



One Lord, One Faith, One Body

Today's Business H

Thirteenth Regular Convention

Winnipeg, Manitoba
June 12-15, 2026

INDEX

H. 2 Forward

Updates/Corrections to the Workbook

H. 3 Special Standing Rules (proposed)

H. 3 Parliamentary Procedure & Principles

H. 4 Convention Glossary

H. 6 Nomination/Election Matters

H. 8 Section B, C, D, E (assorted)

H. 10 Section E – Reports – Report of the CAO

H. 22 Proposed Resolutions – Committee #1

H. 35 Proposed Resolutions – Committee #2

H. 46 Proposed Resolutions – Committee #3

H. 55 Additional Overtures

FOREWORD

This booklet entitled *Today's Business* builds on the larger Convention Workbook that you should have received electronically a few weeks ago. A print edition of the Convention Workbook will be available for you to pick up at the convention site if you requested one. It's an important document to read and bring with you to the Thirteenth Regular Convention of Lutheran Church—Canada that is scheduled for June 12-15, 2026 at the Victoria Inn and Conference Centre.

If you read through the Convention Workbook, you will have noticed that the pages are numbered by categories in Sections A-G. This first edition of *Today's Business* picks up where the Workbook left off, starting with Section H. Other editions of *Today's Business* will follow and will carry on the numbering pattern with Sections I, J, and so forth. If you keep all of them with you every day in the proper sequence, you'll have all the documents you need to stay informed and to follow the various reports and business items coming before our assembly.

This first edition of *Today's Business* goes beyond the information available when the Convention Workbook was published in March. It also provides updates and, in some cases, corrections and additions that became necessary after the Convention Workbook was published.

Section F of the Convention Workbook listed all the 'overtures'; that is, requests for action received from congregations, boards, commissions, and other authorized groups by the appropriate deadline. Convention (Resolutions) Committees met in the latter part of April to process those overtures. On the basis of them, they compiled the resolutions contained in this booklet. These resolutions are the committees' recommendations on how the Convention might handle the matters addressed in the overtures. To be sure, these resolutions may be adopted, amended, or even turned down by the Convention. They do, however, provide at least a starting point for our deliberations.

During the course of the Convention some resolutions may be changed because of the discussions we will have, or because of instructions the assembly gives to the appropriate Resolutions Committee. This is another reason there will be further editions of *Today's Business* each day. Although they will be briefer than this booklet, those editions will provide the latest revision of a particular resolution, along with the minutes of the previous day's sessions, and the like.

The 2022 Handbook of our Synod states the following concerning the processing of resolutions:

"Any Member and any lay delegate to the Convention wishing to express comments on reports and overtures appearing in the Convention workbook may submit these at least seven (7) weeks prior to the Convention to the secretary, who shall transmit them to the appropriate convention committee for consideration. **Responses to the tentative resolutions contained in the first issue of *Today's Business* shall be submitted to the chairman of the appropriate floor committee at least one week prior to the Convention.** All floor committees shall meet at the convention site at a time prior to the opening of the Convention to review such responses and reconsider their tentative resolutions accordingly." (Synodical Bylaw 2.007 g.)

In addition, a number of additional overtures are also included in this edition of *Today's Business*. Those received following the deadline for inclusion in the Convention Workbook were approved by a committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary in accordance with Synodical Bylaw 2.007 b.

Also included in this issue of *Today's Business* is an updated list of delegates.

May God give you wisdom, strength, and love for the work you will do at our convention and send the protection of His holy angels as you travel to Winnipeg.

In Christ's Service,

Rev. Dr. Timothy Teuscher, President
Lutheran Church—Canada

UPDATES AND CORRECTIONS TO THE CONVENTION WORKBOOK

The following omissions/errors/changes to the Convention Workbook are being noted for your information. Please add the changes into your copy of the Convention Workbook.

SECTION A

SPECIAL STANDING RULES (proposed)

1. A voting delegate wishing to address the convention should approach one of the floor microphones, and, when recognized by the chair, state his or her name and the name and location of the congregation he or she represents. An advisory delegate or representative shall state his or her name and the region or administrative unit (e.g.: board, commission, faculty) he or she represents.
2. A three-minute limitation shall be applied to all who speak from the floor.
3. All new business, including that which arises from overtures and recommendations contained in reports, shall come before the convention only through the appropriate convention (resolutions) committee (Synodical Bylaw 2.007 f).
4. The preface, preamble and whereas sections shall be considered an integral part of a resolution and any action pertaining to the resolution applies to all its parts.
5. If substitute motions are offered, they shall be handled according to Robert's Rules of Order.
6. Resolutions prepared by a Convention (Resolutions) Committee which are not acted upon by the convention before adjournment, die.
7. Unless covered by these Standing Rules of the convention, parliamentary procedures shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, latest edition.

A PRIMER OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

A. Purpose of Parliamentary Law and Procedure

The purpose of parliamentary procedure is to carry out the aims of the assembly in an orderly and fair manner, to expedite business, to insure justice and fairness to all, both the majority and the minority. It is not the purpose of parliamentary procedure to make the conduct of business in an assembly difficult, or to entangle an assembly in technicalities, or to provide a channel for individuals to flaunt their parliamentary knowledge.

B. Basic Steps of Parliamentary Procedure

The chairman and members of the assembly should be acquainted with and observe eight basic, essential parliamentary steps to take care of convention business in an orderly and fair manner.

They are:

Members:

1. Address the Chair, "Mr. Chairman" (or "Mr. President".)
2. Await recognition by the Chair.
3. Make the motion, "I move that..."
4. Second the motion. (Unless not required.)

Chair:

5. States the motion. (Or rules it out of order.)
6. Calls for discussion. (Unless motion is not debatable.) "Is there any discussion?" or "Are there any remarks?" Ample opportunity must always be given for expression of opinion and discussion.
7. Takes the vote. (Or "Puts the question.") First calls for the affirmative vote, then the negative. (A tie vote defeats the motion, since

-
- a majority is required to adopt-unless the motion requires a 2/3 vote.)
8. States the results. ("The motion is carried," or, "the motion is lost.") The vote does not go into effect until the results are announced.
 3. The vote of the majority decides. The will of a Synod convention is determined by the taking of a vote.
 4. Free discussion of every proposition or resolution presented for decision is an established right for all delegates, voting and advisory. The convention has the right to decide when it has heard sufficient discussion. This right, however, should be exercised with restraint.

BASIC PARLIAMENTARY PRINCIPLES FOR SYNOD CONVENTION

1. A Synod convention is a parliamentary assembly called to deliberate and to make decisions. From time to time it defines the privileges, the rights, and the duties of the members of Synod and sets up or changes the framework of the synodical organization. It hears the reports of its officers, board, and commissions as to what these have done with their constitutional and convention directives and receives and passes on proposals for their future activity.
2. All voting delegates have equal rights, privileges, and obligations.
5. Both proponents and opponents of a given proposal have rights which must be safeguarded. The decision belongs to the majority, but the right to discuss, the right to be heard, and the right to oppose should be upheld. A member of the majority on one question is often a member of the minority on another.
6. The simplest and most direct parliamentary procedure for accomplishing a purpose would be followed rather than taking devious routes multiplying technicalities.

CONVENTION GLOSSARY

Ad Hoc Committee

Special committee with a limited assignment and a limited life.

Advisory Delegate

A certified member of the convention with the right to speak, but without vote. However, if appointed to a floor committee, entitled to vote there.

Agenda

A list of items of convention business "to be done."

Alternate

A full-time substitute to take the place of a delegate to the convention, if necessary.

Amend

To change or modify a resolution or motion.

Appeal

An appeal from a decision of the chair requires that the decision be referred to the convention for its immediate decision by a vote.

Audit

Official examination and verification of accounts.

Bylaw

Statutory Bylaws establish the fundamental rules by which Lutheran Church-Canada as a corporate entity is to be governed. Synodical Bylaws establish the specific rules by which the Synod as an ecclesiastical organization functions in accordance with the Constitution. A Synodical Bylaw ranks below the Constitution and Statutory Bylaws in authority.

and above convention standing rules and Robert's Rules of Order.

Chair

The presiding officer of the convention, usually the president, or temporarily the vice-president or BOD chair.

Constitution

The statement of the basic principles and structures of Synod, the highest continuing authority created by the association of congregations, pastors, deacons constituting Synod.

Division of the House

A vote taken by rising to verify a voice vote at the call of the chair or at the request of a voting delegate.

General Consent

An informal method of disposing of routine and generally favoured proposals by assuming approval of a request unless immediate objection is raised.

Handbook

A manual containing the synodical Articles of Incorporation, the statutory bylaws, the constitution and the synodical bylaws.

In Order

Correct from a parliamentary standpoint at a given time.

Lay on the Table

To set aside a motion or a proposed resolution for consideration in the indefinite future. If adopted, it usually kills consideration of an action on the main motion by postponing it without a set time to take it up again. If this is not the intent, the motion should be not to table but to postpone, preferably to a set time.

Majority

More than half the votes cast. The synodical constitution states: "All matters of doctrine

and of conscience shall be decided only by the Word of God. All other matters shall be decided by a majority vote." This means a simple majority in all instances except those which involve a proposed amendment to the statutory bylaws or constitution, which requires a two-thirds affirmative vote of all votes cast. Certain procedural motions also require a two-thirds majority.

Out of Order

Not correct from a parliamentary standpoint at that particular time.

Overture

A recommendation, proposed resolution, or petition submitted by a member congregation of Synod or other group recognized in the synodical bylaws.

Parliamentarian

A person or persons designated by the chair to advise him on the applicability of parliamentary principles and procedures in a given situation.

Pending

Not yet decided. A pending motion is one that has been stated by the chair, but is not yet disposed of by vote.

Point of Order

Any delegate may promptly call attention to the fact that the rules of Synod or its convention are seemingly not in force by saying, "I rise to a point of order." Upon hearing the point made, the chair rules as to its validity.

Postpone

To defer action on a question or proposed resolution (1) indefinitely, or (2) until a certain specified time.

Preamble

The introductory part of a resolution or report, usually in the form of whereas. The assembly

has the right to amend these since they are part of the resolution when presented together with the resolves.

Previous Question

A motion calling for the previous question stops all discussion or debate if two-thirds of the voting delegates vote "Yes" after a motion has been made and seconded to call for the previous question. When two-thirds of the voting delegates have responded "Yes" the chair must immediately call a vote on the motion pending before the convention.

Privileged Motion.

A motion, such as to recess, to fix the time of the next session and to change the order of the day. It takes precedence over all other motions.

Putting the Question

The taking of the vote by the chair.

Question

A subject or point of debate or a resolution being, or to be voted on.

Quorum

The fewest number of delegates that can be present and still permit business to be transacted.

Report

Usually the formal accounting given by an officer, a board, a committee, or a commission

of the discharge of its responsibilities under the constitution and bylaws of Synod, such as accounting to be evaluated by the delegate convention of Synod.

Rescind

To annul or to cancel. To undo or reverse a previous decision.

Resolution

A formal proposal submitted previously in writing by a convention (resolutions) committee for action by the convention.

Resolutions Committee

A working group of convention voting and advisory delegates to whom the processing of a share of convention business is entrusted for recommendation in turn to the convention proper. Also called a Convention Committee or Floor Committee.

Seriatim

In a series; one after another.

Substitute Amendment

When a full paragraph, section, or resolution is dropped and another is inserted in its place.

Table

(See also "Lay on the Table") To set aside a motion or a proposed resolution for consideration in the indefinite future. If adopted it usually kills consideration of an action on the main motion by postponing it without a set time to take it up again.

NOMINATION/ELECTION MATTERS

The president shall determine and announce a period of time during the convention for all elections. After a brief introduction of the members of the Commission on Nominations and Elections (CNE), the chair of the Commission will provide the convention with the following instructions/comments.

- 1 Prior to the election for each office or position, other than president and vice-president (Synodical Bylaw 2.101), the president will entertain such nominations from the floor.
2. Nominations may be made from the floor for any position, other than president and vice-president, if the conditions for candidacy including vetting has been done and the

- required information (written consent, photo, biographical, etc.) has been forwarded in advance to the CNE (Synodical Bylaw 2.099 e.; 2.101 l.) This information should be sent to the CNE at least seven days prior to the start of the convention. For a list of required information and forms, contact the synod office.
3. All elections shall be done electronically, and the CNE will provide a tutorial on how this is done.
 4. All elections shall be conducted according to the appropriate Synodical Bylaws and any special standing rules which might be adopted by the convention.
 5. Elections will be carried out in a specific order or sequence, beginning with ecclesiastical offices (Synodical Bylaw 2.103 f):
 - A President (1 rostered clergy)
 - B Vice-president (1 pastor of a congregation)
 - C Regional Pastors (1 rostered clergy elected only by delegates from the region – Synodical Bylaw 3.001 a)
 - D Circuit Counsellors (1 rostered clergy from a circuit elected only by delegates from that circuit – Synodical Bylaw 4.005)
 - E Board of Directors (5 lay persons; 3 pastors, 1 deacon, with at least 1 representative from each region – Statutory Bylaw 12.01)
 - F Commissions:
 - i. Commission on Nominations and Elections (CNE) – (4 rostered workers – 3 of whom must be rostered clergy and 1 may be a deacon; and 3 lay persons – Synodical Bylaw 2.087 a) (each region to be represented if possible)
 - ii. Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) – (2 rostered workers, 1 of whom must be a pastor; 2 lay persons – Synodical Bylaw 2.069 a)
 - iii. Commission on Adjudication (COA) – (2 rostered workers from each region, 1 of whom must be a pastor – Synodical Bylaw 7.037 a)
 - iv. Commission on Constitution Matters and Structure (CCMS) – (3 lay persons, 1 of whom must be a lawyer; 3 rostered workers, 1 of whom may be a deacon – Synodical Bylaw 2.059 a)
- G Regional Missions & Ministry Council (RMMC) – (1 lay person from each circuit elected only by delegates from the circuit – Synodical Bylaw 3.009 a.1)
 - H Board of Regents (Synodical Bylaw 2.103 g) – not technically an election but a recommendation of individuals to the BOR of each seminary which makes the actual election or appointment):
 - (1) CLS, Edmonton (1 rostered worker and 1 lay person from each region)
 - (2) CLTS, St. Catharines (1 rostered worker and 1 lay person from each region, to be selected by delegates from the region)
6. The CNE is responsible for managing the voting process and preparing a report for inclusion in the convention workbook (Synodical Bylaw 2.091).
 7. The identity of the election taking place, the number of candidates to be elected, and any pertinent information for each vote that will be conducted (e.g., where regional representation is a requirement or preference) shall appear at the top of each ballot.
 8. The name and the regional affiliation of the candidates in all elections shall be placed on the ballot in alphabetical order.
 9. A majority of all votes cast shall be required for election to all offices and positions.
 10. Delegates will vote for as many candidates as are to be elected. The results of the votes cast for each candidate shall be announced by the

CNE after each ballot in all elections in the order that the candidates appeared on the ballot.

11. Candidates who have received the majority of votes shall be declared elected by the president, provided that regional or clergy and lay requirements are met.
12. When a second or succeeding ballot is required, those candidates receiving no votes, as well as those candidates receiving less than 15% of the votes cast shall be dropped from

the ballot. If more than two candidates receive less than 15% of the votes cast, the three highest candidates shall remain on the ballot.

