



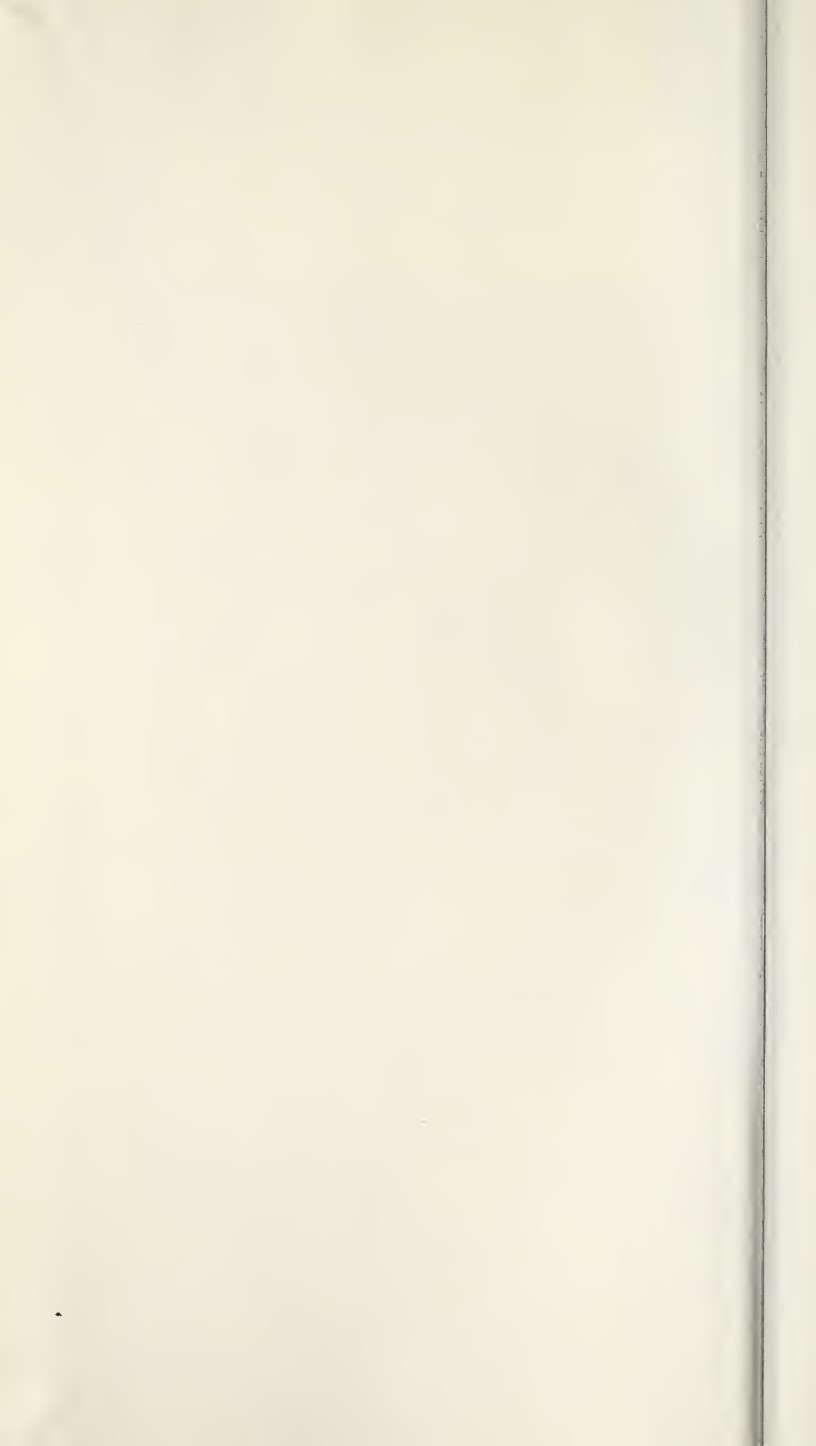
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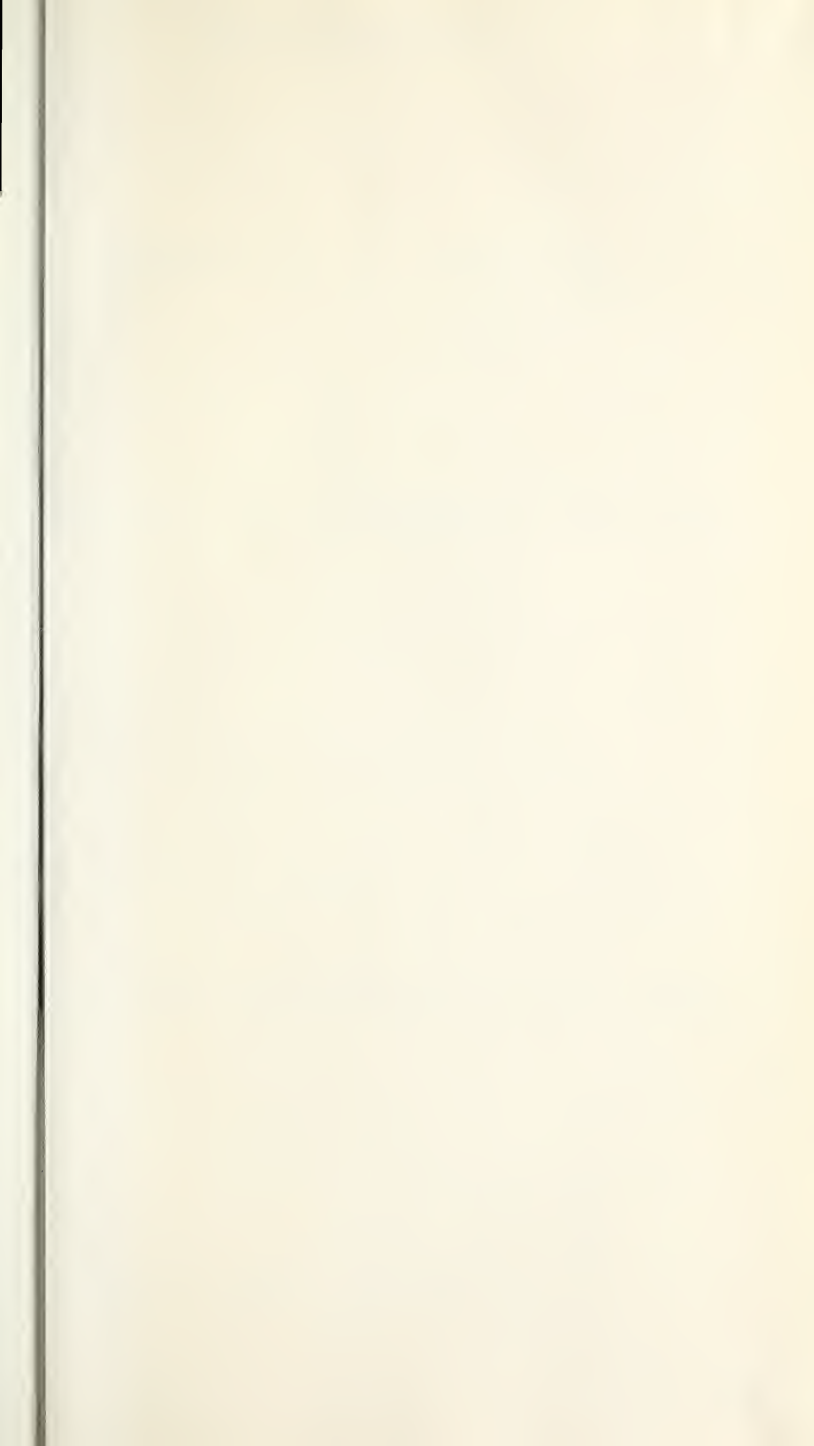
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Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
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Proceedings of the ...  
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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ELEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD,

