

FINAL Resolutions (01-01-15 to 01-10-15) Floor Committee 1 – Mission & Ministry

Click the resolution number to view the complete resolution.
Unless noted, the resolution was PASSED by the voting delegates.

RESOLUTION -01-01-15: To Encourage Congregations To Use The Historic Opportunity Of The Quincentenary (500th) Anniversary Of The Reformation To Openly Confess Their Lutheran Identity

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RESOLUTION -01-10-15: To Respectfully Decline Overture 01-07-15

OMNIBUS RESOLUTION A: To Encourage Synod To Continue And Complete Its Work On: Evaluation Of The Transforming Churches Network; Joint Prayer With Those Who Deny Christ Is The Only Way To The True God; The Authority Of Women Over Men In The Church Even In Humanly Established Offices

RESOLUTION: 01-01-15

SUBJECT: To Encourage Congregations to Use the Historic Opportunity of the Quincentenary (500th) Anniversary of the Reformation to Openly Confess their Lutheran Identity

(Reference Overture 01-13-15 printed on page 139 of the Convention Workbook)

WHEREAS, the observance of Quincentenary (500th) Anniversary of the Reformation will be held on October 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, this will be the final District Convention before the Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, the next two years present an opportunity to teach the importance of the Lutheran Reformation; and

WHEREAS, the Lutheran Confessions are a true exposition of the Word of God and confess the Reformation truths of Scripture Alone, Grace Alone, and Faith Alone; and

WHEREAS, in faithful Lutheran congregations there is the pure teaching of the Word of God and the right administration of the Sacraments for the comfort and salvation of sinners; and

WHEREAS, many in the world remain in darkness and need the truth from God's Word that there is a righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ apart from works of the law (Rom. 3:21-22); and

WHEREAS, the name "Lutheran" was given to the Reformers by their Roman opponents as an insulting, derogatory term, and it was not a self-chosen, prideful term; and

WHEREAS, the Rev. C. F. W. Walther, first President of the LCMS, has written a compelling treatise titled "Concerning the Name 'Lutheran" on the importance of maintaining the name "Lutheran" for the sake of a clear confession; and

WHEREAS, the 1995 Synod in convention adopted the resolution "To Use the Name *Lutheran*" stating the following:

RESOLVED, that all congregations and mission stations in our Synod boldly profess in their official title and/or name that they are "Lutheran"; and be it further

RESOLVED, that all congregations and mission stations of our Synod state in their materials (bulletins, newsletters, etc.) that they belong to The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that all LCMS congregations gladly proclaim our great doctrinal heritage to a world that needs the clear proclamation of the truth (Res. 3-13A, 1995 Synod Convention); therefore be it

RESOLVED,

that the congregations of the Mid-South District be encouraged to use Rev. C. F. W. Walther's work "Concerning the Name 'Lutheran'" (http://www.luther_quest.org/walther/articles/concerninglutheran.htm) in their teaching over the next two years; and be it further

RESOLVED,

that before October 31, 2017, the congregations of the Mid-South District consider holding at least one outreach event that specifically teaches the importance of the Reformation and Lutheran theology; and be it finally

RESOLVED,

that the congregations of the Mid-South District joyfully comply with the Synod's 1995 Resolution "To Use the Name *Lutheran*" for the benefit of "a world that need the clear proclamation of the truth."

Rev. Paul Hass (Chairman)

RESOLUTION: 01-02-15

SUBJECT: To Commend and Support the Work of Trinity/HOPE in Haiti

(Reference Overture 01-15-15 printed on page 142 of the Convention Workbook)

WHEREAS, Christ in the Great Commission calls us to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." Matthew 28:19-20a; and

WHEREAS, Christ's words in Matthew 25:35-36 clearly shows that we are to meet physical needs of others including feeding the hungry; and

WHEREAS, Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere with millions trapped in poverty so deep that children often do not even have food daily; and

WHEREAS, a large majority of the people are trapped in the darkness of the nation's official religion, Voodoo; and