13. After ballot results are reported, the CNE shall indicate which names are to be dropped. Thereupon, any other candidates who wish to do so may withdraw their names from subsequent balloting.
14. All ballots in each election shall be preserved by the CNE until the close of the convention and shall then be deleted.

- B. 1 Commission on Adjudication – Synod President Appointment Rev. Paul Roggow
- C. 11 ADVISORY DELEGATES – Clergy – West Region – Remove Rev. Malkaa Gemechu
- C. 12 CONVENTION APPOINTMENTS – Local Arrangements – Add:
 Registration & Hospitality: Rev. Tom Kruesel, Sandra Timm, Vira Askin (staff)
 Head Page: Abbie Tang
 Transportation: Glen Jorundson, John Robins
 IT Support: Andrew Jackson, Tim Bayha, Josh Haberstock
- C 12 Resolutions Committee 1 – Add Rev. Aaron Astley (chair), Anna Fierling, Rev. Darren Siegle
- C 12 Resolutions Committee 2 – Add Rev. Brian Dunlop (chair), Adrian Cyr
- D.3 Haberstock, David – Degrees: M.Div., CLS, 2004
- D.4 Schutz, Michael – Service to: I request that delegates visit this link regarding this nomination: <https://mdls.link/synod26>
- D.41 Gillingham, Michael – Congregation: Trinity Lutheran Church, Abbotsford, BC
- D. 42 Guggenmos, Kirsten – spelling correction of last name: Guggenmos
- D. 17 Kruesel, Tom – Service: Synod: Chairman, Colloquy Committee 2011-2022 Vice-President Synod 2018-2022
- D. 28 Commission on Constitution Matters and Structure (CCMS) – Rev. Daryl Solie withdraws
- D. 29 Board of Regents (Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton) – Clergy: add Rev. Darren Siegle
- D. 58 Timm, Sandy (Sandra) – Congregation: St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, Leduc, AB
- E. 18 b. Received by Colloquy – Add

H.9

DAMAS, Jean-Luc	(Colloquy), St. Paul's, Dawson Creek, BC, 2026-04-26 by Rev. Robert Mohns
-----------------	---

E. 18 c. Received by Transfer – 2. Ferreira, Dionatan – spelling correction Chatham/Amherstburg, ON

E. 18 c. Received by Transfer – numbering should reflect a total of 9 received

E. 18 c. Received by Transfer – Add

MOORE, Tyler	(LCMS) The Sanctuary, West Kelowna, BC 2026-05-03 by Rev. Robert Mohns
THIELE, Carl	(Lutheran Church of Australia), Our Saviour/St. Mark, Dryden/Vermillion Bay, ON, 2026-03-10 by Rev. David Haberstock

E. 19 2. CHANGES WITHIN THE SYNOD - Add

BARR, Daniel	Candidate to Emmanuel, Moose Jaw, SK, 2026-04-26 by Rev. Jason Schultz
EIFERT, Kenneth	St. John's, Wembley, AB additional call to St. Paul's, Dawson Creek, BC (senior), 2026-04-26 by Rev. Robert Mohns
EIFERT, Kenneth	St. John's, Wembley, AB additional call to Mount Carmel, Grande Cache, AB 2026-04-26 by Rev. Robert Mohns
HABERSTOCK, Keith	Trinity, Fort McMurray, AB to St. Paul's, Chilliwack, BC 2026-04-12 by Rev. Robert Mohns

E. 21 RESIGNED OR REMOVED FROM ROSTER - Add

FIEGE, Randy	2026-04-20
--------------	------------

E. 22 6. Called to Glory – number should reflect a total of 33 called to glory

SECTION E

**REPORT 8: CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF LUTHERAN CHURCH–CANADA
(LCC)**

Introduction and Overview

The Statutory Bylaws of Lutheran Church–Canada state that the CAO is responsible for preparing annual budgets for presentation to the Board of Directors and a four-year work program forecast for presentation at each quadrennial convention (Bylaw 11.23, *LCC Handbook 2022*, p. 6).

This report is shaped by two important perspectives: hindsight and foresight. Through hindsight, it reflects on the financial results, ministry initiatives, challenges, and accomplishments experienced during the past quadrennial period. Through foresight, it looks ahead to the opportunities, priorities, and financial planning that will help shape Lutheran Church–Canada’s work program for the upcoming 2027–2030 Quadrennial period.

LCC Quadrennial Financial Report (2023-2026)

Basis of Presentation and Use

The financial information presented in this report has been derived from the audited financial statements of Lutheran Church–Canada for the fiscal years ending January 31, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026, which were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

For purposes of convention reporting, certain amounts have been reclassified, combined, or presented in a format different from the audited financial statements in order to align with ministry program categories and reporting needs. As a result, the information presented in this report may not correspond directly to the classifications contained in the audited financial statements. Accordingly, no audited opinion or assurance is expressed on this supplementary information.

Please note that the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2026, together with the auditor’s report, will be included in the Second Today’s Business publication distributed prior to convention. In accordance with Lutheran Church–Canada’s statutory bylaws, audited financial statements are presented annually to the members at each Annual General Meeting between conventions, with the convention serving as the Annual General Meeting during convention years.

Statement of Operations

(For detailed data, see Appendix A, Table 1, and visual chart at end of report)

Revenues

Over the quadrennial period, total revenues amounted to \$21,575,084 compared to a budget of \$18,151,145, resulting in a favorable revenue variance of \$3,423,929. The majority of this favorable variance relates to unrestricted contributions received in fiscal year 2026, largely arising from gifts made by disbanding congregations. In aggregate, these contributions totaled approximately \$3,325,000.

While this extraordinary revenue has strengthened LCC's financial position in the short term, it is important to acknowledge that the closure of congregations is not a positive trend for the long-term health of the Synod or Canadian society in general. In response, the LCC Board of Directors has taken a strategic approach to stewarding these funds. A significant portion has been directed toward initiatives intended to sustain and strengthen ministry, including the Mission and Ministry Opportunity Fund and the Vicarage Placement Fund. Additionally, a meaningful balance has been retained within unrestricted funds to provide flexibility in addressing emerging needs and opportunities in the years ahead.

Turning to another key revenue category, Congregational Mission Remittances totaled \$8,732,876, slightly below the budgeted amount of \$8,970,000. However, it is encouraging to note that remittances have shown an upward trend over the past several years. It is also important to recognize that these remittances represent the faithful offerings of individual members across our congregations. A portion of the gifts placed upon the Lord's Altar throughout our Synod is prayerfully remitted to LCC in support of the broader ministry we share together. On behalf of LCC, I wish to express sincere gratitude to our congregations and members for their continued generosity, partnership, and commitment to the proclamation of the Gospel and the work of Christ's Church. As the Apostle Paul writes: "*For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability, entirely on their own*" (2 Corinthians 8:3).

I would also like to acknowledge the overwhelming generosity and compassion shown by our members in response to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. Through their faithful support, approximately \$850,000 was donated for relief efforts. As Pastor Smith noted in his report, these gifts have provided—and continue to provide—critical aid and assistance to countless individuals and families whose lives have been deeply affected by the war. Through this outpouring of Christian care and compassion, our congregations have powerfully demonstrated the unity we share as members of the body of Christ.

We also give thanks for the faithful partnership of our Synod's auxiliaries in supporting International and Domestic Mission initiatives, including language ministry projects. Through the generosity of Concordia Lutheran Mission Society (CLMS), Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada (LLL-C), and Lutheran Women's Missionary League of Canada (LWML-C), many important ministry opportunities continue to be strengthened and sustained.

I would also like to express sincere appreciation to Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) for their faithful financial support of the Children's tutoring, school supplies, and feeding programs in Nicaragua. This support has been a tremendous blessing and has helped provide ongoing care and nourishment to children in need.

Expenses

Over the quadrennial period, total expenses amounted to \$17,564,313 compared to budgeted expenses of \$18,149,425, resulting in a favorable variance of \$585,112. Several factors contributed to this overall result.

International Mission expenses were lower than anticipated primarily because a planned worship facility project in Costa Rica remains under evaluation and has not yet proceeded.

Domestic Missions expenses were also below budget. This was due in part to staffing positions being filled later than originally planned, as well as certain ministry funding initiatives not being fully utilized.

Some support funding for congregations was contingent upon pastoral calls being filled, while smaller outreach grant opportunities received fewer applications than anticipated.

Expenses related to the June 2022 **Synod Convention** were lower than budget largely because attendance was reduced as the church continued emerging from the pandemic. Lower attendance resulted in reduced travel, accommodation, and meal costs, while convention revenue also came in below expectations due to lower registration income. Despite this, the convention generated a surplus that has been restricted to help offset anticipated higher costs for the 2026 convention.

The favorable variance within **Ecclesiastical Services** was primarily the result of lower travel costs for the President's office, and/or the President's Ministry Council, as a number of meetings were conducted virtually.

Church Worker Conference expenses exceeded budget expectations; however, these additional costs were offset by corresponding assessment revenues. Early budget assumptions in this area were made during a period of uncertainty surrounding the return of in-person gatherings following the pandemic.

Communication Services expenses exceeded budget expectations primarily due to increased staffing support to address growing communications needs. It should also be noted that advertising revenue from *The Canadian Lutheran*, while recorded within actual revenues, had originally been intended to offset expenses directly rather than appear separately within the revenue budget.

Common Services expenses were higher than budget primarily due to staffing-related costs associated with operational transitions, Together One support activity, and increased convention-related responsibilities during the latter part of the quadrennial period. Legal costs also exceeded expectations, though these expenses can be difficult to predict as they are occasionally driven by specific situations involving a member congregation and/or rostered church worker that necessitate LCC involvement.

Advancement Services expenses were in line with budget expectations and reflect the ongoing work of the Director of Advancement, as well as external consulting and planned giving support related to the Together One initiative.

Overall, the expense variances experienced throughout the quadrennial period reflect a combination of delayed initiatives, evolving ministry needs, staffing transitions, and ongoing operational adjustments. Despite these changing circumstances, expenses remained closely aligned with budget expectations and reflect continued efforts toward prudent stewardship of LCC resources.

Statement of Financial Position

(For detailed data, see Appendix A, Table 2, at end of report)

The most significant changes reflected in the Statement of Financial Position over the quadrennial period relate to increases in cash and investments, as well as assets held for sale. As noted earlier in this report, these changes were largely due to gifts received from three disbanding congregations during the period.

Correspondingly, these additional assets also resulted in increases to the fund balances on the Statement of Financial Position. A significant portion of the gifts were allocated to internally restricted funds, including the Mission and Ministry Opportunity Fund and the Vicarage Placement Fund, in support of future ministry initiatives. The remaining balance has been retained within unrestricted funds to provide flexibility in responding to emerging opportunities and needs across the Synod.

Readers with an accounting background may notice that the increase in fund balances over the quadrennial period does not correspond exactly to the cumulative surplus reported on the Statement of Operations. The \$107,357 difference relates to a past service pension remeasurement adjustment recorded in fiscal 2023. In accordance with accounting standards, this adjustment was recorded directly to fund balances rather than through the Statement of Operations.

While recent results have strengthened LCC's financial position, we also recognize the broader challenges associated with congregational closures. These realities call us to continue managing the resources entrusted to us carefully, while also remaining focused on supporting and strengthening the mission we share together. It is our fervent prayer that the resources entrusted to LCC will be used faithfully and strategically in service to Christ's Church in the years ahead.

LCC Quadrennial Work Program Forecast (2027–2030)

(For detailed data, see Appendix A, Table 3, and accompanying chart at the end of the report)

With forecasted revenues and expenses of approximately **\$21,600,000** the quadrennial work program provides a stable and forward-looking framework to support the ongoing mission and ministry of Synod. The work program was developed through key stakeholder collaboration, careful review, and prayerful consideration, seeking to balance responsible financial stewardship with the mission opportunities and challenges facing the Synod in the years ahead.

The forecast assumes continued support through Congregational Mission Remittances, donor generosity, and other ministry partnerships that make this work possible. At the same time, the work program recognizes the financial realities associated with declining membership and seeks to allocate resources carefully and strategically in support of the Synod's mission priorities.

Frontline ministry remains the central focus of the work program, with significant investment directed toward both **Domestic** and **International Missions**. Within Canada, this includes continued support for congregations in underserved communities, language ministries, planned urban and First Nations outreach, and emerging mission opportunities across the country. The work program also reflects our commitment to youth and family ministry through investment in the Associate Director of Family Ministries position.

Internationally, Nicaragua continues to represent our largest mission commitment, supporting pastors, deacons, children's feeding and education programs, and the broader ministry carried out through the mission centre. Southeast Asia continues to present encouraging outreach opportunities, particularly in the area of theological education and leadership development for local church leaders. Ukraine likewise remains an important focus of international mission support as missionary Rev. Oleksiy, and congregations and pastors continue faithfully proclaiming Christ amid ongoing hardship and uncertainty.

The work program also includes increased investment in **Higher Education** primarily for vicarage placement in support of pastoral formation and leadership development. Additional financial support for seminaries reflects the Synod's commitment to preparing future church workers for faithful service in congregations and mission fields across Canada.

Additional resources have also been allocated to **Ecclesiastical Services** in recognition of the growing demands placed upon Regional Pastors in the areas of ecclesiastical supervision, pastoral care, and regional leadership. As an initial step, a part-time Assistant Regional Pastor will be called to serve within

the West Region to help provide additional pastoral support and leadership capacity. The West Region was selected for this initial investment because it encompasses the Synod's largest geographical area as well as its largest communicant membership base, creating unique demands and opportunities for pastoral oversight and support.

Finally, the work program recognizes the importance of supporting functions such as **Communications**, **Advancement**, and **Common Services**. While often less visible, these areas provide essential operational support, strengthen connections across the Synod, encourage stewardship, and help ensure faithful transparency and accountability in the administration of LCC's work.

Overall, the quadrennial work program seeks to steward the resources entrusted to LCC in a manner that is faithful, responsible, and mission focused. While the Synod continues to face both financial and demographic challenges, the work program reflects a continued commitment to strengthening congregations, supporting church workers, and advancing the proclamation of the Gospel across Canada and beyond.

Before concluding my report, I would like to take a moment to recognize the dedicated support staff members within the LCC office whose faithful service and daily efforts support the operations of LCC.

LCC Support Staff

While many readers will already be quite familiar with the Ecclesiastical and Executive leadership of LCC, they may be less acquainted with the dedicated support staff who faithfully serve behind the scenes each day. Through their professionalism, commitment, and servant-hearted approach to their responsibilities, they help sustain and strengthen the ministry and mission of Synod in countless ways, often quietly and without recognition.

Iris Barta serves as our Human Resource and Administration Manager and is also taking on the significant task of managing the upcoming convention. This is a substantial portfolio of responsibilities, and her strong organizational abilities, attentiveness to detail, and dedication to her work reflects a spirit of faithful and caring service. Her leadership in human resources is an important part of the collegial and caring culture of our staff team.

Angela Honey serves as Office Supervisor and in many respects, she is the first point of contact for a wide range of inquiries that come to LCC. Members regularly reach out to her because they are confident that their questions or concerns will be addressed promptly and thoughtfully, either directly by her or by the appropriate individual to whom she directs the matter. Currently, she is overseeing much of the day-to-day planning arrangements and coordination of deliverables for the upcoming convention. Her professionalism, and ability to manage a broad range of responsibilities are valued greatly within our church community.

