



Resolution 03-02-25

SUBJECT: **To Encourage Generational Ministry**

(Reference Overture(s) 03-02-25 printed on page 189 of Convention Workbook)

- WHEREAS,** The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, in Convention in 2019 passed Resolution 12-03, “To Encourage Lifelong Catechesis in the Home and Church; and
- WHEREAS,** Pastors equip the saints to do the work of ministry; “And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry for building up the body of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:11-12); and
- WHEREAS,** It is the duty of parents to pass on the faith to their children, even as Paul says, “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4); and
- WHEREAS,** Moses writes in Deuteronomy 6:6-7, “And these words that I command you today shall be on you heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk to them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise”; and
- WHEREAS,** The Large Catechism comments on the promises God makes to those who keep this commandment in reference to Exodus 20:12, and Ephesians 6:3 saying, “From this you can see for yourself how serious God is about the commandment. He not only declares that it is well pleasing to Him and that He has joy and delight in it, but he also declares that it shall prosper us and promote our highest good, so that we may have a pleasant and agreeable life, furnished with every good thing.” (LC I 132); and
- WHEREAS,** It is clear this commandment was not meant to be just for the next generation but for succeeding generations as Moses says, “Now this is the commandment – the statutes and the rules – that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you... That you may fear the Lord your God, you and your sons and your son’s sons.” (Deuteronomy 6: 1-2); and
- WHEREAS,** The life of a Christian involves ongoing catechesis; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. Martin Luther, in his Small Catechism begins with, “As the head of the family should teach them in a simple way to his household”; and



- WHEREAS,** We hold the doctrines expressed in the Lutheran confessions contained in the *Book of Concord* to truly represent the beliefs of the Christian faith and we avoid teachings and practices contrary to Lutheran doctrine; and
- WHEREAS,** Faith is given as a gift of grace through hearing the Word and in Baptism, and faith needs to be fed and nourished throughout the life of each disciple of Christ; therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** That congregations of the Mid-South District shall equip parents, guardians, and members of the congregations to be active teachers and lifelong learners of the faith (2 Timothy 3:14-15); and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That we encourage congregations and official youth ministers of the Mid-South District to provide resources for ongoing catechesis after confirmation, using scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, and the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod doctrinally-approved resources; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the congregations of the Mid-South District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod be urged to develop systems of study and preparation for parents, guardians, and members to help shape the spiritual lives of their children; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the congregations of the Mid-South District share their successful strategies on implementing lifelong catechesis in the home with the District Office.

Rev. Kevin McReynolds

Tessa Brasher