WHEREAS, there are huge and effective efforts by Lutheran Churches and other Christian denominations to build the body of Christ in Haiti and bring the Good News of Jesus to those who do not know Him; and

WHEREAS, one of the most successful ways of doing this is through Christian schools affiliated with local churches; and

WHEREAS, the children are often too hungry to learn; and

WHEREAS, Trinity/HOPE is effectively and economically providing over 18,800 hot, nutritious meals daily at a cost of \$.26 each for the teachers and children in 94 of these schools; and

WHEREAS, these meals improve health, increase attention spans and are seen as a witness to the truth of the Good News being shared with them daily; and

WHEREAS, through the work of the Holy Spirit the vast majority of these children come to faith and are then missionaries to their friends and families; and

WHEREAS, the Christian Churches of Haiti see the work of Trinity/HOPE as one of their most effective outreach tools; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Mid-South District in Convention commends Trinity/HOPE and its supporters for their work and encourages the District's members and others to be in support of this work which blesses children by supplying an opportunity to be fed both physically and spiritually.

RESOLUTION: 01-03-15

SUBJECT: Regarding Overtures 01-04-15, 01-11-15, and 01-12-15 regarding the Deacon Program and SMP Process

(Reference Overtures 01-04-15; 01-11-15; 01-12-15 printed on pages 125; 135; 137 of the Convention Workbook)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod in convention through Resolution 3-05B at the 1989 Wichita Convention provided for properly trained and supervised Licensed Deacons to perform Word and Sacrament ministry; and

WHEREAS, the need for licensed lay ministry has been affirmed by past Synodical conventions in order to meet the ongoing need for Word and Sacrament ministry to those congregations and preaching stations which would otherwise not have such vital ministry; and

WHEREAS, The rationale for the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program is stated in the resolution that authorized it (Res. 5-01B, 2007 Synod Convention): "The needs for providing pastoral ministry in specific and specialized situations where a traditionally prepared seminary candidate or pastor is not available continue to multiply"; [This program seeks to] "find a way to meet the existing and expanding needs for pastoral ministry, especially in the variety of contexts of mission and ministry in today's church"; and

whereas, the Synod-approved convention resolution for the SMP Program states that we can never sacrifice our Lutheran Confessions in providing pastoral ministry and cites The Augsburg Confession Article XIV, "It is taught among us that nobody should publicly teach or preach or administer the sacraments in the church without a regular call" (Res. 5-01B, 2007 Synod Convention); and

WHEREAS, the 2013 convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod adopted Resolution 4-06A Address Questions Regarding Service of Licensed Lay Deacons. Its final two paragraphs state:

- Resolved, That the President of the Synod establish a task force consisting of
 members from the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, the
 Council of Presidents, the Praesidium, and seminary faculties to develop a
 plan anchored in the Word, in consultation with licensed lay deacons and
 those who supervise and are served by them, to resolve questions about the
 service of licensed lay deacons serving congregations of The Lutheran
 Church—Missouri Synod with the Word and Sacraments of Christ; and be it
 finally
- *Resolved*, that the plan and its proposed implementation be reported to the Synod one year before the 2016 convention.

WHEREAS, the work begun in 2013 is ongoing and is coming to a conclusion in the Report expected in July of 2015, prior to the 2016 Synodical Convention; and

WHEREAS, the President of the Synod is accountable to the Synod, and subsequently to the Districts, to prepare a thorough resolution to the issue of the use and role of Deacons and their interaction and possible admittance into the SMP or Colloquy process; and

WHEREAS, the Mid-South District of the LCMS thanks God for the work and sacrifice of those that serve in both Deacon and SMP pastor's roles within the District; therefore be it

that Deacons who are currently conducting Word and Sacrament ministry will be required, by July 2016, to apply for colloquy or enroll in one of the LCMS Seminaries' SMP Programs, that would lead to ordination and the goal of being rostered in the LC-MS. Applicants who are engaged in Word and Sacrament Ministry will be able to utilize the Concordia University System and Seminary educational opportunities as the source of education; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Deacons not engaged in Word and Sacrament ministry will be offered continuing education through the existing Concordia University System and/or Seminary educational opportunities but will not be seeking rostered status; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the District establish an SMP/Colloquy scholarship fund, specifically for Deacons seeking ordination, beyond the current student aid fund and petition congregations to give generously for this one-time effort of offering lay deacons the chance to serve with a regular call; and be it further

