, hymnbooks, and catechisms in church and school
- Congregation's constitution contains nothing contrary to Scripture and the Confessions

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LCMS MISSION STATEMENT

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LCMS Mission Statement

In grateful response to God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacraments, the mission of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is vigorously to make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our churches, communities and the world.

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OBJECTIVES OF THE LCMS

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Objective of the LCMS

- Conserve and promote the unity of the true faith
- Work toward fellowship with other Christian church bodies
- Provide united defense against schism, sectarianism, and heresy
- Strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness
- Recruit and train pastors, teachers, church workers
- Provide opportunities for members to show mercy to others

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Objective of the LCMS

- Aid congregations to develop and support Christian education, schools, institutions
- Aid congregations by providing resources and opportunities to promote, express and defend unity in the true faith
- Encourage congregations to strive for uniformity in church practice and develop appreciation of variety of responsible practices and customs which are in harmony with profession of faith

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Objective of the LCMS

- Provide evangelical supervision, counsel and care for church workers
- Provide protection for congregations, pastors and teachers, church workers in performance of their duties and the maintenance of their rights
- Aid in providing for welfare of church workers and their families

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NATIONAL CONVENTION

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National Convention

- Opportunities for worship, nurture, inspiration, fellowship, communication
- Principal legislative assembly
- Amends Constitution and Bylaws
- Considers and takes action on reports and overtures
- Handles appropriate appeals
- Establishes general positions and policies of the Synod

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National Convention

- Evaluates positions, programs, policies, directions, priorities to provide responsible service on behalf of its members
- Authorize affiliation, association, discontinuance with other church bodies, synods, or federations.
- Elects national officers and members of boards and commissions.

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CONVENTION BUSINESS

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Convention Business

- 367 overtures submitted
- 35 district reports + 39 other reports
- Overtures are proposed resolutions requesting action by the convention
- Overtures and reports in Convention Workbook used to prepare resolutions for convention consideration.

OVERTURE TO RESOLUTION

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Overture to Resolution

- Submission of overtures by congregations, conventions, conferences, boards, etc.
- Review of overtures by Synod President and Legal Counsel
- Review of overtures by Floor Committees
- Creation and presentation of resolutions by Floor Committees

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July 20 -25, 2019

Tampa Convention Center located at 333 S. Franklin St., Tampa, FL

July 20 -25, 2019
TAMPA, FL



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CONVENTION THEME

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Convention Theme

Convention Theme Verse

- Joy:fully Lutheran—Rejoice. Pray. Give Thanks. (NOTE: when referring to the theme in text, use a small case “f” in Joy:fully. Use an emdash between Lutheran and Rejoice. Use periods after each word.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16– 18

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

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Convention Theme

More on the theme

- What does the Bible say about joy when I don't feel any reason to feel joyful?
- Walk through scripture and get to the root of our joy...Jesus Christ.
- Joy is found where Christ is found.
- Jesus is found in worship where He comes to us through His Means of Grace.
- Rooted in God's grace and mercy, there is joy in your vocation.

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Convention Theme

More on the theme

- Despite our sufferings and trials, we have joy and certainty in God's love for us as He's given his Son to die on the cross for us and keeps visiting us with grace in His Word and Sacraments.
- As Christians, we live in joyful anticipation because Christ is coming back.
- We walk by faith, not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7). By faith, we know that where Christ is, there is joy!

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SERVING AS A VOTING DELEGATE

Serving as a Voting Delegate

Functions

- Serve a three-year term beginning with convention
- Advisory member of the circuit forum
- Shall serve as a resource person in the circuit
- Assist in the dissemination of information about resolutions as well as implementation of resolutions of the Synod in the circuit

Serving as a Voting Delegate

Responsibilities

- Responsible to their circuit
- Shall attempt to discover the sentiment of the circuit members
- Congregations shall not require delegates to vote in accordance with specific instructions
- Permitted to vote according to his/her own conviction
- Faithfull attendance to all convention sessions
- Shall report the actions of the Synod to their circuit after convention (preferably appearing before each congregation they represent)

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

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Election of President

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Process

- Election opens June 22 (4 weeks prior to convention)
- Ballot of three:
 - Matthew C. Harrison
 - David P.E. Maier
 - Timothy M. Klinkenberg
- Two voting delegates (pastor and layperson) from each congregation will vote via a secure online system.

Election of President

Results

- If no candidate receives a majority, a second vote takes place on June 29.
- The election results must be released to the candidates at least 2 weeks prior to the convention (July 6) and thereafter (as soon as possible) to the public.

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OTHER ELECTIONS TO TAKE PLACE AT CONVENTION

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Other Elections to take place at Convention

Officers, Boards and CTCR

- Vice-Presidents
- Secretary
- LCMS Board of Directors
- Commission on Theology and Church Relations
- Boards for National and International Mission
- Boards of Synodwide Corporate Entities
- Seminaries Boards of Regents
- Colleges and Universities Boards of Regents

CONVENTION SCHEDULE (Tentative)

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Convention Schedule

Tentative Schedule

- Schedule is tentative and will be finalized after floor committee weekend.
- Final schedule will be printed in the first issue of Today's Business.
- The final convention schedule will be approved at the beginning of the first business session on Sunday.