Nancy Swerhun serves as our Pension and Benefits Manager and provides knowledgeable and compassionate support to our church workers and participating employers. Anyone who has had occasion to contact her regarding the pension and benefits program quickly recognizes both her expertise in the field and her genuine commitment to helping others. She consistently goes the extra mile to research complex matters thoroughly and to find thoughtful and effective solutions to the various questions or challenges that may arise. She has been a true servant to LCC.

Nikunj Patel, Cheryl Maron, and Debbie Kitlar work within the accounting department and fulfil the many responsibilities and duties of the department with professionalism, competence, and sincere dedication. Through their diligent service, they continue to serve our members and are a genuine blessing to the work of the Church.

Vira Askin and Tanya Dreiko round out our support team. Much of their work happens behind the scenes, but it is essential to keeping the office running smoothly. Their responsibilities are wide-ranging and include everything from processing mail to maintaining accurate and up-to-date member files. They also take on many day-to-day operational tasks and the countless “other duties as assigned.”

Matthew Block continues to serve as the editor of the Canadian Lutheran, and we are most fortunate to have such a gifted lay theologian to write and petition insightful theological content for publication. Matthew serves with a dedication that does not go unnoticed.

Michelle Heumann is our regional news editor who researches, edits, and compiles local stories for publication. Michelle’s work reflects a spirit of faithful and caring service.

Staff Transitions

As is the case with other workplaces, over the course of a four-year period there are naturally transitions and changes within the staff team. While it is always a joy to welcome new staff members who bring renewed enthusiasm, fresh perspectives, and new skills to the workplace, it is also difficult to say goodbye to long-serving colleagues whose dedication and contributions have been deeply valued over the years. These changes, while sometimes bittersweet, continue to shape and strengthen our organization.

In the past year we welcomed **Dr. Tasheny Francis** as our new Director of Communications and **Mr. Henry Drewlow** as our new Accounting Supervisor. Both individuals bring with them strong professional skill sets, relevant experience, and a clear commitment to serving the mission of Lutheran Church–Canada.

Dr. Francis’s extensive expertise in communication, leadership, and strategic planning will play a key role in strengthening and advancing our engagement with rostered workers, congregations, and broader stakeholders.

Similarly, Mr. Drewlow brings solid financial and accounting experience that will be instrumental in supporting our operational effectiveness and financial stewardship.

Due to the joys and growing demands of an expanding family, **Alex Steinke** transitioned into a new role with LCC as Digital Communications Manager. Alex is currently on parental leave after she and husband Peter recently welcomed twin boys into their family. While we miss her daily contributions within the office, we are delighted for her and her family during this special time of life. We look forward to warmly welcoming her back when the time comes. Cosby Fernandez is currently assuming the Digital communication duties during Alex’s leave.

Over the same period, we said farewell to our Accounting Manager, **Christine Bradley**, who served LCC faithfully for more than nine years. During her tenure, she performed exceptional work on behalf of LCC, most notably ensuring a clean audit each and every year. Her professionalism, dedication, and attention to detail were greatly appreciated and contributed significantly to the financial stability and integrity of the organization.

With Appreciation

As I conclude this report, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the opportunity to serve Lutheran Church–Canada and to work alongside faithful leaders, dedicated staff, pastors, congregations, and members who together share in the mission and ministry of our Synod. I remain grateful for the encouragement, support, and partnership that continue to strengthen the work we carry out together in service to Christ and His Church.

Above all, I give thanks to God for His continued guidance, provision, and faithfulness.

In His Service,

Dwayne Cleave, CAO
Lutheran Church-Canada

LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FEB 1, 2022- JAN 31,2026

TABLE 1

APPENDIX A

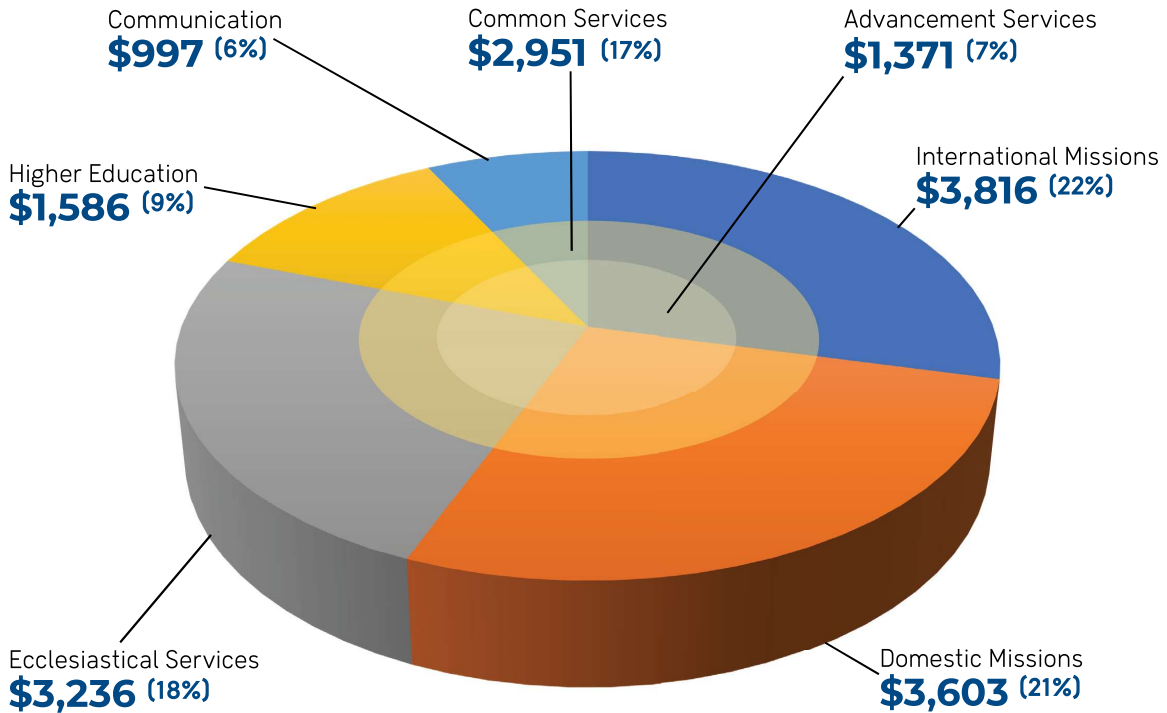
REVENUE					A	B
	2026 Actual	2025 Actual	2024 Actual	2023 Actual	Total Quadrennial Actual	Total Quadrennial Budget
Congregation Mission Remittances	2,267,847	2,202,425	2,114,765	2,147,249	8,732,286	8,970,000
Restricted Contributions	1,346,560	1,526,891	1,918,716	2,655,591	7,447,758	7,376,740
Unrestricted Contributions	3,700,946	755,729	246,192	47,460	4,750,327	1,118,855
Endowment Distributions	153,058	129,840	26,465	25,712	335,075	266,000
Investment Income	169,641	116,366	39,196	-15,565	309,638	419,550
Total Revenues	7,638,052	4,731,251	4,345,334	4,860,447	21,575,084	18,151,145
Missions						
International Missions	868,075	1,007,596	991,866	949,142	3,816,679	4,046,963
Domestic Missions	795,334	776,226	865,041	880,259	3,316,860	3,686,401
Youth Gatherings	140,075		28,213	118,740	287,028	375,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>1,803,484</i>	<i>1,783,822</i>	<i>1,885,120</i>	<i>1,948,141</i>	7,420,567	8,108,364
Ecclesiastical Services						
President & Regional Pastors	614,043	619,371	611,300	630,697	2,475,411	2,557,237
PMC & Circuit Counsellors & Commissions	31,140	26,947	40,580	26,892	125,559	144,750
Synod Convention-June 2022				635,502	635,502	825,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>645,183</i>	<i>646,318</i>	<i>651,880</i>	<i>1,293,091</i>	3,236,472	3,526,987
Higher Education						
Concordia Lutheran Seminary	136,000	136,000	136,000	136,000	544,000	544,000
Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary	136,000	136,000	136,000	136,000	544,000	544,000
Church Worker Conferences	112,720	106,509	106,134	53,672	379,035	320,000
Student Aid & AIC Scholarships	30,500	30,750	30,550	27,650	119,450	120,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>415,220</i>	<i>409,259</i>	<i>408,684</i>	<i>353,322</i>	1,586,485	1,528,000
Communication Services	280,537	217,841	262,087	236,880	997,345	839,651
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>280,537</i>	<i>217,841</i>	<i>262,087</i>	<i>236,880</i>	997,345	839,651
Total Direct Services Expense	3,144,424	3,057,240	3,207,771	3,831,434	13,240,869	14,003,002
Common Services						
Staffing	459,945	429,135	408,687	327,946	1,625,713	1,551,348
General Office	223,645	189,460	166,799	236,600	816,504	716,932
Property Operations	127,740	113,211	82,405	84,552	407,908	427,500
Board of Directors	31,700	21,411	20,244	28,136	101,491	88,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>843,030</i>	<i>753,217</i>	<i>678,135</i>	<i>677,234</i>	2,951,616	2,783,780
Advancement Services	176,952	178,037	179,195	167,360	701,544	555,418
Together One/Planned Giving	241,779	110,383	120,358	197,764	670,284	807,225
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>418,731</i>	<i>288,420</i>	<i>299,553</i>	<i>365,124</i>	1,371,828	1,362,643
Total Indirect Services Expense	1,261,761	1,041,637	977,688	1,042,358	4,323,444	4,146,423
Total Expenses	4,406,185	4,098,877	4,185,459	4,873,792	17,564,313	18,149,425
Surplus (Shortfall)	3,231,867	632,374	159,875	-13,345	4,010,771	1,720

How Dollars Were Put To Work

(\$s in thousands)

Total \$17,564

QUADRENNIAL ACTUALS - (FY 2022 - FY 2026)



Program Area	Direct Services	Indirect Services		Combined Costs	
		Common	Advancement		
International Missions	\$3,816,679	\$850,803	\$395,429	\$5,062,911	29%
Domestic Missions <small>(Incl. Youth Gatherings)</small>	\$3,603,888	\$803,368	\$373,383	\$4,780,639	27%
Ecclesiastical Services	\$3,236,472	\$721,465	\$335,317	\$4,293,254	24%
Higher Education <small>(Incl. Church Worker Confs.)</small>	\$1,586,484	\$353,654	\$164,369	\$2,104,507	12%
Communication	\$997,345	\$222,325	\$103,331	\$1,323,001	8%
Sub-total	\$13,240,868	\$2,951,616	\$1,371,828		
Total	76%	17%	7%	\$17,564,312	100%

LUTHERAN CHURCH – CANADA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS OF JANUARY 31

TABLE 2

Fiscal Year	2026	2025	2024	2023	Opening Balances 01-Feb-22	Four Year \$ Change	Four Year % Change
Assets							
Cash	2,867,132	223,836	345,837	1,231,316	1,122,256	1,744,876	
Receivables	452,910	400,250	446,049	352,964	282,520	170,390	
Pre-Paid Expenses	126,453	161,990	114,937	100,340	365,665	-239,212	
Investments	3,514,791	4,054,640	3,249,859	2,221,296	2,154,246	1,360,545	
Capital Assets	344,459	363,343	382,226	401,110	419,993	-75,534	
Assets Held for Sale	1,550,000					1,550,000	
Total Assets	8,855,745	5,204,059	4,538,908	4,307,026	4,344,680	4,511,065	204%
Liabilities							
Accounts Payable	452,042	74,151	78,757	59,855	137,359	314,683	
Deferred Contributions	3,008,987	2,967,060	2,929,677	2,876,572	2,716,020	292,967	
Deferred Gift	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	0	
Total Liabilities	3,511,029	3,091,211	3,058,434	2,986,427	2,903,379	607,650	121%
Fund Balances							
Unrestricted	2,696,012	1,464,243	839,222	693,724	925,377	1,770,635	
Internally Restricted	2,382,844	368,161	346,225	317,264	191,729	2,191,115	
Capital Assets	265,860	280,444	295,027	309,611	324,195	-58,335	
Total Fund Balances	5,344,716	2,112,848	1,480,474	1,320,599	1,441,301	3,903,415	371%
Total Liabilities & Fund Balances	8,855,745	5,204,059	4,538,908	4,307,026	4,344,680	4,511,065	204%

QUADRENNIAL WORK PROGRAM (FORECAST)
FEB 1, 2026- JAN 31,2030

TABLE 3

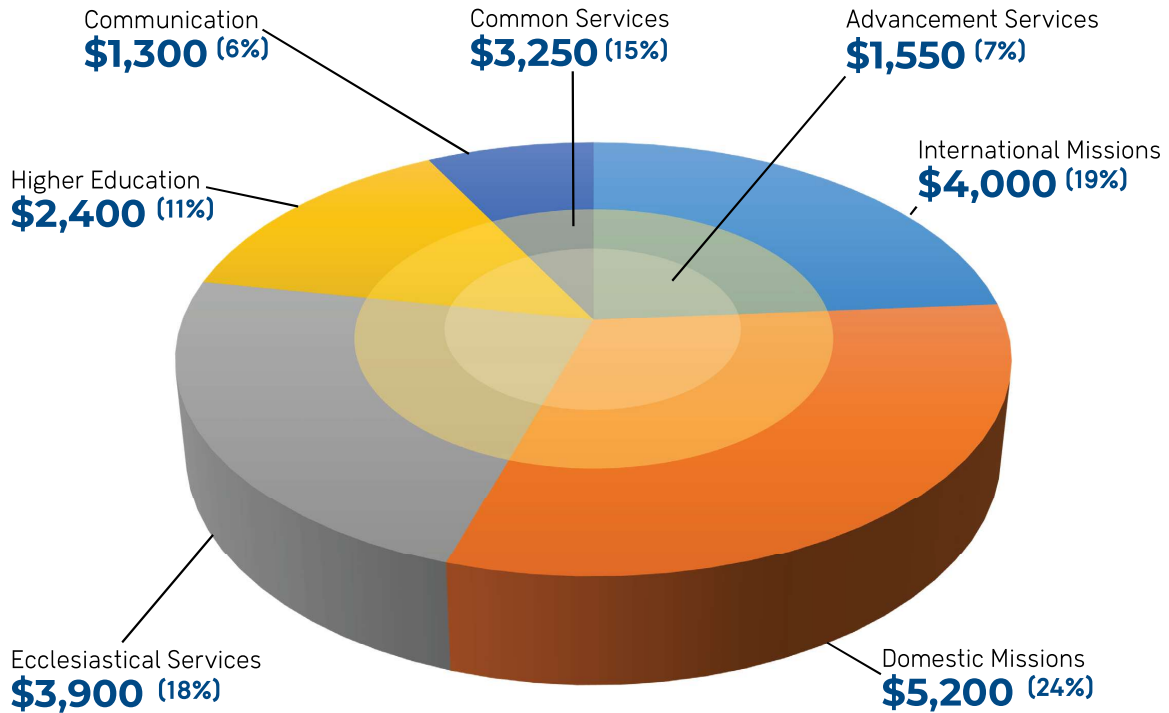
	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
REVENUE	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Quadrennial
Congregation Mission Remittances	2,325,000	2,350,000	2,375,000	2,400,000	9,450,000
Restricted Contributions	2,523,500	1,296,500	900,000	550,000	5,270,000
Mission Opportunity Fund	630,000	770,000	900,000	1,200,000	3,500,000
Endowment Distributions	200,000	420,000	495,000	505,000	1,620,000
Un-Restricted Contributions	301,500	308,500	315,000	320,000	1,245,000
Investment Income	130,000	125,000	130,000	130,000	515,000
Total Revenues	6,110,000	5,270,000	5,115,000	5,105,000	21,600,000
EXPENSES					
<i>Missions</i>					
Domestic Missions	1,132,235	1,210,550	1,300,800	1,356,416	5,000,000
International Missions	1,151,930	940,000	950,000	958,070	4,000,000
National Youth Gathering		200,000			200,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>2,284,165</i>	<i>2,350,550</i>	<i>2,250,800</i>	<i>2,314,486</i>	<i>9,200,000</i>
<i>Ecclesiastical Services</i>					
President & Regional Pastors	688,510	705,000	720,000	731,491	2,845,000
President's Ministry Council & Circuit Counsellors	36,750	38,250	39,500	40,500	155,000
Synod Convention -June 2026	900,000				900,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>1,625,260</i>	<i>743,250</i>	<i>759,500</i>	<i>771,991</i>	<i>3,900,000</i>
<i>Higher Education</i>					
Seminary Support	290,000	310,000	310,000	315,000	1,225,000
Vicarage Placement (20 vicars)	180,000	155,000	160,000	155,000	650,000
Church Worker Conferences	25,000	115,000	125,000	135,000	400,000
Student Aid/ AIC Scholarships	30,000	31,000	31,500	32,500	125,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>525,000</i>	<i>611,000</i>	<i>626,500</i>	<i>637,500</i>	<i>2,400,000</i>
<i>Communication Services</i>	306,540	320,244	335,007	338,210	1,300,000
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>306,540</i>	<i>320,244</i>	<i>335,007</i>	<i>338,210</i>	<i>1,300,000</i>
Total Direct Services Expense	4,740,965	4,025,043	3,971,806	4,062,186	16,800,000
<i>Common Services</i>					
Staffing	426,010	436,660	447,577	458,766	1,769,013
General office	186,519	193,182	198,044	203,362	781,106
Property Operations	116,900	100,000	103,000	105,575	425,475
Board of Directors	22,000	22,550	23,114	23,692	91,355
Archives	20,000	20,500	21,013	21,538	83,050
Contingency Reserve	100,000				100,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>871,429</i>	<i>772,892</i>	<i>792,747</i>	<i>812,933</i>	<i>3,250,000</i>
<i>Advancement Services</i>	167,406	171,600	175,890	180,263	695,160
Together One Campaign	329,600	300,240	175,000	50,000	854,840
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>497,006</i>	<i>471,840</i>	<i>350,890</i>	<i>230,263</i>	<i>1,550,000</i>
Total Indirect Services Expense	1,368,435	1,244,732	1,143,637	1,043,196	4,800,000
Total Expenses	6,109,400	5,269,775	5,115,443	5,105,382	21,600,000
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	600	225	-443	-382	0