RESOLVED, at such time as all men conducting Word and Sacrament Ministry have been ordained, the term "Deacon" henceforth will be understood in the Mid-South District *not* to refer to those conducting Word and Sacrament ministry, but to those serving in other capacities of service and mercy work in a local congregation; and be it further

RESOLVED, no applications for Deacons working in Word and Sacrament Ministry will be accepted after July 2016; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Mid-South District form an Ad Hoc Task Force, accountable to the District President, specifically for the purpose of integrating and implementing the recommendations eventually adopted by the Synod in Convention as a result of the report of the 406A Task Force.

RESOLUTION: 01-04-15

SUBJECT: To Memorialize Synod to Revise the Specific Ministry Pastor Program

(Reference Overture 01-14-15 printed on page 141 of the Convention Workbook)

WHEREAS,

the SMP program is a distance-based, specialized program of theological education at both seminaries in which students are ordained after the first two years of the program and then are required to take two more years of instruction; and

WHEREAS,

the warning is given in Scripture not to be hasty in the laying on of hands for the pastoral ministry (1 Tim. 5:22); and

WHEREAS,

the Rev. C. F. W. Walther writes in his Pastoral Theology:

To the question: "Can those who, in the examination, are found not to be equipped with the knowledge of the articles of faith and of the holy Scripture which is necessary and sufficient for the holy office, nevertheless be ordained and admitted to the holy office, but with the condition that they make the sacred promise to be diligent and careful in learning?" the same [Brochmand] answers: "Not at all. For first, Paul does not permit someone to be entrusted with the holy office who is not qualified to teach and powerful to stop the mouths of those who contradict the truth (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:9). "Second, the Spirit of God explicitly reminds that one who could lay hands on an insufficiently qualified person would be making himself a participant in the sins of another (1 Tim 5:22). "Third, experience testifies only too abundantly that those who are admitted to the holy office without education remain in their uneducated condition even if they have promised diligence in learning. "Fourth, how could we answer God if many of the listeners would be lost before the pastor learned what he should impress upon others (Ezek. 33:1ff.)" (System. univers. th., Loc. 30, c. 3, Tom. II, fol. 372, 375). (Walther, *Pastoral Theology* (Drickamer Translation), pp. 46-47); therefore be it

RESOLVED,

that the Mid-South District memorialize the 2016 Synod in Convention to revise the Specific Ministry Pastor Program by requiring all courses and instruction to be completed prior to ordination.

Rev. Paul Hass (Chairman)

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RESOLUTION: 01-05-15

SUBJECT: To Continue a Relationship with the Southeast of Lake Victoria Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania

(Reference Overture 01-01-15 printed on page 121 of the Convention Workbook)

- WHEREAS, The Mid-South District has had over a decade long relationship with the East of Lake Victoria and Southeast of Lake Victoria diocese, working in consultation with and encouraged by the office of the Synod President, Synod Board for Mission Services/Board for International Missions; and
- WHEREAS, the Southeast of Lake Victoria Diocese (SELVD) in convention has made a conscious effort to partner with a Confessional Lutheran Church Body and has strengthened the relationship with The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod (LCMS); and
- WHEREAS, Mid-South District leaders, in consultation with the President's office of the LCMS and in conjunction with Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne, have sought ways to provide solid confessional Lutheran training for pastors and leaders in the SELVD; and
- WHEREAS, there continues to be great humanitarian needs in the country of Tanzania and in the regions of Shinyanga and Mwanza; therefore be it
- **RESOLVED,** that the Mid-South District continues working with the SELVD to encourage them in their Lutheran identity; and be it further
- **RESOLVED,** that in this relationship, the Mid-South District focus its funding of \$12,500 on training held in Tanzania for pastors and lay evangelists of the SELVD in which LCMS instructors will provide theological instruction in the area of Pastoral Ministry; and be it further
- **RESOLVED,** that in this relationship, the Mid-South District will work with leaders of the Synod and its seminaries in providing \$12,500 for scholarships for SELVD pastors to study for higher degrees in our LCMS seminaries; and be finally
- **RESOLVED,** that congregations and schools in the Mid-South District be encouraged to continue supporting humanitarian efforts to assist the people living in Tanzania through short term mission trips in coordination with the Office of International Mission.

