



Resolution 01-01-18

SUBJECT: To Reaffirm Church Planting

(Reference Overture 01-01-18 printed on page 147 of the Convention Workbook)

- WHEREAS,** Jesus commands the church to go and make disciples by baptizing, teaching (*Matthew 28:18*) and seeking the lost as our foremost priority (*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 Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod has fallen short of its objective of 2000 new ministries; and
- WHEREAS,** The Mid-South District has a rich 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,** Recent church planting initiatives have had many people reached with the Gospel who previously had little or no connection to the church; and
- WHEREAS,** The most recent self-sustaining church plants have come as a result of circuit and/or “mothering congregation” formats, therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** That the Mid-South District in convention affirms the initiatives of the District’s Church Planting effort, and the congregations and pastors actively involved in new church planting activities that focus on reaching the lost; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the Mid-South District establish partnerships with circuits and congregations who are willing to initiate and support ongoing church planting efforts that will “stand firm and hold to the traditions that [we] were taught” (2 Thess. 2:15) in the Holy Scriptures, the Lutheran Confessions, and our Lutheran identity and heritage, while affirming the “right, authority, and power [for each church plant] to change, reduce, or increase ceremonies according to its circumstances, as long as it does so without frivolity and offense but in an orderly and appropriate way” (SD Art. X, 9); and be it finally
- RESOLVED,** That 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. Kevin Conger, Chair
Rev. Curt Hoover, Secretary