2026-30 Work Program Dollar Allocation

(\$s in thousands)

Total \$21,600

(Feb 1, 2026 - Jan 31, 2030)



Program Area	Direct Services	Indirect Services		Combined Costs	
		Common	Advancement (Incl. Together One)		
International Missions	\$4,000,000	\$773,810	\$369,048	\$5,142,857	24%
Domestic Missions <small>(Incl. Youth Gathering)</small>	\$5,200,000	\$1,005,952	\$479,762	\$6,685,714	31%
Ecclesiastical Services <small>(Incl. Convention)</small>	\$3,900,000	\$754,464	\$359,821	\$5,014,286	23%
Higher Education <small>(Incl. Vicarage and PD conf.)</small>	\$2,400,000	\$464,286	\$221,429	\$3,085,714	14%
Communication	\$1,300,000	\$251,488	\$119,940	\$1,671,429	8%
Sub-total	\$16,800,000	\$3,250,000	\$1,550,000		
Total	78%	15%	7%	\$21,600,000	100%

RESOLUTION 26.1.01 TO DECLINE OVERTURE 1.01

(Reference Overture 1.01)

WHEREAS Statutory Bylaw 15.11 states that the Personnel Committee of the Board of Directors “shall develop policies to be administered by the chief administrative officer governing the employment and remuneration of all executive staff and employees of LCC”; and

WHEREAS the proposed change to the title of the Associate Director – Family Ministries would suggest a corresponding change to the position’s remuneration; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that Overture 1.01 be respectfully declined; and be it finally

RESOLVED that the title change proposed in Overture 1.01 be referred to the Personnel Committee of the Board of Directors for consideration.

Committee #1

RESOLUTION 26.1.02 TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE 2022 HANDBOOK

(Reference Overture 1.02, 1.08, and 1.09)

WHEREAS the Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure (CCMS) of LCC has as one of its mandates to “Conduct a continuing review of the structure of LCC...” (*Cf. Synodical Bylaw 2.063a.1*); and

WHEREAS this review has been completed; and

WHEREAS it would take too much Convention time to approve each update one at a time; and

WHEREAS sufficient time on the Convention floor to discuss and approve additional changes to the proposed LCC 2026 Handbook will be allotted at this Convention; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that LCC in Convention approve the following changes to the 2022 Handbook as a whole:

Statutory Bylaws

8.19 Each region shall send one advisory delegate for every 30 advisory pastors (or fraction thereof) and one advisory delegate for every 30 deacons (or fraction thereof) on the roster of the Synod assigned to the region. Any rostered pastor is advisory if he is not a voting delegate. Each region shall be entitled to at least one advisory delegate in each category. Additionally, one deacon at large shall be elected so that a minimum of four deacons (at least one from each region by numerical representation and one deacon at large) shall act as advisory delegates at convention. Whether the election occurs in person or remotely, nominations should be sought from the

- 1 region's advisory pastors (in relation to the pastoral advisory delegate) and the region's deacons
 2 (in relation to the diaconal delegate) prior to voting. The election of the deacon at large shall be
 3 made by a paper or electronic ballot arranged by the ~~Regional Pastor~~ *secretary*, with nominations
 4 from the deacons of LCC preceding the election and with each deacon on the roster eligible to
 5 participate. The elections of the regional diaconal delegates and the election of the deacon at large
 6 shall not run concurrently so as to allow unelected nominees from one election to be nominated
 7 for the other. Such elections must be completed at least 90 days prior to the opening day of the
 8 Convention. ~~The Regional Pastor will inform the Secretary of the Synod of the results.~~
- 9 11.21 The Board may fill any vacancy on the Board, or in the office of the vice-president, *or regional*
 10 *pastor*, by appointment of a qualified individual to hold such office for the balance of the
 11 unexpired term.
- 12 11.23 The Board shall appoint the chief administrative officer who shall be an employee of LCC. The
 13 chief administrative officer shall discharge the non-ecclesiastical responsibilities assigned to the
 14 chief administrative officer by the Board and shall supervise the activities of all *non-*
 15 *ecclesiastical* employees of LCC ~~other than the president and the regional pastors~~. The chief
 16 administrative officer shall be responsible for preparing annual budgets to be presented to the
 17 Board as well as preparing a four-year forecast to be presented to each quadrennial Convention.
 18 The chief administrative officer shall encourage offerings for the work of LCC on regional,
 19 national and international levels; keep an exact record of all moneys received and expended by
 20 LCC; administer LCC's financial affairs; and at any time submit to an examination of the chief
 21 administrative officer's books and accounts by an auditing committee when so ordered by the
 22 Board or a Convention.
- 23
- 24 Synodical Constitution
- 25 Article VII (Cf. Synodical Bylaws, ~~1.21b~~ *1.011b*)
- 26 Synodical Bylaws
- 27 1.009 Every pastor and every deacon shall, in accordance with ~~his~~ *their* vocation, ~~his~~ *their* ability, and
 28 the means at ~~his~~ *their* command, diligently and earnestly promote the purposes of the Synod by
 29 word, deed, and adequate financial support.
- 30 1.011d A pastor or a deacon who is an Individual Member serving an educational institution which is a
 31 part of the Synodical Family shall be under the ecclesiastical supervision of the ~~president~~ *regional*
 32 *pastor*.
- 33 1.013b During the period that the suspension is in effect, the Member shall have "Suspended Status" as
 34 provided by bylaw 5.037 and shall be ineligible for service in Lutheran Church-Canada ~~or a~~
 35 *congregation*. All records of Lutheran Church-Canada shall reflect this fact.
- 36 1.019b The elected officers of Lutheran Church-Canada serve ~~LCC~~ in accordance with the
 37 responsibilities assigned to them by the Statutory Bylaws, Synodical Constitution and these
 38 Bylaws or by a Convention.
- 39 c. The Board of Directors serves ~~LCC~~ in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to it by the
 40 Statutory Bylaws, Synodical Constitution and these Bylaws or by a Convention.
- 41 d. Each commission ~~also~~ serves ~~LCC~~ in a specific area of program or ministry in accordance with
 42 the Synodical Constitution and these Bylaws.
- 43 2.003 Congregations shall not require their delegates to vote in accordance with specific instructions,
 44 but every delegate shall be permitted to vote according to his or her own conviction. Delegates
 45 are nevertheless responsible to their congregation, whom they represent, and shall attempt to
 46 discover the sentiment of the communicant members thereof. They shall be expected to be

- 1 faithful in attendance at all sessions of the Convention. After each Convention they shall report
 2 the actions of the Convention to their congregation. *The delegate will serve until the next*
 3 *Convention.*
- 4 2.007f All reports and overtures accepted by the president in accordance with the foregoing paragraphs
 5 shall be referred by him to convention committees appointed by him in the name of the
 6 Convention from among the voting delegates and advisors. Pastors, deacons (to the extent
 7 possible), and laymen shall be represented on all committees. The president shall notify
 8 committee members of their appointment and of the time and place of their first meeting no later
 9 than twelve (12) weeks before the start of the Convention. The committee rosters shall be
 10 published in the official periodicals of LCC, at least one of which must appear no less than 10
 11 weeks before the Convention.
- 12 After due consideration of the matters referred to it, each committee is to report its findings and
 13 recommendations to the Convention. ~~The sole purpose of the committees is to organize the~~
 14 ~~overtures received and present them as resolutions to the convention. The committees shall not~~
 15 ~~change the intent of the overtures submitted. They may combine overtures on a similar topic into~~
 16 ~~one resolution as long as the intention of each overture is honoured in the combined resolution.~~
 17 ~~When presenting a resolution, committees may recommend to the convention that it be defeated;~~
 18 ~~they shall not present a resolution to decline an overture except for those referenced in Synodical~~
 19 ~~Bylaw 2.007c. The committees shall not create or present resolutions that do not originate from~~
 20 ~~properly submitted reports and overtures.~~ If the president deems it advisable, he may convene any
 21 committees prior to the opening of the Convention. The first issue of Today's Business shall be
 22 issued containing tentative resolutions. This issue of Today's Business shall be sent to all
 23 registered delegates of the Convention and to each Member Congregation.
- 24 2.031 Individuals shall be elected with one appointment by the president ~~at Convention~~ to the following
 25 commissions:
- 26 d. A Commission ~~for~~ on Nominations and Elections (CNE)
- 27 2.069c The president, ~~in consultation with the vice-president,~~ shall appoint one additional member.
- 28 2.087b The president, ~~in consultation with the vice-president,~~ shall appoint one additional member.
- 29 2.093 The president, vice-president and the regional pastors shall form the President's Ministry Council.
 30 The Council shall meet at least bi-annually and in addition at the call of the president or at the
 31 request of ~~one-third~~ *two* of the members of the President's Ministry Council:
- 32 2.093d To give guidance regarding inter-church relations: (re-letter the subsequent bullet points)
- 33 2.099a The CNE shall nominate candidates for all individual and group positions except the president, ~~or~~
 34 ~~vice-president,~~ *regional pastors, and circuit counsellors.*
- 35 2.099g.6 The CNE shall notify each candidate and shall secure his approval in writing for
 36 inclusion of his name on the convention ballot. Each candidate shall reply within ten (10) days as
 37 to his willingness to serve if elected.
- 38 2.099h.6 The CNE shall notify each candidate and shall secure his approval in writing for
 39 inclusion of his name on the convention ballot. Each candidate shall reply within ten (10) days as
 40 to his willingness to serve if elected.
- 41 2.101j Candidates shall be vetted by the president in consultation with the Regional Pastors. Regional
 42 pastors being considered for re-election shall recuse themselves from the vetting process
 43 *delegates in the nominating and election processes.*
- 44 2.101k Regional Mission and Ministry Councils
 45 Candidates shall be vetted by the delegates in the nominating and election processes.

- 1 2.101kl Candidates shall be vetted by the regional pastor in consultation with the other pastors and
2 deacons in the same circuit. Circuit counsellors being considered for re-election shall recuse
3 themselves from the vetting process *delegates in the nominating and election processes.*
- 4 2.101lm The CNE shall confirm the previous vetting of anyone nominated from the floor for any
5 elected position *except for the offices of president, vice-president, regional pastor, and circuit*
6 *counsellor.* Nominations from the floor shall be accepted if the conditions for candidacy
7 including vetting are fulfilled.
- 8 2.103e An elected officer can hold an appointed position in addition to their elected office but not
9 another elected office. (Cf. Synodical Bylaw ~~2.75~~ 2.051)
- 10 2.103f.3 Regional Pastors to be elected only by voting delegates of that region.
- 11 2.103f.4 Circuit Counsellors to be elected only by voting delegates of that circuit.
- 12 2.103f.10 Regional Mission and Missionary Councils to be elected only by voting delegates of that
13 region.
- 14 3.005 The expectations of a regional pastor include:
- 15 a. Visit each Member located in his region ~~annually~~ *at least once every four years* in addition to specific
16 invitations he may receive from Member Congregations and Individual Members in that region,
- 17 4.001 At least two years before each Convention, Regional Pastors and Regional Mission and Ministry
18 Councils shall review the composition of Circuits in their region and recommend re-drawing
19 ~~Each~~ circuit boundaries such that each shall consist of not less than ~~three~~ six or more than twelve
20 congregations ~~involving~~ comprising an aggregate communicant membership of a maximum of
21 8,000 ~~10,000.~~ ~~Exceptions to these requirements and limitations can be made only by the president~~
22 ~~upon request of a Regional Mission and Ministry Council.~~
- 23 4.005 Every Member congregation in each circuit shall nominate as candidates for the office of circuit
24 counsellor two men from among the pastors of congregations of the circuit or from among the
25 emeriti who hold membership in one of the member congregations of that circuit. The
26 nominations shall be made at least three months prior to the elections and shall be submitted to
27 the secretary. Candidates shall be vetted by the Regional Pastor in consultation with the other
28 pastors and deacons in the same circuit. Circuit Counsellors being considered for re-election shall
29 recuse themselves from the vetting process. The qualifications for this position include:
- 30 a. Membership in good standing on the roster,
- 31 b. Demonstrated spiritual and pastoral leadership,
- 32 The names of the vetted candidates shall be submitted to the Commission on Nominations and
33 Elections. The Commission on Nominations and Elections shall provide an open ballot at the
34 Convention providing the Commission on Nominations and Elections has confirmed the vetting
35 of anyone nominated from the floor and that such candidates meet the conditions for candidacy.
36 The election of circuit counsellor shall be made by the delegates of the respective circuit
37 providing the Commission on Nominations and Elections has confirmed the vetting of anyone
38 nominated from the floor and that such candidates meet the conditions for candidacy. The
39 regional pastor, in consultation with the president, shall fill any vacancies for circuit counsellor
40 that may occur between Conventions.
- 41 (Renumber B. Officers 1. Circuit Counsellor)
- 42 4.009c The regional pastor, in consultation with the president, shall fill any vacancies for circuit
43 counsellor that may occur between Conventions.
- 44 4.013 *A Non-member congregation is one that has not had a congregational constitution submitted to*
45 *Synod for review and approval.* The jurisdiction of circuit counsellors shall include non-member

