



The Hope Herald

Newsletter of the 19th Regular Convention
of the Mid-South District LCMS

JUNE 26-28, 2015 || MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Volume 2 | Saturday, June 27, 2015

Christ the King Hosts Moving Opening Worship Service

The Mid-South District is most grateful to our friends at Christ the King Lutheran Church and School for graciously hosting the Convention's opening dinner and worship service. As guests arrived for the dinner, they were greeted by the smiling faces of several children from the church and school. The school's gym provided a comfortable setting for fellowship and a delicious meal (sponsored by LCEF, but served by our friends at Christ the King) – a perfect prelude to the wonderful worship experience that followed. Once the opening service began, elements throughout the worship time emphasized the theme of "hope." From the beautiful music to the sermon of Synodical Representative Rev. Daniel Preus, all were encouraged by the reminder that we are a people of hope in Christ Jesus.



Greetings shared by the Emeritus Presidents, (L-R)
Norman Groteluschen 1985-1991
David Callies 1991-2003
Ken Lampe 2003-2012

The \$8,509.43 offering received last night at the Opening Worship Service will benefit Student Financial Aid offered through the Mid-South District office.

Talking with Rev. David Hormann



Rev. Dave Hormann

Executive Director for Missions and Ministry

Q. What has been your greatest joy so far as the Mission and Ministry Executive for the Mid-South District.

A. “The heart of the people in the Mid-South District—both clergy and laity as they work together. They want to be connected to what God is doing and it is my joy to walk alongside them.”

Q. What has been the greatest difficulty in adjusting to life as a district staff person instead of a parish pastor?

A. Using a metaphor he explained, in parenting you are there for the day to day events in the life of your children and as a grandparent you are

involved but more remotely. Being on the district staff is like being a grandparent, you know what is happening but you are not present for the day to day.

Q. What is the greatest challenge you see to our district?

A. The world around us has changed quickly in a cultural context and the challenge will be to reach out with God’s Word to the people around us. This change presents us with huge opportunities. We are no longer operating from a privileged position, which will cause us to strengthen our position in Christ alone.

Q. What do you miss about parish ministry?

A. The closeness of the relationships in the parish is something I miss but I have already developed friendships within the district and have an awesome staff at the district office. The Mid-South District is the most collegial, caring group I have ever been involved with when it comes to church work.

Cindy and I are very happy to be in Memphis and serving with the people of the Mid-South District.

Reminder

President’s Reception tonight 6-8 in the Southeast Ballroom. Dinner on your own.

Final Edition

Sunday edition of *The Hope Herald* will be rolled into the *July Encourager*.

Sign up or download the *Encourager* on the district website Resources/Publications

Connect With Us

WEB - “mid-southlcms.org”
FACEBOOK - “Mid-South-LCMS”
TWITTER - “@midsouthLCMS”



#midsouthLCMS2015



“official” hashtag for convention

Who’s here 2015?

81 Pastors
85 Lay Delegates

Last Convention 2012

86 Pastors
86 Lay Delegates



Election Results

District President Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola
1st V.P. Rev. Chuck Neugebauer
2nd V.P. Rev. Jim Walter
3rd V.P. Rev. Paul Haas
4th V.P. Rev. Richard Elseroad
District Secretary. Rev. John Gierke

Board of Directors - Lay Person

Region 1..... Connie Soso Goines
Region 2..... Marc Higgins
Region 3..... Fred Guengerich
Region 4..... Larry Zehnder

Commissioned Minister

Region 1-2..... Tessa Brasher
Region 3-4 Dina Foshee

Synodical Representative Preus Nearing the End of a Long “Convention Season” Journey

The Mid-South District is pleased to welcome Rev. Daniel Preus to Memphis as the Synodical Representative for our 19th Regular Convention. Rev. Preus is third vice-president of Synod, representing the Central Region. The 2015 district convention season has kept him quite busy for the past few months, attending seven District conventions prior to our Mid-South event. He will close out the journey by attending the Central Illinois District Convention in early July.

Preus notes that while attending the numerous conventions, he has been surprised by the variety of issues emphasized by the Districts. “Some have expressed a desire to see greater local mission outreach; others have expressed concern about the effectiveness of

doctrinal supervision in our church; still others have focused on financial issues,” he explains. But he notes that a common concern for all the Districts is the challenge of declining attendance and membership in their respective congregations.

Yet in the face of this significant challenge, Rev. Preus also sees hope and opportunity for Missouri Synod Lutherans, especially in the area of international mission. “Although the number of Lutherans in the United States is declining,” notes Preus, “the number in Africa, for example, is expanding rapidly. Africa already has twice as many Lutherans as North America. Churches in many parts of the world are looking to the Missouri Synod for leadership, especially in the area of theological education in the training of pastors.” He explains that this international growth is providing real opportunities to share the Gospel here at home as many



Rev. Daniel Preus
Third Vice-President of Synod

ethnic ministries are developing across the United States – and Lutherans are responding to the call. “The LCMS has a clear confession the world needs at such a time as this,” declares Preus.

The delegation of our Mid-South District 19th Regular Convention certainly shares this sentiment and is most grateful to have Rev. Preus join us for the weekend’s proceedings. We hope many of you will take the opportunity to share a warm Mid-South welcome with him during the Convention.

News to Share

Rev. Carl Wenck of Grace Lutheran Murfreesboro, TN celebrates the 34th anniversary of his ordination on Sunday June 28th

June 14: Rev. Al and Pat Boysen celebrated their 57th Anniversary

The Position of Parliamentarian

When assembling for discussion, elections and voting on official organization business and policy, the expertise of a parliamentarian is essential for consultation on rules of order and proper procedure. For the 19th Regular Convention of the Mid-South District, we are pleased to have the expert oversight of parliamentarian Charlotte Buchanan from Nashville, TN. A member of the National Association of Parliamentarians, Charlotte has been a parliamentarian for over 15 years. She is not only registered to serve in this capacity, but she also teaches others who are pursuing certification as a parliamentarian.



Electronic Voting for the first time!



Pubicity Committee is hard at work on the next *Hope Herald*



THE MISSION & MINISTRY FLOOR COMMITTEE PREPARES RESOLUTIONS (L).

A NUMBER OF OVERTURES WERE RECEIVED BY THE ADMINSTRATION AND FINANCE FLOOR COMMITTEE (R).



THE OFFICE STAFF KEEPS EVERYTHING RUNNING SMOOTHLY BEHIND THE SCENES.



THE REV. JOHN GIERKE ADDRESSES THE ASSEMBLY.



TESSA BRASHER SHARES AN UPDATE ON YOUTH MINISTRY