OF

NORTHERN INDIANA,

HELD IN

ALBION, INDIANA, FROM SEPT. 27th TO OCT. 1st, 1865.

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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REV. W. P. RUTHRAUFF,  
REV. G. W. WILSON.∴  
REV. W. WALTMAN.

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

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CLERICAL.	ELECTED.	TIME EXPIRES.
Rev. W. WALTMAN, .....	1863 .....	1867
Rev. R. F. DELO .....	1864 .....	1868
Rev. J. N. BARNETT .....	1865 .....	1869
LAY.		
S. CORNELL .....	1863 .....	1867
H. J. RUDISILL .....	1864 .....	1868
D. D. KNISELY .....	1865 .....	1869

MAR 23 '78

## TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT CONVENTION.

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The Twelfth Annual Convention of the Synod of Northern Indiana will be held in Cicero, Hamilton County, Indiana, commencing on Wednesday, 9 o'clock, A. M., just before the full moon in October, 1866.

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## OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIANA.

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Rev. W. P. RUTHRAUFF, PRESIDENT.  
Rev. G. W. WILSON, ∴ SECRETARY.  
Rev. W. WALTMAN, TREASURER.



## RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

During the session of the Synod, and on Sabbath, the following services were held.

Tuesday evening, Synodical Sermon by Rev. D. Smith, II John, 1: 3.

Wednesday evening, Rev. C. Sink, Luke 16: 31.

Thursday evening, Rev. H. Wells, Rev. 2: 4.

Friday 9 A. M., Rev. G. E. Moore, Acts 1: 9.

Friday evening, Rev. W. P. Ruthrauff, II Tim. 2: 2.

Saturday, 2 P. M., Rev. A. J. Cramer, Heb. 9: 28.

Saturday evening, Rev. W. Hunt, I Tim. 1: 15.

Sabbath, 10 A. M., Rev. W. P. Ruthrauff, John 14: 2; after which, the church was dedicated to the service of Almighty God.

Sabbath, 2 P. M., Rev. J. Stininger, Ps. 92: 13; after which the Lord's Supper was administered.

Sabbath evening, Rev. R. F. Delo, I Cor. 8: 16; after which Rev. C. Sink was licensed to preach the Gospel.

1998605

## STANDING RESOLUTIONS.

*Resolved*, That the President be empowered to grant, ad interim, license to preach the Gospel to such applicants as shall be recommended by three members of this Ministerium, and that this be the by-law on this subject.—[*Minutes of the 5th Convention, page 22.*]

*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee of the Education Society enter into a written contract with the beneficiaries to refund to the Society all mones received by them from said Society, should they ever abandon the Gospel Ministry.—[*Fifth Convention, page 23.*]

*Resolved*, That each Conference of the Synod of Northern Indiana organize themselves into a Lutheran Sabbath School Convention, to meet once a year, at a time most convenient for them, and each Sabbath School be requested to send a delegate to the Convention.—[*Eighth Convention, Resol. 12.*]

*Resolved*, That as the erection of union churches is not productive of Christian Union and brotherly love, but rather of strife and contention, we recommend to all our ministers and people to build no more such churches.—[*Eighth Convention, Resol. 13.*]

*Resolved*, That it is the solemn duty of every minister of this Synod, thoroughly and carefully to catechize all the young of his charge, and that every minister who neglects this duty does so in violation of the solemn vow taken upon him in his ordination.—[*Eighth Convention, Resol. 15.*]

*Resolved*, That we recommend to each congregation or charge in connection with this Synod, the duty of paying the expenses of their Pastors and Delegates incurred in attending the meetings of this body.—[*Tenth Convention, Resol. 5.*]

# PROCEEDINGS.

ALBION, IND., Sept. 27, 1865.

On last evening the members of the Eleventh Annual Convention of the Synod of Northern Indiana assembled in the Court House, (the church was being repaired) in Albion, Noble Co., Ind., and were favored with the Synodical Sermon by the President of the Synod, Rev. D. Smith, from II John 1: 3.

## FIRST SYNODICAL SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

After the members of the Synod assembled, and spending half an hour in prayer, the first Synodical Session was opened with the singing of a hymn, and prayer by the President.

The clerical roll was called, and the absentees noted, after which the Lay Delegates were received and their names recorded.