July 20, Saturday

8:30 a.m. – Noon	Open Floor Committee Hearings
Lunch on your own	
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Delegate Orientation
5:30 p.m.	Delegate Dinner
7:00 p.m.	Pre-service music
7:30 p.m.	Opening Worship

Delegate Orientation Saturday July 20, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the convention hall

Purpose

- Provide instructions for the week
- Review assigned seating
- Review Parliamentary Procedures
- Review National Offering
- Review other convention events
- Review Padgett Electronic Voting System (I will provide pictures of voting and microphone queue devices)
- Review Microphone Queue Device and Process
- Review Microphone Assignments



July 21, Sunday – Theme is: Rejoice, Pray, Give Thanks

8:00 a.m.	Opening Worship and Business Session
12:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own
1:30 p.m.	Business session resumes
5:30 p.m.	Closing Worship
6:00 pm.	Recess
Evening	LCEF Ice Cream Social

July 22, Monday: Theme is Rejoice

8:00 a.m.	Opening Worship and Business Session
12:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own
1:30 p.m.	Business session resumes
5:40 p.m.	Closing Worship
6:00 pm.	Recess
Evening	Free

July 23, Tuesday: Theme is Pray

8:00 a.m.	Opening Worship and Business Session
12:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own
1:30 p.m.	Business session resumes
5:45 p.m.	Closing Worship
6:00 pm.	Recess
Evening	Alumni Receptions

July 24, Wednesday: Theme is Give Thanks

8:00 a.m.	Opening Worship and Business Sessions
12:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own
1:30 p.m.	Business session resumes
5:45 p.m.	Closing Worship
6:00 pm.	Recess
Evening	President-Elect's Reception

July 25, Thursday

8:00 a.m.	Opening Worship and Business Session
11:50 a.m.	Itinerarium
12:00 p.m.	Adjournment

FLOOR COMMITTEE

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Floor Committee

National Witness

- RSTM, Urban and Inner City mission work
- National mission efforts
- Legacy of Rosa J. Young
- Church planting
- Evangelism

Floor Committee

International Witness

- Missionary Support
- Bylaw 3.8.3 re BIM as only sending agency
- International Theological Education
- International Lutheran Council
- International partners

Floor Committee

Mercy

- Life ministries
- Human care
- Immigration
- Lutheran partnerships in mercy
- Worker Wellness

Floor Committee

Life Together

- Synod triennial mission emphases
- RSOs
- Worship
- Synod harmony
- Reformation

Floor Committee

Theology and Church Relations

- Creation
- Fellowship and Church Relations
- Office and Priesthood
- Roles of men and women in the church
- End of life matters

Floor Committee

Pastoral Ministries

- Routes to Ordination
- Lay Deacons
- Seminary Enrollment
- Colloquy program
- Continuing Education

Floor Committee

University Education

- Structure
- Governance
- Programs
- Recruitment
- Concordia College Alabama, Selma

Floor Committee

Structure and Administration

- Convention cycle
- Constitutional Amendments
- Bylaw amendments
- Elections
- Term Limits

Floor Committee

Ecclesiastical Supervision and Dispute Resolution

- Article XI – Rights and Duties of Officers
- Council of Presidents
- Visitation
- Decisions re ecclesiastical supervision
- Ecclesiastical supervision responsibility

Floor Committee

Church and Culture

- Life issues
- Marriage
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) matters
- Racism
- Christian Persecution

Floor Committee

Retention: Schools, Family, Young Adults, and Youth

- Catechesis
- Strengthening our schools
- Strengthening marriages and family
- College age young adults
- Parent and family assistance

HOUSING

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Housing

Meeting and Housing

- Embassy Suites by Hilton Tampa Downtown Convention Center (connected)
- Hilton Tampa Downtown (.3 mile walk)
- Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel and Marina (across the street)
- The Westin Tampa Waterside (.2 mile walk)

MAP OF TAMPA



CONVENTION MANAGEMENT

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TEAM OF PEOPLE



Frank Simek

Chief Administrative
Officer

Barb Below

Convention Program
Coordinator

Lynne Marvin

Convention
Arrangements
Coordinator

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE HALL

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE HALL

Area of Convention Hall	Type of Usage Permitted in Designated Area		
	Voice	Electronic Communications including email, text, and social media messaging, e.g., laptops, tablets, pagers, PEDs, smart phones, wearable technology including smart watches and like devices.	Laptop computers, tablets WITH communications disabled (e.g., Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Cellular, and Infrared communications turned off or in airplane mode.)
Voting and Advisory Delegates & Representatives Areas	No	No	Yes
COP, BOD, CCM, COH, CTCR, Press, Special Guests Areas	No	Yes	---
Visitors, Back Seating Area	No	Yes	---
Convention Staff, All Areas	Yes	Yes	---

RESOURCES

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Websites

[Lcms.org/convention](https://www.lcms.org/convention)

- Official notices
- Convention bible study
- National offering
- Nominations and Elections information
- Deadlines
- Forms
- Tampa information

Websites

TampaConventionCenter.com

- Center information
- Maps
- Floor plans

Websites

VisitTampaBay.com/lcms

- Resources to plan your visit to Tampa

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