- 1 congregations whose pastors are Members of LCC, but for the purpose of official visits in such a
 2 congregation the consent of the congregation shall first be secured.
- 3 4.023e Allow for *confidential* sharing of cases of ~~ecclesial~~ *ministry anomalies and challenges* in
 4 ~~confidence~~ within the circuit pastors group.
- 5 5.001a.2 Member Congregations which violate this requirement and persist in such violation shall
 6 after due admonition *from the Regional Pastor* forfeit their membership in Lutheran Church-
 7 Canada.
- 8 5.001b.1 The term "deacon" shall include both male and female Members of the diaconate who
 9 have accepted a call having been:
 10 (i) Prepared and certified in our church's professional church worker program (~~e.g. teacher,~~
 11 ~~director of parish services, parish nurse~~);
 12 (ii) Prepared and certified through a certified program of the LCMS (e.g. teacher, Director of
 13 Christian Education, Director of Evangelism, deaconess, parish worker, lay minister).
- 14 5.003 Member Congregations shall seek the advice of the respective regional pastors *and Circuit*
 15 *Counsellor* when calling pastors or deacons.
- 16 5.005a a. Lutheran congregations not members of LCC making application to LCC for pastors or
 17 deacons to serve them shall also have the benefit of such official advice from the appropriate
 18 regional pastor *and Circuit Counsellor*.
- 19 5.009 A pastor if requested by a ~~non-Lutheran~~ congregation *outside of our Synodical fellowship* without
 20 a minister to fill its pulpit, may do so for a longer or shorter period of time, in order that such a
 21 congregation may hear the Word of God expounded in its truth and purity. Under such
 22 circumstances a pastor will not ~~publicly~~ celebrate the Lord's Supper *with any person* in that
 23 congregation. If such a congregation desires to extend a regular call to a pastor, the conditions as
 24 provided in bylaw 5.007c must be observed.
- 25 5.013a.1 He shall have completed the prescribed courses of study and have received a diploma
 26 from a seminary which has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding or have fulfilled the
 27 requisites for colloquy according to the Handbook, Bylaws 5.047 to ~~5.061 5.063~~, or have
 28 completed all requisites for the PAT program according to 5.089.
- 29 5.035e The records maintained by the respective regional pastor shall reflect the restricted status. In
 30 addition, the regional pastor shall notify in writing the president and all other ~~district presidents~~
 31 *regional pastors* of such restricted status. The regional pastor shall also notify the congregation or
 32 other agency being served by the Member of the restricted status to take appropriate action so that
 33 the rights of both the Member and congregation or other agency are preserved.
- 34 5.043 The order for the ordination and commissioning, or commissioning of a missionary called into a
 35 foreign field shall be issued ~~upon the request of by~~ the Board *upon the request of the International*
 36 *Missions Committee by the regional pastor of that region in which the missionary resides*. The
 37 order for the commissioning of missionaries for service within a region of the Synod shall be
 38 issued *by the Board upon the request of the* regional pastor of that region.
- 39 5.073 After the regional pastor has furnished the Committee with the required documents the committee
 40 shall publish the request of the applicant in the official periodical(s) of LCC. ~~Within a reasonable~~
 41 ~~amount of time the~~ *The* Committee shall either accept or deny the application based on the
 42 information it receives in the application process *and render its decision within six months*. Its
 43 decision shall not be subject to any appeal.
- 44 5.083 The PAT Committee is composed of four members who serve ~~two~~ *four*-year terms: the PAT
 45 Coordinator *appointed by the PAT Committee*, one member appointed by each seminary and one
 46 member of the President's Ministry Council, who shall serve as chairman of the PAT Committee.

1 5.089b The program includes onsite training under the tutelage of a local mentoring pastor. Regular
2 interviews will be conducted with the PAT student by regional pastors, seminary representatives,
3 and the ~~supervisor~~ *coordinator* of the program.

4 5.089d In consultation with the PAT Committee, the ~~supervisor~~ *coordinator* shall administer the
5 appropriate qualifying program and, when all requirements have been met, the PAT Committee
6 will recommend the student to the President’s Ministry Council for certification.

7 VI. HIGHER EDUCATION ~~Section 1.~~ Seminaries

8 12.001a Requirements. An organization desiring auxiliary status may apply to the Convention, through the
9 Board, if it satisfies the following requirements:

10 5. It is classified by Canada ~~Customs and~~ Revenue Agency as a charitable organization;

11 12.001b Responsibilities. An approved auxiliary shall:

12 4. ~~K~~keep LCC advised of any new program under consideration;

13
14 and be it finally

15
16 RESOLVED that these changes be incorporated into the 2026 Handbook of LCC.

17
18 Committee #1

19
20
21 **RESOLUTION 26.1.03 TO AMEND SYNODICAL BYLAW 3.009.a.1**

22
23 (Reference Overture 1.03)

24
25 WHEREAS the current structure of the Regional Mission and Ministry Councils (RMMCs) does not
26 include rostered deacons; and

27
28 WHEREAS deacons are valuable members of Synod who serve in designated deacon roles on other
29 boards and commissions, and in advisory roles at Convention; and

30
31 WHEREAS the current wording of the Bylaw 3.009.a.1 excludes deacons from having an official role
32 on the RMMCs; and

33
34 WHEREAS excluding deacons from serving their regions with their unique and specific perspective
35 and gifts is a loss to the Synod; therefore be it

36
37 RESOLVED that if possible, each RMMC should include one deacon currently serving in the
38 applicable region; and be it finally

39
40 RESOLVED that Bylaw 3.009.a.1 be amended to include the following as the final sentence: “If there
41 is a deacon in a region who is willing and able to serve on the RMMC, he or she shall be
42 appointed to the RMMC by the Regional Pastor.”

43
44 Committee #1

45
46

RESOLUTION 26.1.04 TO AMEND SYNODICAL BYLAW 5.039 REINSTATEMENT

(Reference Overture 1.04)

WHEREAS the Synodical Bylaws provide provision for reinstatement of a Pastor or Deacon to the roster of LCC (Synodical Bylaw 5.039); and

WHEREAS the current procedure allows for only a yes or no by the President’s Ministry Council; and

WHEREAS there may be situations where it is more appropriate for the President’s Ministry Council to conditionally reinstate a Pastor or Deacon; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the text of Synodical Bylaw 5.039 be amended to read:

All applications for reinstatement to the clergy or diaconal roster shall be addressed to the regional pastor of the region in which the applicant resided at the time his membership was suspended. The regional pastor shall review the matter and report it to the President’s Ministry Council, with or without recommendation. ~~The President’s Ministry Council shall decide the issue by means of a written ballot.~~

The President’s Ministry Council may decide yes, no, or a conditional reinstatement. A conditional reinstatement may include provisions of necessary supervision, internship, training, and the like. The applicant shall be made aware of the conditions and expectations required to remove the conditions.

If the applicant is reinstated, the Regional Pastor shall announce this fact in the official periodicals of LCC;

And be it finally

RESOLVED that the Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure make any appropriate modifications to the LCC Synodical Bylaws in other places to carry through these provisions.

Committee #1

RESOLUTION 26.1.05 TO AMEND SYNODICAL BYLAWS REGARDING THE ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT IN RESTRICTED AND SUSPENDED STATUS

(Reference Overture 1.05)

WHEREAS prior to restructuring, the individual Districts were separately incorporated entities; and

WHEREAS as such the District President was the chief ecclesiastical officer of the District and therefore it was appropriate that the District President was responsible for restricting or suspending members; and

1 WHEREAS since restructuring there is only one corporation with the Synod President as chief
2 ecclesiastical officer (Statutory Bylaw Article XI 11.11); therefore be it

3
4 RESOLVED that the Synodical Bylaws be amended to provide that the Synod President as chief
5 ecclesiastical officer be responsible for restricting or suspending members; and be it
6 further

7
8 RESOLVED that the following amendments be made to the Synodical Bylaws to reflect this, namely:

9
10 1.013.a be amended to read:

11
12 If information with respect to a pastor or deacon who is a Member of Lutheran Church-Canada is made
13 known to or becomes known by the Regional Pastor and the Regional Pastor, after a reasonable
14 investigation, believes that there may be a basis, given the nature of the circumstances, for suspending the
15 membership of the person, the regional pastor *shall make report to the President. The President in*
16 *consultation with the PMC* may suspend that person's membership until the matter is satisfactorily
17 resolved or the applicable reconciliation and adjudication procedures, as set forth in Chapter VII of these
18 Bylaws, can be completed.

19
20 And 5.035.a be amended to read:

21
22 a. A pastor or deacon may have his status restricted to the extent deemed necessary and appropriate
23 by the ~~regional pastor who has ecclesiastical supervision of the Member.~~ *President as chief ecclesiastical*
24 *officer. The President in consultation with the PMC* ~~The regional pastor~~ may take this action if
25 information with respect to such Member provides a substantial basis to conclude that such a Member...
26

27 And 5.035.d be amended to read:

28
29 d. Restricted status shall normally be limited to one year. To extend the restricted status beyond this
30 period, the ~~regional pastor~~ *President* shall ~~secure the approval of~~ *consult with* the President's Ministry
31 Council. ~~Such approval must be secured~~ *This extension shall* be reviewed annually until such time as the
32 ~~regional pastor~~ *President* removes this status. In such cases, the ~~regional pastor~~ *President* shall thereafter
33 notify the pastor or deacon on restricted status in writing as to the reasons for such continuance of
34 restricted status...
35

36 And 5.035.e be amended to read:

37
38 e. The records maintained by the ~~respective regional pastor~~ *President* shall reflect the restricted
39 status. In addition, the ~~regional pastor~~ *President* shall notify in writing the ~~president and~~ *all Regional*
40 *Pastors* and ~~other LCMS~~ district presidents of such restricted status. The ~~regional pastor~~ *President* shall
41 also notify the congregation or other agency being served by the Member of the restricted status to take
42 appropriate action so that the rights of both the Member and congregation or other agency are preserved.
43

44 And 5.037.c be amended to read:

45

1 c. When a Member is placed on suspended status, the ~~regional pastor~~ *President* as chief
2 ecclesiastical officer shall

3
4 2. notify, in writing, ~~the president~~ all other regional pastors of the affected Member's suspended status;

5
6 And be it finally

7
8 RESOLVED that the Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure make any appropriate
9 modifications to the LCC Synodical Bylaws in other places to carry through these
10 provisions.

11
12 Committee #1

13
14
15
16
17 **RESOLUTION 26.1.06 TO AMEND SYNODICAL BYLAW 3.005**

18
19 (Reference Overture 1.06)

20
21 WHEREAS prior to restructuring the District Presidents were "entitled to attend and to participate in
22 meetings of the Board as non-voting advisors." (Statutory Bylaw 11.04, 2014 LCC
23 Handbook); and

24
25 WHEREAS the Regional Pastors are the equivalent successor role to that of the District Presidents;
26 and

27
28 WHEREAS the Regional Pastors are the closest source of information for the Board of what is
29 happening amongst the pastors, deacons, and congregations of Lutheran Church-Canada;
30 and

31
32 WHEREAS the Regional Pastors are not merely staff of LCC but rather are called Pastors exercising
33 ecclesiastical oversight in their respective regions and through the PMC; and

34
35 WHEREAS the right to provide input at the Board of Director meetings was removed from the 2017
36 Handbook; therefore be it

37
38 RESOLVED that Synodical Bylaw 3.005 be amended as follows:

39
40 d. Attend all meetings of the Board of Directors, exercising voice but no vote.

41 ~~e.~~ Attend all meetings of the Regional Mission and Ministry Council,

42 ~~e.~~ *f.* Attend all meetings of the President's Ministry Council.

43 ~~f.~~ *g.* Work collaboratively with the president, the Regional Mission and Ministry Council, circuit
44 counsellors and the Members in that region,

45 ~~g.~~ *h.* Negotiate other expectations in the annual review process.

46

1 And be it finally

2
3 RESOLVED that the Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure make any appropriate
4 modifications to the LCC Synodical Bylaws in other places to carry through these
5 provisions.

6
7 Committee #1

8
9
10
11 **RESOLUTION 26.1.07 TO AMEND SYNODICAL BYLAW 5.033**

12
13 (Reference Overture 1.07)

14
15 WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 5.033 provides for pastors and deacons to be on Candidate Status in
16 such a way that requires their ability to perform the full duties of 5.029 (Active Status);
17 and

18
19 WHEREAS there are situations where a pastor or deacon may be able to serve in a limited capacity;
20 therefore be it

21 RESOLVED that bylaw 5.033 be amended as follows:

22
23 CURRENT:

24 5.033 Candidate Status

25 a. A pastor or deacon who is eligible to perform the duties of the offices of ministry specified in
26 bylaw 5.029 but who is not currently performing those duties and who is not retired may be retained on
27 the roster upon application for such status to the regional pastor for a period of two consecutive years. For
28 the extension of the candidate status beyond two consecutive years, a bi-annual application from the
29 candidate as well as an evaluation by the regional pastor of the region of which the candidate is a Member
30 shall be required. The President's Ministry Council shall determine whether or not requests for candidate
31 status shall be granted, extended, or discontinued.

32 b. Among criteria for determining whether candidate status should be granted or extended are: the
33 health of the applicant; family considerations; the extent of his/her current involvement on a part-time and
34 assisting basis in the ministry of Word and Sacrament; a demonstrated history and current ability of being
35 able to perform the duties of an active pastor or deacon serving a Member Congregation or other position
36 recognized by LCC; a demonstrated willingness to consider a call or appointment to a position recognized
37 by LCC.

38
39 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

40 5.033 Candidate Status

41 a. A pastor or deacon may apply for either Full Candidate Status or Limited Candidate Status.

42
43 b. **Full Candidate Status:** A pastor or deacon who is eligible to perform the duties of the offices
44 specified in bylaw 5.029 but who is not currently performing those duties and who is not retired may be
45 retained on the roster upon application for Full Candidate Status to the regional pastor for a period of two
46 consecutive years. For the extension of the candidate status beyond two consecutive years, a biennial

1 application from the candidate as well as an evaluation by the regional pastor of the region of which the
2 candidate is a Member shall be required. The President’s Ministry Council shall determine whether or not
3 requests for Full Candidate Status shall be granted, extended, or discontinued.

4
5 c. While on Full Candidate Status, the pastor or deacon is eligible for a call.

6
7 d. **Limited Candidate Status:** A pastor or deacon who is eligible to perform the duties of the offices
8 of ministry specified in bylaw 5.029 in a limited capacity but who is not currently performing those duties
9 and who is not retired may be retained on the roster upon application for Limited Candidate Status to the
10 regional pastor for a period of two consecutive years. For the extension of the Limited Candidate Status
11 beyond two consecutive years, a biennial application from the candidate as well as an evaluation by the
12 regional pastor of the region of which the candidate is a Member shall be required. The President’s
13 Ministry Council shall determine whether or not requests for Limited Candidate Status shall be granted,
14 extended, or discontinued.

15
16 e. While on Limited Candidate Status, the pastor or deacon is not eligible for a call.