Rev. Paul Hass (Chairman)

RESOLUTION: 01-06-15

SUBJECT: To Affirm Church Planting

(Reference Overture 01-02-15 printed on page 122 of the Convention Workbook)

- WHEREAS, Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (*Matthew 28:18*) and "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost" (*Luke 19:10*); and
- **WHEREAS,** the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod in convention set a goal, by God's grace, of beginning 2000 new ministries by the year 2020; and
- **WHEREAS,** the Mid-South District has a history of starting new ministries which focus on reaching the lost; and
- WHEREAS, the Mid-South District has started many ministries which boldly share the Good News of Jesus while maintaining doctrinal and theological integrity; and
- **WHEREAS,** the Mid-South District Church Planting Committee has adopted the following priorities to guide the district's church planting efforts:
 - 1) Increased fiscal accountability;
 - 2) Ongoing assessment;
 - 3) Required demographic assessment;
 - 4) Increased representation of the Church Planting Committee;
 - 5) Encourage new churches to plant new churches;
 - 6) Church plants to be supported through increased cooperation between congregations and circuits; therefore be it
- **RESOLVED,** the Mid-South District in convention affirms the need for the District's Church Planting effort, and the ongoing efforts of congregations and pastors actively involved in new church planting activities that focus on reaching the lost; and be it further
- **RESOLVED,** we give thanks to God for the congregations, workers, and members involved in planting new congregations which boldly share the Gospel of Jesus in their respective communities.

Rev. Paul Hass (Chairman)

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RESOLUTION: 01-07-15

SUBJECT: To Affirm Our Historical and Confessional Mission Focus

(Reference Overture 01-06-15 printed on page 127 of the Convention Workbook)

WHEREAS,

St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 affirms our need to keep the message of the Gospel the same while adjusting our language and approach to fit the person being reached with the Gospel.

For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. (ESV); and

WHEREAS,

our Lutheran Confessions affirm true unity in theology is not dependent upon unity in practice:

"It is sufficient for the true unity of the Christian church that the Gospel be preached in conformity with a pure understanding of it and that the sacraments be administered in accordance with the divine Word." It is not necessary for the true unity of the Christian church that ceremonies, instituted by men, should be observed uniformly in all places. (Augsburg Confessions, Article 7, page 32, paragraph 3, 1981, Tappert ed.); and

WHEREAS,

C.F.W. Walther, First President of LCMS, in his opening address to the first Synodical Conference, challenged our congregations to avoid the endless debates that would render us ineffective by being united in the mission to save those who are perishing apart from Christ. Walther states:

...what would happen if we really would make the saving of souls the ultimate purpose, the end and aim of our joint work?...what an influence it will be on our dear congregations and their pastors and on their relationship toward one another if all acknowledge the saving of souls as the end and aim of our joint work! They will all pull, as peacefully as they do zealously, on the same yoke. Even though all kinds of strife-causing questions might arise — yet the question: "Which course is best for the salvation of souls?" will quickly give the right solution.... Then our dear congregations will say to one another, as Abraham said to Lot: "Let there be not strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdsmen and thy herdsmen; for we are brethren..." (Gen. 13:8f.). Whatever will win the most souls for Christ, that would decide between us.... (Lutheran Standard, October 1, 1872, vol. XXX-No. 19); and

WHEREAS,

the Formula of Concord affirms the congregation's right to adapt its practices in Article X of the Solid Declaration:

We further believe, teach, and confess that the community of God in every place and at every time has the right, authority, and power to change, to reduce, or to increase ceremonies according to its circumstances, as long as it does so without frivolity and offense but in an orderly and appropriate way, as at any time may seem to be most profitable, beneficial, and salutary for good order, Christian discipline, evangelical decorum, and the edification of the church. (Formula of Concord – Solid Declaration, Article X, page 612, paragraph 9ff, 1981, Tappert Edition); and

WHEREAS

our Lutheran Confessions affirm that "the chief purpose of all ceremonies is to teach the people what they need to know about Christ" (AC XXIV, 3); and

WHEREAS

our Lutheran Confessions affirm the use of ceremonies that do not hinder the hearing of the Gospel: We on our part also retain many ceremonies and traditions (such as the liturgy of the Mass and various canticles, festivals, and the like) which serve to prepare order in the church" (AC XXVI, 40). "For these reasons the Fathers kept ceremonies and for the same reasons we also believe in keeping traditions" (AP XV, 14); and

WHEREAS,

our Synod in the 2004 convention, Resolution 2-04 affirmed a congregation's freedom and responsibility in worship resources. Concluding:

WHEREAS, there are diverse viewpoints in our Synod concerning what is appropriate and salutary in corporate, worship; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Synod, in convention, affirm respect for diversity in worship practices as we build greater understanding of our theology of worship and foster further discussion of worship practices that are consistent with that theology; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we encourage pastors, musicians, and worship leaders to exercise this freedom responsibly, using resources such as Text, Music, Context: A Resource for Reviewing Worship Materials to assess worship materials; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Commission on Worship initiate a process leading toward the development of diverse worship resources for use in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.: therefore be it

RESOLVED,

that the Mid-South District in convention affirms the importance of maintaining unity among us by being diligent to hold steadfast to Holy Scriptures, Our Lutheran Confessions; and our Lutheran identity and heritage; and be it further

RESOLVED,

that we affirm the liberty of each congregation to conduct ministry based upon its needs and in accordance with our Lutheran Confessions and in unity with the churches; and be it finally

RESOLVED,

that we encourage the mutual support and encouragement of each other by sharing with each other resources and best practice ideas that have been fruitful for the Gospel in our context.

Rev. Paul Hass (Chairman)

RESOLUTION: 01-08-15

SUBJECT: To Encourage Workers in Personal Evangelism

(Reference Overture 01-03-15 printed on page 123 of the Convention Workbook)

WHEREAS, Jesus sent his disciples into the world to be his witnesses; and

WHEREAS, Jesus declared that His followers

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (ESV)Acts 1:8; and

WHEREAS, St. Paul reminds us that we cannot believe in Him whom we've not heard. We cannot hear unless someone is sent out to proclaim.

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? 15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. *Romans 10:14-17* (ESV); and

WHEREAS,

Synod in convention has repeatedly encouraged congregations to place evangelism of the lost as a top priority. (Resolution 1-08, To Affirm That the Mission of the Church is Urgent and to Raise Mission Awareness, 1995 Convention Proceedings. pages 102-108; Resolution 1-01, To "Tell The Good News About Jesus", 2001 Convention Proceedings, page 119; Resolution 1-02, To Be Passionate for the Great Commission, 2001 Convention Proceedings, pages 119-120; Resolution 1-03A, To Intensify Mission Effort, 2001 Convention Proceedings, page 120; Resolution 1-01A, To Affirm Mission 21st Century Response To Great Commission, 2004 Convention Proceedings, page 119; Resolution 1-02, To Promote "Mission Outpost" Attitude, 2004 Convention Proceedings, page 120; Resolution 1-05A, To Encourage the Congregations and People of the LCMS for the Joy of Evangelization and the Making of New Disciples, 2013 Convention Proceedings, page 101 and

WHEREAS, called workers set an example for personal witnessing; and

WHEREAS, congregations often experience an increase in guests to their worship services when the pastor, staff, and members consistently spend time each week cultivating relationships and sharing the faith in the community; and