### LIST OF MEMBERS.

CLERICAL.	RESIDENCE.	LAY.
1. Rev. D. Smith, .....	Noblesville, Ind., .....	J. C. Baker.
2. Rev. H. Wells,.....	Columbia City, Ind.,.....	
3. Rev. J. Cather,* .....	Jarvis, Ind. ....	
4. Rev. W. Waltman, .....	Lisbon, Ind.....	S. Eckert.
5. Rev. R. F. Delo,.....	Elkhart, Ind .....	M. Spangler.
6. Rev. W. Hunt   .....	Hicksville, Ohio .....	
7. Rev. J. H. Hoffman.....	Salem Centre, Ind.....	
8. Rev. W. P. Ruthrauff....	Fort Wayne, Ind .....	
9. Rev. A. H. Scherer† .....	Sharpsville, Ind.....	
10. Rev. S. P. Snyder .....	Camden, Ind.....	
11. Rev. P. Locker*.....	New Corydon, Ind.....	
12. Rev. J. G. Biddle .....	Spencerville, Ind .....	P. Grider.
13. Rev. C. Caskey‡ .....	Jarvis, Ind .....	
14. Rev. B. F. Hills.....	Lagrange Centre, Ind.....	G. Bittinger.
15. Rev. J. Miller.....	Columbia City, Ind .....	
16. Rev. J. M. Smith.....	Onward, Ind .....	
17. Rev. J. Boon .....	Berrian Springs, Ind .....	
18. Rev. V. Exline.....	Van Wert, Ohio.....	
19. Rev. J. Stininger   .....	White Pigeon, Mich.....	
20. Rev. F. Biddle .....	Monmouth, Ind .....	B. Houk.
21. Rev. G. W. Wilson .....	North Manchester, Ind.....	A. Oldfather.
22. Rev. J. A. Barnett.....	Albion, Ind .....	J. Koons.
23. Rev. J. M. Lang .....	Bryan, Ohio .....	J. Tresler.
24. Rev. W. H. Faris .....	Walton, Ind .....	S. Stough.
25. Rev. A. J. Cromer.....	Zanesville, Allen Co., Ind.....	J. Seaman.

## LICENTIATES.

26. Rev. G. E. Moore..... Bluegrass, Fulton Co., Ind.... W. Bemenderfer.  
 27. Rev. E. W. Erick..... Monmouth, Ind. .... A. Shaffer.  
 28. Rev. C. Sink, L. .... Elkhart, Ind.....

## ADVISORY MEMBERS.

- Rev. W. Hunt, of Allegheny Synod, Penn.  
 Rev. G. Faehman, of Minnesota Synod, Minnesota.  
 Rev. J. W. Henderson, Waterloo City, Ind., D. D. Knisely.  
 Rev. — Sellers, of the M. E. Church.  
 Rev. W. T. Barnard, of the M. E. Church.  
 Mr. W. Calvert of the Massillon Charge.  
 Mr. T. W. Blain, of the Salem Charge.  
 Mr. Crouse, of St. Paul's Church.

The President now read his Report, which was received and placed in the hands of Committee No. 1.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

To the Brethren of the Synod of Northern Indiana, and to all who have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God, and our Saviour, Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord.

God has mercifully preserved the lives of all the members of this Synod another year, and has greatly blessed and revived his work of Grace within its bounds. Many precious seasons of revivals have been enjoyed, and many souls have been added to the church, and, we trust, also, to the number of such as shall be saved: for which we feel devoutly grateful to God.

The following are the Presidential acts during the interim of Synod, which are now laid before you for synodical action.

## AD INTERIM LICENSURES.

Soon after the adjournment of Synod last fall, Mr. Wm. H. Keller made application to me for an "ad interim" license, and being recommended by five ordained ministers, his application was granted.

April 27th, 1865. Bro. J. W. Miller was also recommended as a suitable person for license, (by three ordained ministers,) which was also granted until this session of synod.

## BY LETTER.

On the 9th of May last, I received a certificate of dismissal to this Synod, from the President of the Olive Branch Synod, of the Rev. A. J. Cramer, with the request by the latter to unite with this Synod; all of which was accepted, and is now before your honorable body for acceptance and final action.