17
18 f. Among the criteria for determining whether a candidate shall be granted or extended either Full
19 or Limited Candidate Status are: the health of the applicant; family considerations; the extent of his/her
20 current involvement on a part-time and assisting basis in ministry; a demonstrated history and current
21 ability of being able to perform the duties of an active pastor or deacon serving a Member Congregation
22 or other position recognized by LCC; a demonstrated willingness to consider a call or appointment to a
23 position recognized by LCC.

24
25 g. A candidate or his or her Regional Pastor may request a change from Limited Candidate Status to
26 Full Candidate Status if circumstances change. The President’s Ministry Council shall determine whether
27 or not such a request shall be granted.

28
29 Committee #1

30
31
32
33 **RESOLUTION 26.1.08 TO REQUEST THAT A NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING**
34 **COMMITTEE BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF STANDING**
35 **COMMITTEES**

36
37 (Reference Overture 1.10)

38
39 WHEREAS LCC’s National Youth Gathering (NYG) has been a valuable triennial event for youth and
40 adults across LCC; and

41
42 WHEREAS the NYG was operated under the auspices of the LCC Board for Parish Services (BPS)
43 which oversaw all Synodical Youth programming from 1989 to 2002
44

- 1 WHEREAS the NYG has operated independently since the BPS was dissolved in 2002 and desires to
2 be within the formal structure of LCC for the purposes of support, encouragement,
3 resource sharing, and the like; and
4 WHEREAS the Board of Directors and the NYG Committee have been working together over the past
5 quadrennium to formalize the relationship between the NYG and LCC; and
6
7 WHEREAS the Board of Directors approved a motion in October of 2025 making the National Youth
8 Gathering Committee an Ad Hoc Committee of LCC with the goal of seeking approval at
9 the 2026 LCC Convention for making the National Youth Gathering Committee a
10 Standing Committee of LCC; therefore be it
11
12 RESOLVED That Article XV Section 15.03 of the Statutory Bylaws be amended by adding to the list
13 of standing committees the following “National Youth Gathering Committee”; and be it
14 finally
15
16 RESOLVED That a new section be added to Article XV as follows “The National Youth Gathering
17 Committee shall plan, organize, and carry out the National Youth Gathering every three
18 years or at some other time frame as may be established.”
19

20 Committee #1
21
22

23 **RESOLUTION 26.1.09 TO REQUEST THAT AN ARCHIVES COMMITTEE BE ADDED TO**
24 **THE LIST OF STANDING COMMITTEES**
25

26 (Reference Overture 1.11)
27

- 28 WHEREAS In October of 2023 the Board of Directors of LCC approved the appointment of an ad hoc
29 Archives Committee to formulate, review, and recommend policies relating to the orderly
30 acquiring, preserving, processing, and making available the records and cultural
31 properties of Lutheran Church-Canada, its Boards, Committees, Regions, Agencies,
32 Institutions, Auxiliaries, and Listed Service Organizations; and
33
34 WHEREAS In November of 2024 the Board of Directors of LCC approved a motion stating that the
35 Lutheran Church-Canada Board of Directors adopts as a long-term goal to have a
36 centralized archive for Synod; and
37
38 WHEREAS LCC has recently taken over ownership of the Malinsky Archives, formerly owned by
39 Lutheran East District; and
40
41 WHEREAS In October of 2025 the Board of directors of LCC approved a motion to sponsor an
42 overture to the 2026 Convention to amend the Handbook to create an Archives Standing
43 Committee; therefore be it
44
45 RESOLVED That Article XV Section 15.03 of the Statutory Bylaws be amended by adding to the list
46 of standing committees the following “Archives Committee”; and be it finally

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

RESOLVED That a new section be added to Article XV as follows “The Archives committee shall formulate, review, and recommend policies relating to the orderly acquiring, preserving, and making available the records and cultural properties of Lutheran Church-Canada, its Boards, Committees, and Regions and, upon request, assist where possible, it’s Agencies, Institutions, Auxiliaries, and Listed Service Organizations with the same.

Committee #1

RESOLUTION 26.1.10 TO AMEND SYNODICAL BYLAW 3.019 TO ALLOW SUB-REGIONAL PASTORS AND DEACONS CONFERENCES TO SUBMIT OVERTURES TO CONVENTION

(Reference Overture 1.12)

WHEREAS the West and Central Regions of LCC are geographically vast; and

WHEREAS these distances make travel costs to a Pastors and Deacons conference of the full Region exorbitant, so that in both Regions full Regional conferences only happen once a quadrennium, and sub-Regional conferences for the Pastors and Deacons are the norm, and those sub-Regions have been for many years defined as follows (Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba/northwest Ontario); and

WHEREAS East Region’s travel and room and board costs are such that they are able to have official conferences of the full region twice a year; and

WHEREAS this circumstance disadvantages West and Central Regions from discussing, considering, and submitting overtures for the benefit of Lutheran Church-Canada;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Conferences of sub-Regions (as defined by the PMC) be authorized to submit overtures to Convention; and be it finally

RESOLVED that Synodical Bylaw 3.019.c be amended as follows:
c. The plenary and the sectional meetings of official conferences and of official conferences of sub-Regions (as defined by the PMC) may adopt and submit overtures to the Convention.

Committee #1

RESOLUTION 26.2.01 TO REMOVE TIME LIMITS FROM THE CALL OF REGIONAL PASTORS AND SYNOD PRESIDENT

(Reference Overture 2.01)

WHEREAS historically District Presidents have been called the “Pastor of the Pastors,” and

WHEREAS our Regional Pastors are called “Pastors” and are required to be rostered clergy men, and

WHEREAS continuity of leadership contributes to the stability of the church, and

WHEREAS the Board of Directors issues “Diplomas of Vocation” to newly elected Regional Pastors and Synod Presidents on behalf of Synod, and

WHEREAS our Directors of Domestic and International Missions and Associate Director—Family Ministries are all regularly called without time limits, and

WHEREAS pastors in congregations are called by elections of their congregation and issued a non-time-limited call by virtue of the Divine nature of the call, and

WHEREAS these offices would be subjected to the same disciplinary procedures as any other called servant of the church; therefore be it

RESOLVED that upon initial election Regional Pastors and Synod Presidents be called to their position without time limit, removing the necessity to be re-elected at subsequent conventions until they retire, accept another call, are incapacitated, or removed for appropriate Scriptural reasons from their call.

Committee #2

RESOLUTION 26.2.02 TERMINOLOGY FOR REGIONAL PASTORS AND SYNOD PRESIDENT

(Reference Overture 2.02)

WHEREAS Scriptural language is always to be preferred usage in the church, and the term “Bishop” is the Scriptural term derived from the Greek word episkopos (1 Timothy 3:1; 1 Peter 2:25), and

WHEREAS “bishop” is likewise the presumed term in our Lutheran Confessions without an expectation of deviation from it (Apology XIV.1 [24]), and

WHEREAS we already function practically with an episcopal structure without using the term “bishop,” and

1 WHEREAS “bishop” as a term for ecclesiastical oversight is already widely used and understood in
2 the broader church and secular world, and is often used when our Synod President and
3 Regional Pastors describe their position to others, and
4

5 WHEREAS “president” is a term that often carries secular baggage, and the Church is to be separate
6 from the world, and
7

8 WHEREAS many of our partner churches abroad call their ecclesiastical supervisors “Bishops,”;
9 therefore be it
10

11 RESOLVED that Regional Pastors be called “Regional Bishops,” Synod President be called
12 “Synodical Bishop,” and Synodical Vice President be called “Assistant to the Synodical
13 Bishop,” and the Synod Handbook be adjusted accordingly.
14

15 Committee #2
16
17
18

19 **RESOLUTION 26.2.03 TO RECOGNIZE THAT LUTHERAN CHURCH—CANADA (LCC) IS**
20 **NO LONGER IN ALTAR AND PULPIT FELLOWSHIP WITH THE**
21 **LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND**
22 **(LCANZ)**
23

24 (Reference Overture 2.03)
25

26 WHEREAS Holy Scripture clearly teaches that only qualified men should be called and ordained into
27 the office of the holy ministry (see 1 Timothy 2-3, 1 Corinthians 14, LCC’s CTCR
28 Report, ‘Theses on the Role of Women in the Church’, that was adopted for guidance and
29 reference at our 1996 Convention and reaffirmed at our 2022 Convention); and
30

31 WHEREAS the LCANZ officially approved the ordination of women into the pastoral office at its
32 October 2024 Convention, and is now ordaining women into the pastoral office; and
33

34 WHEREAS on March 21, 2025 the Board of Directors of the International Lutheran Council (ILC), of
35 which Lutheran Church—Canada is a full member, removed the Lutheran Church of
36 Australia and New Zealand (LCANZ) from membership in the ILC over its decision to
37 depart from the clear teaching of Scripture and the doctrinal standards of the ILC by
38 approving the ordination of women; and
39

40 WHEREAS differences in doctrine and practice exist between the LCC and the LCANZ, not only on
41 this issue of the ordination of women to the pastoral office, but also on other matters such
42 as the authority of the scriptures, the scriptural understanding of church fellowship, and
43 the doctrine and practice of close[d] communion; and
44

45 WHEREAS LCC understands altar and pulpit fellowship to be a gift of God that exists by His grace
46 on the basis of agreement in doctrine and practice; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED that with deep sorrow and regret Lutheran Church—Canada declare its recognition that it
2 is no longer in altar and pulpit fellowship with the Lutheran Church of Australia and New
3 Zealand; and be it finally
4

5 RESOLVED that LCC commit itself to pursuing further doctrinal discussions with the LCA NZ in the
6 hope that by God’s grace our church bodies might once again attain agreement in doctrine
7 and practice and so enjoy the gift of God-given and God-pleasing altar and pulpit
8 fellowship.
9

10 Committee #2
11
12

13 **RESOLUTION 26.2.04 TO RECOGNIZE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LUTHERAN MISSION –**
14 **AUSTRALIA**

15 (Reference Overture 2.04)
16

17 WHEREAS as a result of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand (LCA NZ) approval and
18 sanctioning of the ordination of women into the office of the holy ministry at its 2024
19 Convention, which is clearly contrary to the Scriptures; some pastors, lay members, and
20 congregations have left that church body and established Lutheran Mission – Australia
21 (LM-A); and
22

23 WHEREAS Lutheran Church—Canada in a previous adopted resolution sadly recognized that this
24 action on the part of the LCA NZ has severed the bond of fellowship between our two
25 churches; and
26

27 WHEREAS discussions have taken place between representatives of Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC)
28 and Lutheran Mission – Australia (LM-A); and
29

30 WHEREAS these discussions have revealed a clear unity in the doctrine of the Gospel and all its
31 articles and in the right administration of the Sacraments (AC VII); and
32

33 WHEREAS the LCC’s Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) has reviewed the
34 report of these discussions and has concurred with this mutual agreement between LCC
35 and LM-A; and
36

37 WHEREAS the CTCR views the benefits of fellowship to be a future blessing from the Lord of the
38 Church for both church bodies; therefore be it
39

40 RESOLVED that LCC recognize that a state of altar and pulpit fellowship exists between Lutheran
41 Church—Canada and Lutheran Mission – Australia.
42

43 Committee #2
44
45

**RESOLUTION 26.2.05 TO RECOGNIZE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN THE PHILIPPINES (LCP)**

(Reference Overture 2.05)

WHEREAS the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP) dates to 1946 when missionaries from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) arrived in Manila; and

WHEREAS in 1971 the Lutheran Church in the Philippines was received as a partner church with the LCMS; and

WHEREAS the Lutheran Church in the Philippines is a full member of the International Lutheran Council (ILC), along with Lutheran Church—Canada, both churches subscribing to the doctrinal provision of the ILC; and

WHEREAS discussions have taken place between representatives of Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC) and the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP), revealing a clear unity in the doctrine of the Gospel and all its articles and in the right administration of the Sacraments (AC VII); and

WHEREAS the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of LCC has reviewed the report of these discussions and has concurred with this mutual agreement between LCC and the LCP; and

WHEREAS the CTCR views the benefits of fellowship to be a future blessing from the Lord of the Church for both church bodies – e.g. LCC assisting the LCP in theological education at their seminary, and LCP assisting LCC mission outreach to Filipino immigrants in Canada;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that LCC recognize that a state of altar and pulpit fellowship exists between Lutheran Church—Canada and the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

Committee #2

**RESOLUTION 26.2.06 TO CELEBRATE THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
PRESENTATION OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION**

(Reference Overture 2.06)

WHEREAS the Augsburg Confession is the foremost confession of faith of our Evangelical Lutheran Church; and

- 1 WHEREAS the Preface to the Book of Concord states: “Our disposition and intention has always
2 been directed toward the goal that no other doctrine be treated and taught in our lands,
3 territories, schools, and churches than that alone which is based on the Holy Scriptures of
4 God and is embodied in the Augsburg Confession . . . so that the pure teaching and
5 confession of the faith may be preserved and perpetuated among our posterity through the
6 help and assistance of the Holy Spirit until the glorious advent of our Redeemer and
7 Saviour Jesus Christ” (p. 12); and
8
- 9 WHEREAS Article II of our Synodical Constitution states that “every Member of Lutheran Church–
10 Canada accepts without reservation . . . the Unaltered Augsburg Confession . . . as a true
11 and unadulterated statement and exposition of the Word of God” (p. 9); and
12
- 13 WHEREAS every constitution of an LCC congregation contains a provision along these lines from
14 the ‘Sample Constitution and Bylaws for LCC Congregations’: “Only such hymns,
15 prayers, and liturgies shall be used in the public worship of this congregation and in all
16 ministerial acts as to conform to the confessional standard of Article III. Likewise, in all
17 classes for instruction in Christian doctrine, only such books shall be used as conform to
18 this standard” (p. 3); and
19
- 20 WHEREAS every pastor and deacon of LCC, at the time of their ordination/consecration/installation
21 into office, confesses the Unaltered Augsburg Confession “to be a true exposition of Holy
22 Scripture and a correct exhibition of the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church;”
23 and promises to “perform the duties of [their] office in accordance with these
24 Confessions“ (*Lutheran Service Book Agenda*, p. 179, 220); and
25
- 26 WHEREAS in his essay at the 1863 Convention of the LCMS, C. F. W. Walther said: “When we
27 discover how little most of our congregations know about the Symbols (confessional
28 writings), it must humble us deeply, and on the other hand become for us a mighty
29 incentive to familiarize the people with them and urge them to read [and study] them
30 diligently” (C.F.W. Walther, *Essays for the Church*, Vol. I, p. 78); and
31
- 32 WHEREAS the year 2030 will be the 500th Anniversary of the Presentation of the Augsburg
33 Confession; therefore be it
34
- 35 RESOLVED that the Synod President, in consultation with the Commission on Theology and Church
36 Relations, strike an anniversary committee to prepare and gather study guides, provide
37 worship materials, articles for The Canadian Lutheran periodical, and the like on the
38 Augsburg Confession; and be it further
39
- 40 RESOLVED that pastors, deacons and congregations be encouraged to make use of such materials;
41 and be it further
42
- 43 RESOLVED that circuit forums and convocations, regional gatherings, church workers conferences,
44 youth and young adult gatherings, LWMLC zone rallies, and the like be focused on this
45 anniversary; and be it further
46

1 RESOLVED that such materials be made available for dissemination to the pastors, deacons, and
2 congregations of LCC at least two years prior to our 2030 Convention; and be it finally
3