WHEREAS,	pastors and called workers are often limited in their opportunity for personal witnessing by finances and time constraints due to expectations of their ministry; therefore, be it
RESOLVED,	that the Mid-South District in convention affirms the importance of personal witnessing for the salvation of the lost and the health of the local congregation; and be it further
RESOLVED,	that the District provide training and resources to assist called workers and lay leaders in personal witnessing and the promotion of personal witnessing among the members of our congregations; and be it further
RESOLVED,	that congregations demonstrate personal witnessing as a priority of their church by encouraging their workers to spend time on a weekly basis in the community, and by assisting the workers in their current responsibilities so as to not add further to their work load; and be it finally
RESOLVED,	that congregations be encouraged to include funds to be used at the discretion of the pastor and, when possible, all called workers to support their efforts for personal witnessing in the community.

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Rev. Paul Hass (Chairman)

RESOLUTION: 01-09-15

SUBJECT: To Encourage the Evaluation, Study and Use of the LCMS Stewardship Primer and Other Biblically-based Stewardship Resources

(Reference Overture 01-05-15 printed on page 126 of the Convention Workbook)

- WHEREAS, many congregations continue to struggle with a decline in attendance, the lack of willing workers, and not enough financial resources to meet the mission and ministry needs of the congregation; and
- **WHEREAS,** one of the reasons for these and other challenges congregations face is a lack of ongoing, intentional, systematic Biblical stewardship education; and
- WHEREAS, biblical stewardship education for all members throughout the Mid-South District is the foundation for addressing the challenges referenced above; and
- whereas, the LCMS Office of Stewardship Ministry published *The Stewardship Primer*, a biblically-based resource designed to; a) help steward leaders review the basics of Christian Stewardship; b) be an encouragement to congregations to embark on intentional year-round stewardship education and; c) introduce a plan and process for congregations to use as they provide stewardship education that impacts the lives of individual stewards and the life of the congregation as a whole; and
- **WHEREAS,** the Mid-South has had pastors specifically trained in the area of stewardship by the Synod; therefore be it
- **RESOLVED,** that the Mid-South District promote the evaluation, study, and use of this stewardship education resource entitled *The Stewardship Primer* in the 2015-2018 triennium to raise awareness of the Biblical stewardship lifestyle in all District congregations; and be it further
- **RESOLVED,** that in addition to *The Stewardship Primer*, congregations are asked and encouraged to utilize additional resources of the Stewardship Department of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod and other Biblically-based material as appropriate; and be it finally
- **RESOLVED,** that the Mid-South District be encouraged to use appropriate avenues to conduct stewardship education conferences or events that reach the "people in the pews" that would utilize those pastors who have been trained and would include all church leaders (ordained, commissioned, and lay).

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RESOLUTION: 01-10-15

SUBJECT: To Respectfully Decline Overture 01-07-15

(Reference Overture 01-07-15 printed on page 129 of the Convention Workbook)

WHEREAS, Floor Committee 1 has studied this overture 01-07-15 and has concluded that

the information provided in it is insufficient and unclear, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Overture 01-07-15 be respectfully declined due to insufficient and unclear

information.

Rev. Paul Hass (Chairman)

OMNIBUS RESOLUTION A

SUBJECT: To encourage Synod to continue and complete its work on: Evaluation of

the Transforming Churches Network; Joint Prayer With Those Who Deny Christ is the Only Way to the True God; The Authority of Women

Over Men in the Church even in Humanly Established Offices

(Reference Overtures 01-08-15; 01-09-15; 01-10-15 printed on pages 132; 133; 134 of the Convention Workbook)

WHEREAS, the Synod in convention has received overtures addressing the concerns brought forth in these referenced overtures; and

WHEREAS, the study of these concerns continue to be ongoing through the appropriate channels within Synod; therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Mid-South District, in convention, encourages the work, study, and evaluation leading to the completion of these concerns; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Synod give a final report on these overtures to the Mid-South District when available or by the next District convention in 2018.

Rev. Paul Hass (Chairman)