4 RESOLVED that the theme of the 2030 Synod Convention be based upon the Presentation of the
5 Augsburg Confession.
6

7 Committee #2
8
9

10 **RESOLUTION 26.2.07 FOR CONTINUED DISCUSSION AND FOLLOW THROUGH WITH A**
11 **LUTHERAN RESPONSE TO CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**
12

13 (Reference Overtures 2.08 and 2.10)
14

15 Whereas Lutheran Church – Canada at her 2022 Edmonton Convention, through Resolution
16 22.02.07, adopted the CTCR document, *A Lutheran Response to Contemporary Issues*, in
17 order to address, as indicated in the resolution's 'whereas', "sharp disagreements in
18 congregations and amongst clergy and congregations" about "how we as Christians
19 should respond when laws are proposed and presented, deliberated, and then eventually
20 passed by the secular government which impact the Church's teaching and freedom of
21 religion," and
22

23 Whereas in this resolution, the Synod also commended this CTCR document to the pastors and
24 congregations of Synod for further and continued "*study and response*," and
25

26 Whereas the intention of such resolution is that the Synod's unity and concord is best fostered and
27 cultivated when continued open and mutual discussion upon these matters on the basis of
28 the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions is encouraged as widely as possible
29 throughout Synod; therefore be it
30

31 Resolved that any significant response to the document *A Lutheran Response to Contemporary*
32 *Issues* be brought to the attention of the Synod at large in order to promote and
33 encourage the widest, most free and open discussion as possible on these issues upon the
34 basis of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions as called for by Resolution 22.02.07
35 for the continued cultivation of godly harmony and unity of doctrine and practice within
36 our Synod.
37

38 Committee #2
39
40
41

RESOLUTION 26.2.08 TO AVOID SCHEDULING SYNODICAL CONVENTION ON SUNDAYS

(Reference Overture 2.09)

WHEREAS both the 2022 and 2026 LCC national conventions have been scheduled to occur during Sundays, and

WHEREAS almost all pastors of Synod will be attending the convention, representing all the congregations of Synod, which will result in almost all the members of LCC being without a pastor to lead them during the Divine Service occurring during convention, and

WHEREAS it can be difficult for many congregations without retired or non-delegate pastors nearby to find lay members to lead services, and impossible for them to offer the Lord's Supper; therefore be it

RESOLVED that future LCC synodical conventions be scheduled to avoid Sunday so that all pastors may be free to be with their congregations to lead Divine Services as they were called to do.

Committee #2

RESOLUTION 26.2.09 TO RECOGNIZE LIMITATIONS ON PAT GRADUATE FIELDS OF SERVICE

(Reference Overture 2.11)

WHEREAS the Pastors with Alternate Training (PAT) programme was introduced to provide pastoral care in exceptional circumstances; and

WHEREAS through call and ordination PAT graduates are authorised to carry out the Word and Sacrament duties of the pastoral office in accord with Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS PAT graduates receive a limited theological education that does not meet the standards of a full, residential seminary pastoral formation programme; and

WHEREAS the church recognises that pastors differ in gifts, abilities, and training, and therefore seeks to order the ministerium accordingly; and

WHEREAS PAT placements are “site-specific” (Synodical Bylaw 5.093); and

WHEREAS similar site-specific programmes in sister church bodies include limitations on the field of service for their graduates; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the LCC Bylaws be amended to include:

1 **5.095 Restrictions on Synodical Service**

2 A PAT graduate may not:

- 3 a. be elected to an office of ecclesiastical supervision, including Synodical President, Vice-
- 4 President, Regional Pastor, or Circuit Counsellor;
- 5 b. serve as a member of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations; or
- 6 c. supervise a vicar.

7 And be it further

8
9 RESOLVED that the LCC Bylaws be amended to include:

10
11 **5.097 Place of Service**

12 A PAT graduate is not eligible for call to another congregation without the express consent of the
13 President's Ministry Council.

14
15 RESOLVED that the LCC Bylaws be amended to include:

16
17 **5.099 Removal of Restrictions**

18 A PAT Graduate may have such restrictions (5.095, 5.097) removed by completing a full program of
19 seminary training.

20 And be it finally

21
22 RESOLVED that the Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure make any appropriate
23 modifications to the LCC Synodical Bylaws in other places to carry through these
24 provisions.

25
26 Committee #2

27
28
29 **RESOLUTION 26.2.10 TO AMEND ORDINATION TIMING FOR PAT STUDENTS IN**
30 **EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

31
32 (Reference Overture 2.12)

33
34 WHEREAS the Pastors with Alternate Training (PAT) programme was introduced to provide pastoral
35 care in exceptional circumstances; and

36
37 WHEREAS through call and ordination PAT graduates are authorised to carry out the Word and
38 Sacrament duties of the pastoral office in accord with Holy Scripture and the Lutheran
39 Confessions; and

40
41 WHEREAS the current LCC bylaws (5.013) do not permit ordination to take place until a PAT student
42 has completed the full requirements of the programme; and

43
44 WHEREAS full, regular Word and Sacrament ministry at a PAT site may be delayed for many years
45 while the candidate completes the programme; therefore be it

46

1 RESOLVED that the LCC Bylaws be amended to include section c:

2 **5.013: Prerequisites for Ordination**

- 3 c. In exceptional circumstances, where the congregation has insufficient access to pastoral
4 care, a PAT congregation may petition the PMC for call and ordination of its PAT student
5 before the full programme is completed.
- 6 i. Such permission shall only be granted by the PMC (in consultation with the PAT
7 committee) after it is satisfied that the student has completed sufficient training.
- 8 ii. The student is obligated to complete the remaining programme requirements
9 post-ordination. If he fails to remain active in the programme (i.e. by taking at
10 least one course per year), his status on the LCC roster shall be suspended.

11
12 And be it finally

13
14 RESOLVED that the President's Ministry Council formulate guidelines to ensure local supervision of
15 such ordained PAT students by an experienced, ordained seminary graduate.

16
17 Committee #2

18
19
20 **RESOLUTION 26.2.11 ON MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING (MAID)**

21
22 (Reference Overtures 2.07, 2.13, and 2.14)

23
24 WHEREAS God has created all human beings in His image, and bestows upon all human life intrinsic
25 sacredness, worth and value regardless of the quality or worth--or lack of it--perceived by
26 the world or by one's self, and,

27
28 WHEREAS such sacredness of human life is constantly desecrated and belittled by sin, death and the
29 devil, yet God restores fullness of life to fallen man in the death and resurrection of Jesus
30 Christ through the ministry of the Church, and,

31
32 WHEREAS the Christian's life of faith consists not only of placing one's whole day-to-day life into
33 God's hands and direction, but also one's death, allowing such to happen at the time and
34 place of God's choosing, and,

35
36 WHEREAS it is the sacred role of government, instituted by God as His instrument, to uphold and
37 protect all human life, from conception to natural death, especially that of the frail and
38 vulnerable, and,

39
40 WHEREAS through the present policies concerning MAID, the government of Canada has been
41 grossly derelict of its solemn responsibility to protect life and has advocated and put into
42 practice a worldview and philosophical perspective that desecrates life and strips it of
43 intrinsic sanctity and value, and,

44
45 WHEREAS since the initial legalization of MAID for restricted purposes intended only for the
46 terminally ill and suffering, there has been a relentless dangerous trend of wider

1 expansion of its eligibility also to those who are mentally ill, depressed, lonely, or merely
2 unhappy with life, and,
3

4 WHEREAS the faithful of the church are suffering from increasing temptation to consider MAID as
5 an option for end of life and increasing pressure not to oppose or speak against its
6 practice; therefore be it
7

8 RESOLVED that the LCC reaffirm before the church, the governing authorities and the public at large
9 her unwavering commitment to the sacredness of all human life from conception to
10 natural death, and therefore also her firm opposition to the practice of MAID, with its
11 belittling and desecration of the sacredness of life, along with the philosophical
12 perspectives underlying it, and also to encourage all to a blessed end by faith in Jesus
13 Christ, commending their last hour to the time and place of God's choosing, and, be it
14 further
15

16 RESOLVED that the Convention would request the CTCR to formulate Pastoral Guidelines for pastors
17 and laity struggling with MAID and its consequences, further
18

19 RESOLVED that the LCC encourage governing authorities to repeal the legislation of MAID and
20 return to its God-given duty to reverence life, and be it finally
21

22 RESOLVED that the LCC and her auxiliary agencies, such as Lutherans for Life-Canada, and her
23 pastors encourage a vibrant confession and ministry to respond to the threats of the
24 temptation of MAID by providing relevant Bible studies, literature, and guidance for
25 ministry to the faithful of the LCC concerning this topic, and encourage programs and
26 agencies within the church and/or in our communities at large which provides for the
27 lonely, the depressed and the vulnerable, beneficial care and loving alternatives to MAID.
28

29 Committee #2
30
31

32 **RESOLUTION 26.2.12 TO STUDY TERMINOLOGY REGARDING THE DIACONATE OF**
33 **LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA**
34

35 (Reference Overtures 2.15 and 3.01)
36

37 WHEREAS Genesis 1: 31 says, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he
38 created him; male and female he created them.” And this created order is a great blessing
39 to be taught and celebrated; and
40

41 WHEREAS movements in our society have sought to confuse those sexual distinctions, and call evil
42 what God has called good; and
43

44 WHEREAS “God is not a God of confusion, but of peace” and “all things should be done decently
45 and in order” (1 Corinthians 14:33, 40); and
46

- 1 WHEREAS it is always desirable to align our terminology with Scriptural language to the highest
2 degree we can; and
- 3 WHEREAS 1 Timothy 3:8-13 refers to an office of “deacon” (diakonos) limited to men; and
4
- 5 WHEREAS women such as Phoebe (in Romans 16:1) were referred to with a gendered form of
6 “deacon” translatable as “servant” or “deaconess”; and
7
- 8 WHEREAS our current practice in LCC is to refer to all synodically trained professional church
9 workers who do not hold the Office of Holy Ministry as the “diaconate” collectively, and
10 as “deacon” individually regardless of gender, and
11
- 12 WHEREAS clarity of terminology and understanding is desirable for peace and concord within the
13 church; therefore be it
14
- 15 RESOLVED that LCC in convention assign the President to conduct a review of the foundational
16 documents on the establishment of the diaconate, the uniqueness and blessing of male
17 deacons and female deacons (or deaconesses), terminology, nomenclature and any
18 differences of service; and be it further
19
- 20 RESOLVED that this review be done in consultation with the PMC, CTCR, laity, diaconate and
21 pastors; and be it finally
22
- 23 RESOLVED that he bring forward recommendations through the PMC for presentation at the 2030
24 Convention.
25
- 26 Committee #2

RESOLUTION 26.3.01 TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND AFFIRM FLEXIBILITY IN COLLECTING CONGREGATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

(Reference Overture 3.02)

WHEREAS Section 2.023 of the Synodical Bylaws of Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) provides that convention assessments, and registration fees are to be determined on the basis of the approved convention budget, without prescribing a specific method of calculation; and

WHEREAS earlier editions of the Handbook (2011 and 2014) explicitly referenced a per communicant member levy as the basis for such assessments, while the 2017 and 2022 Handbooks no longer include such explicit direction; and

WHEREAS it has been the longstanding practice of LCC to collect assessments on a per communicant member basis in order to fund conventions, and pastor and deacon conferences; and

WHEREAS overture 3.02 has emphasized the importance of fairness, equity, and predictability in the sharing of such costs among member congregations; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada in Convention acknowledge the historical practice of per communicant member assessments while recognizing that the current Synodical Bylaws do not prescribe a single required method for the collection of such assessments; and be it further

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada in Convention affirm that, within the provisions of the existing Bylaws, assessments will be analyzed by the Board of Directors in a timely manner and may be structured using a combination of approaches, including per communicant member assessments and fixed or base amounts applied to member congregations, as may be deemed equitable; and be it further

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada encourage its delegates and member congregations to remain informed regarding the purpose of such assessments, their historical basis, and considerations that may guide future methodologies; and be it finally

RESOLVED That this resolution be understood as declaratory in nature, affirming existing practice and flexibility under current Bylaws, and not requiring any amendment to the Synodical Bylaws.

Committee #3

RESOLUTION 26.3.02 TO ENCOURAGE THE USE OF LCC’S “GUIDELINES FOR CARING FOR CALLED WORKERS”

(Reference Overture 3.03)

- 1 WHEREAS Called church workers are a precious resource, a gift the Lord has given to lead, teach,
2 and nourish the church; and
3 WHEREAS the gifts of God that they share and administer, as well as their personal talents, training,
4 and sacrifices are of immense value; and
5 WHEREAS the church on earth suffers temptation, sin, and spiritual attack, which may lead to
6 church workers not always being generously nurtured and supported in their vocations,
7 which often leads to burnout and to workers leaving their calls; and
8 WHEREAS Lutheran Church-Canada has responded to the need to support church workers by
9 providing its congregations with “Guidelines for Caring for Called Workers” (September
10 2025) and
11 WHEREAS the Regional Ministry and Mission Councils are to serve as “an important conduit for the
12 sharing of information from LCC and other regions with the congregations, pastors and
13 deacons”, and the use of other LCC resources, which may include the WBS Wellness
14 Coordinator, and the LCMS Kansas District “Church Worker Care Team Manual; and be
15 it therefore
16
17 RESOLVED that the RMMC’s be encouraged to promote the adoption of the “Guidelines for Caring for
18 Called Workers” among the congregations; be it finally
19
20 RESOLVED that the RMMCs and the Regional Pastors will encourage church workers to seek private
21 confession and absolution on a regular basis.
22

23 Committee #3
24
25

26 **RESOLUTION 26.3.03 TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF REV. DR.**
27 **TIMOTHY TEUSCHER**

28 (Reference Overture 3.04)
29

- 30 WHEREAS Rev. Dr. Teuscher is joyfully received as a gift bestowed by the exalted Lord on His
31 church for her good (Eph. 4:8, 11); and
32 WHEREAS our Lord worked in and through Rev. Dr. Teuscher to give exceptional leadership to
33 Lutheran Church-Canada as she has grown in her role in Canadian and worldwide
34 Lutheranism; and
35
36 WHEREAS Rev. Dr. Teuscher has given unselfishly of his time and energy in fulfilling his duties; and
37
38 WHEREAS in the summer of 2026, Rev. Dr. Teuscher will be retiring from full time service as a
39 pastor, after serving two terms as President of Lutheran Church-Canada; therefore, be it
40
41 RESOLVED the Lutheran Church-Canada give thanks to God for the rich blessings poured out upon
42 this church body through the leadership of Rev. Dr. Teuscher as pastor, First Vice
43 President of the East District and President of Lutheran Church – Canada, and commend
44 Rev. Dr. Teuscher to the Lord’s continued blessing and direction; and be it
45
46 RESOLVED that Rev. Dr. Teuscher be granted the title Past President; and be it finally

1 RESOLVED that at such time as Rev. Dr. Teuscher retires, he receive the official designation President
2 Emeritus.

3
4 Committee #3
5
6

7 **RESOLUTION 26.3.04 ON THE ROLE AND JURISDICTION OF LEGAL COUNSEL WITHIN**
8 **SYNOD**
9

10 (Reference Overture 3.05, 3.06, 3.13)
11

12 WHEREAS Lutheran Church–Canada recognizes in her Handbook that Holy Scripture is the only rule
13 and norm of all doctrine and practice within our Synod, as is also expressed and defined
14 in the witness of the Lutheran Confessions to which all pastors and congregations freely
15 give their loyalty and assent, and
16

17 WHEREAS the Synodical Bylaws of LCC gives provision for legal counsel in the Synod's work and
18 ministry to ensure that all things are done decently and in order with all due honour,
19 respect, and harmony with the government and its laws, and
20

21 WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 2.007c states that "overtures, which, upon the advice of legal counsel,
22 may subject LCC or the corporate officers of LCC to civil liability, shall not be accepted
23 for Convention consideration," and
24

25 WHEREAS LCC's unconditional subscription to Biblical and Confessional authority governs its
26 entire Handbook, including Synodical Bylaw 2.007c;
27

28 WHEREAS the Synod's confession and public proclamation of its doctrine is not limited to only to
29 what is permitted by civil law as defined by legal counsel, and

30 WHEREAS Scripture teaches that "we must obey God rather than man." (Acts 5:29); therefore be it
31

32 RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada in convention affirm that legal counsel is needed,
33 encouraged and welcomed to serve LCC with guidance and expertise with respect to
34 matters pertaining to her life and work within the laws of the state; and be it further
35

36 RESOLVED that LCC affirms that that the proper roles and limits of legal counsel in the life, policies,
37 and theological confession of the Synod are subject to Holy Scripture as the sole rule and
38 norm of all doctrine and practice; and be it finally
39

40 RESOLVED that the Synod President and CCMS be tasked with reviewing the Handbook over the
41 next quadrennium, ensuring clarity with respect to the proper role and limits of the work
42 of legal counsel.
43

44 Committee #3
45

RESOLUTION 26.3.05 TO CLARIFY TERMS FOR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS IN THE HANDBOOK

(Reference Overture 3.07)

Whereas the Handbook of LCC uses the expressions “Canadian Missions” but LCC in her actions and communications regularly uses the expression “Domestic Missions”, and

Whereas the Handbook of LCC uses both the expressions “World Missions” and “International Missions” (as well as the expression “Foreign field”) but LCC in her actions and communications regularly uses the expression “International Missions”, therefore, be it

Resolved that, in order to avoid confusion and promote unity in our speaking and work together, the Handbook of LCC be updated to use the term “Domestic Missions” rather than “Canadian Missions,” “International Missions” rather than “World Missions.”

Committee #3

RESOLUTION 26.3.06 TO RESPECTFULLY DECLINE OVERTURES 3.08 AND 3.09

(Reference Overture 3.08 and 3.09)

WHEREAS the oversight of Domestic Missions has changed under Lutheran Church-Canada’s new structure; and

WHEREAS its organization is developing through the work of the Director of Domestic Missions, whose responsibilities are defined in an LCC job description, in partnership with Regional Pastors, RMMC’s and congregations; and

WHEREAS there are some “mission tools” like “Recognized Mission Congregations” and “Strategic Mission Areas” that have been successfully used; and

WHEREAS such knowledge can be shared with the Director of Domestic Missions and RMMC’s with a view to preserving them and their utility without enshrining the practices in the synodical bylaws; be it therefore

RESOLVED that Overtures 3.08 and 3.09 be respectfully declined.

Committee #3

RESOLUTION 26.3.07 TO GIVE THANKS FOR CONCORDIA LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, ST. CATHARINES, AT HER 50TH ANNIVERSARY

(Reference Overture 3.10)

- 1 WHEREAS the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod at her 1975 convention authorized Concordia
2 Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, to establish an extension site in Canada; and
3
4 WHEREAS the Ontario District in her 1976 convention selected St. Catharines to be the site of the
5 new seminary; and
6
7 WHEREAS the first classes were held in September 1976 in the basement of Resurrection Lutheran
8 Church; and
9
10 WHEREAS the seminary was incorporated by provincial charter in November 1976, established an
11 Affiliation Agreement with Brock University in 1982, built a fine new building on its
12 campus in 1983, and received the right from the provincial government to give degrees in
13 her own name in 2024; and
14
15 WHEREAS over her fifty years of service CLTS has delivered some 240 graduates, both ordained and
16 lay, into the church’s service; and
17
18 WHEREAS CLTS continues to serve Lutheran Church–Canada and her sister churches around the
19 world through pastoral formation, education of lay leaders, teaching the faithful,
20 supporting mission work, and publishing confessional Lutheran theological writings;
21 therefore be it
22
23 RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada in convention express thanks to God for fifty years of
24 service to the church provided by Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St.
25 Catharines, and commend her to the prayers and support of God’s people.
26

27 Committee #3
28
29

30 **RESOLUTION 26.3.08 TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUING FORMATION FOR PASTORS AND**
31 **DEACONS**
32

33 (Reference Overture 3.11)
34

- 35 WHEREAS LCC convention resolution 17.02.07 requested guidance from the PMC regarding
36 continuing education expectations for all church workers; and
37
38 WHEREAS growth in maturity in faith and life never ends in a Christian's earthly life; and
39
40 WHEREAS no pastor or deacon is "fully formed" at the completion of formal church work programs
41 and each one benefits from ongoing growth as he or she serves in their work; and
42
43 WHEREAS the Biblical qualifications of church workers are grounded not only in professional
44 competency but primarily in Christian’s character and therefore it is appropriate to use a
45 broad heading of “formation” which includes both; and
46

- 1 WHEREAS LCC's core objectives explicitly include the effort to “recruit and train pastors, deacons,
2 and other professional church workers and provide opportunity for their continuing
3 growth” (Constitution, Article III); and
4
- 5 WHEREAS every pastor makes the commitment to diligence in the study of Holy Scripture and the
6 Confessions and every deacon makes the commitment to growth in love and excellence
7 in skill; and
8
- 9 WHEREAS pastors and deacons face ever-changing challenges during the course of their work in the
10 church; therefore be it
11
- 12 RESOLVED that the Member Congregations of LCC and Synodical leadership strongly encourage
13 LCC workers to be involved in continuing education and formation for their own benefit
14 and the benefit of the whole church; and be it further
15
- 16 RESOLVED that each pastor and deacon strive to develop and carry out a plan for his or her own
17 continuing education and formation over the next quadrennium; and be it further
18
- 19 RESOLVED that congregations, as recommended by LCC’s Compensation Guidelines, strive to
20 contribute to existing funding structures and opportunities for their pastors and deacons;
21 and be it finally
22
- 23 RESOLVED that LCC in convention direct the PMC to develop further guidance and expectations for
24 continuing formation within the next quadrennium.
25

26 Committee #3
27
28

29 **RESOLUTION 26.3.09 TO REVIEW SYNODICAL BYLAW VII. RECONCILIATION,**
30 **RESTORATION, AND ADJUDICATION**
31

32 (Reference Overture 3.12)
33

- 34 WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw VII has proved to be unwieldy in implementation; therefore be it
35
- 36 RESOLVED that Lutheran Church-Canada in convention assign the President to oversee a review of
37 Synodical Bylaw VII in consultation with the PMC, CTCR, and CCMS; and be it finally
38
- 39 RESOLVED that he bring forward recommendations regarding Synodical Bylaw VII to the 2030
40 Convention for discussion and implementation.
41

42 Committee #3
43

**RESOLUTION 26.3.10 TO RATIFY AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS TO CONGREGATION
CONSTITUTIONS**

(Reference Overture 3.14)

WHEREAS upon review of changes to various congregation constitutions and subsequent recommendation of the President, the Board of Directors has approved the revisions and amendments to these constitutions; and

WHEREAS such actions by the Board are to be “submitted to the next Convention for ratification” (Synodical Bylaw 1.007.b); therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Convention ratify the actions of the Board pertaining to its approval of amendments and revisions to the constitutions of the following congregations:

Central Region

- Faith, Atikokan, ON
- Trinity, Churchbridge, SK
- Our Saviour/St. Mark, Dryden/Vermilion Bay , ON
- Zion Evangelical, Morden, MB
- New Beginnings, Regina, SK
- Mt. Calvary, Swift Current, SK
- Calvary, Thunder Bay, ON
- Trinity, Winkler, MB
- Peace, Winnipeg, MB
- Immanuel, Winnipeg , MB
- Saint James, Winnipeg , MB

East Region

- St. Matthew's, Cornwall, ON
- Faith, Kitchener, ON
- St. Paul's , Kitchener, ON
- Good Shepherd, London, ON
- Grace, Oshawa, ON
- Southampton, Southampton , ON

West Region

- Shepherd of Peace, Calgary, AB
- Grace, Drumheller, AB
- Bethlehem, Edmonton, AB
- Faith, Grande Prairie, AB
- Redeemer, High Prairie, AB
- First (The Sanctuary), Kelowna, BC
- Our Saviour, Parksville, BC
- Trinity, Quesnel, BC
- St. Matthew, Stony Plain, AB
- St. John's, Vernon, BC

Committee #3

RESOLUTION 26.3.11 TO RECEIVE ST. MATTHEW’S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, CORNWALL, ONTARIO INTO MEMBERSHIP OF LUTHERAN CHURCH—CANADA

(Reference Overture 3.15)

WHEREAS the congregation of St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cornwall, Ontario has applied for membership in Lutheran Church—Canada; and

WHEREAS the constitution and bylaws of St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church have been submitted and reviewed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors of LCC in accordance with Synodical Bylaw 1.007 a; therefore be it

RESOLVED that St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cornwall, Ontario be joyfully received as a member of Lutheran Church—Canada.

Committee #3

RESOLUTION 26.3.12 TO APPOINT AUDITORS FOR LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA

(Reference Overture 3.16)

WHEREAS the statutory Bylaws (Article V – provision 5.01) state the delegates present at Convention appoint an auditor for auditing the financial statements of LCC; therefore be it

RESOLVED that KPMG be appointed auditors of LCC and be retained until the next Convention

Committee #3

RESOLUTION 26.3.13 TO RECEIVE THE LCC QUADRENNIAL WORK PROGRAM (2027–2030)

(Reference Overture 3.17)

WHEREAS the Chief Administrative Officer and the Board of Directors of Lutheran Church—Canada have prepared a Quadrennial Work Program (QWP) for the years 2027–2030; and

WHEREAS LCC leadership and key stakeholders were given opportunity to provide input into the QWP through participation in a October 2025 Planning Conference and a joint RMMC meeting in January 2026; and

WHEREAS with respect to Domestic Missions, congregations and mission outreach initiatives, including language ministry, were invited to submit applications for financial assistance for consideration within the QWP; and

1 WHEREAS the QWP advances both ongoing and emerging domestic mission priorities, including
2 provision for a Missionary-at-Large (MAL) to engage with an Indigenous community,
3 alongside the strategic exploration and development of a new urban ministry initiative in
4 a major metropolitan setting; and
5

6 WHEREAS the QWP can only be implemented by the cooperation and action of congregations,
7 regions, and by the receipt of necessary funds; therefore, be it
8

9 RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada, assembled in Convention, receive the QWP (2027–2030)
10 for information, study, and action by the Board of Directors.
11

12 Committee #3
13
14

OVERTURE 1.12 TO AMEND SYNODICAL BYLAW 3.019 TO ALLOW SUB-REGIONAL PASTORS AND DEACONS CONFERENCES TO SUBMIT OVERTURES TO CONVENTION

WHEREAS West and Central Regions are geographically vast; and

WHEREAS these distances make travel costs to a Pastors and Deacons conference of the full Region exorbitant, so that in both Regions full Regional conferences only happen once a quadrennium, and sub-Regional conferences for the Pastors and Deacons are the norm, and those sub-Regions have been for many years defined as follows (Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba/northwest Ontario); and

WHEREAS East Region’s travel and room and board costs are such that they are able to have official conferences of the full region twice a year; and

WHEREAS this circumstance disadvantages West and Central Regions from discussing, considering, and submitting overtures for the benefit of Lutheran Church-Canada;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Conferences of sub-Regions (as defined by the PMC) be authorized to submit overtures to Convention; and be it finally

RESOLVED that Synodical Bylaw 3.019.c be amended as follows:
c. The plenary and the sectional meetings of official conferences and of official conferences of sub-Regions (as defined the PMC) may adopt and submit overtures to the Convention.

President’s Ministry Council
Rev. Timothy Teuscher, Chair
Rev. Michael Schutz, Secretary

OVERTURE 2.15 TO STUDY TERMINOLOGY REGARDING THE DIACONATE OF LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA

WHEREAS Genesis 1: 31 says, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” And this created order is a great blessing to be taught and celebrated; and

WHEREAS movements in our society have sought to confuse those sexual distinctions, and call evil what God has called good; and

WHEREAS “God is not a God of confusion, but of peace” and “all things should be done decently and in order” (1 Corinthians 14:33, 40); and

1
2 WHEREAS it is always desirable to align our terminology with Scriptural language to the highest
3 degree we can; and
4 WHEREAS 1 Timothy 3:8-13 refers to an office of “deacon” (diakonos) limited to men; and
5
6 WHEREAS women such as Phoebe (in Romans 16:1) were referred to with a gendered form of
7 “deacon” translatable as “servant” or “deaconess”; and
8
9 WHEREAS our current practice in LCC is to refer to all synodically trained professional church
10 workers who do not hold the Office of Holy Ministry as the “diaconate” collectively, and
11 as “deacon” individually regardless of gender, and
12
13 WHEREAS this has caused confusion about the different rights and privileges of male and female
14 deacons; and
15
16 WHEREAS clarity of terminology and understanding is desirable for peace and concord within the
17 church;
18
19 Therefore be it
20
21 RESOLVED that LCC in convention assign the President to conduct a review of the foundational
22 documents on the establishment of the diaconate, the uniqueness and blessing of male
23 deacons and female deacons (or deaconesses), terminology, nomenclature and any
24 differences of service; and be it further
25
26 RESOLVED that this review be done in consultation with the PMC, CTCR, laity, diaconate and
27 pastors; and be it finally
28
29 RESOLVED that he bring forward recommendations through the PMC for presentation at the 2030
30 Convention.
31
32 President’s Ministry Council
33 Rev. Timothy Teuscher, Chair
34 Rev. Michael Schutz, Secretary
35

36 **OVERTURE 3.17 TO RECEIVE THE LCC QUADRENNIAL WORK PROGRAM (2026–**
37 **2030)**

38 WHEREAS the Chief Administrative Officer and the Board of Directors of Lutheran Church–Canada
39 have prepared a Quadrennial Work Program (QWP) for the years 2026–2030; and
40
41 WHEREAS LCC leadership and key stakeholders were given opportunity to provide input into the
42 QWP through participation in a October 2025 Planning Conference and a joint RMMC
43 meeting in January 2026; and
44

1 WHEREAS with respect to Domestic Missions, congregations and language ministries were invited
2 to submit applications for financial assistance for consideration within the QWP; and
3

4 WHEREAS the QWP includes both ongoing and emerging mission initiatives, including provision
5 for a Missionary-at-Large (MAL) to serve in an Indigenous community on Vancouver
6 Island, as well as the initiation of an urban ministry in either the Greater Toronto Area or
7 the Lower Mainland; and
8

9 WHEREAS the QWP can only be implemented by the cooperation and action of congregations,
10 regions, and by the receipt of necessary funds; therefore, be it
11

12 RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada, assembled in Convention, receive the QWP (2026–2030)
13 for information, study, and action by the Board of Directors.
14

15 LCC Board of Directors
16 Doug Petersen Chair
17 Rev. Tom Kreusel, Secretary
18
19