On the 5th of May, 1865, I received a letter from Dr. S. Sprecher, who informed me that one of our beneficiaries, (Bro. P. Ray,) had finally, by the approval of the faculty of the College, and the advice of his physician, abandoned the idea of studying for the ministry; that he had engaged in secular business with good success, and was prepared to settle with the Synod for the funds he had received, for which I immediately entered into negotiations.

The Dr. also informed me that Bro. A. Leathers has received more than our portion of the funds from the Parent Education Society, and that we ought now to assume his entire support. I immediately wrote to the Dr. and to Bro. Leathers, and informed them that we would do so.

\* Absent, excused. † Absent, not excused. ‡ Not heard from. || Received this year.  
 L. Licensed this year.

## DISMISSIONS.

In accordance with a resolution of Synod, I forwarded honorable dismissal to Rev. G. W. Halderman, a licentiate of this Synod.

## ORGANIZATIONS.

The Revs. Waltman, Erick, Moore, and Delo, report new organization with quite a number of members, and very cheering future prospects.

## REVIVALS.

We are happy to report, also, that the Lord has also greatly blessed the efforts of his servants this year, and revived his work in his vineyard. The cheering news has come up from almost every charge within the bounds of our Synod, "The Lord has revived his work in my charge. Sinners have been converted, and christians revived and encouraged. Prayer meetings and Sabbath Schools have been greatly increased in numbers, efficiency, zeal, etc." The means of grace have been wonderfully blessed of God, in the hopeful conversion of many souls. And we doubt not, the day of judgment will reveal many a soul who will rise and testify that this was the year of its redemption. All praise, and honor, and glory, and power be unto God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, for his great love bestowed upon his servants and their labors in his vineyard this year.

And now, beloved brethren, as my official term has again expired, I retire to give place to a more worthy successor.

And now, may the God of all grace, bless and sanctify you wholly, and give you all needful grace, preside over all your deliberations in great peace, and when on earth our work is finished, gather us all into his everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Yours in love,

D. SMITH.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Synod now proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year. The President appointed tellers, Rev. Delo and Snyder, who subsequently announced the following :

Rev. W. P. Ruthrauff, President.

Rev. G. W. Wilson, Secretary.

Rev. W. Waltman, Treasurer.

## COMMITTEES.

All papers intended for the Synod were now placed upon the table, upon which the President appointed the following committees.

No. 1. (President's report,) Revs. J. M. Lang and W. H. Faris.

No. 2. (Last years minutes,) Revs. Wells, Waltman and Delo.

No. 3. Revs. F. Delo and B. F. Hills.

No. 4. Revs. D. Smith and V. Exline.

No. 5. Revs. W. Waltman and S. P. Snyder and brother Spangler.

No. 6. Revs. F. Biddle, E. W. Erick and A. Oldfather.

No. 7. Revs. W. H. Faris, J. N. Barnett and brother Tresler.

No. 8. Revs. R. F. Delo, J. M. Lang and brother Bitinger.

No. 9. Revs. H. Wells, J. M. Lang and brother Houk.

No. 10. Revs. S. P. Snyder, V. Exline and brother Stough.

No. 11. (On Examination,) Revs. D. Smith, S. P. Snyder and J. M.

Lang.



No. 12. (To settle with P. Ray,) Revs. D. Smith, W. H. Faris and brother Baker.

No. 13. Revs J. H. Hoffman, G. E. Moore and brother Bemendefer.

No. 14. Revs. J. N. Barnett, W. H. Faris and brother Ekhert.

No. 15. Revs. J. Boon and J. Stininger.

No. 16. (For the establishment of an Institution of Learning,) Revs. W. Ruthrauff, H. Wells, and R. F. Delo.

No. 17. (Examining Committee for next year,) Delo, Hoffman, Lang.

On motion, adjourned to give the president time to arrange the papers and appoint committees.

Prayer by Rev. S. P. Snyder.

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## SECOND SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. W. Hunt.

Minutes of previous session read and approved.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 1.

Your committee having examined the President's report, beg leave to suggest to you the following:

1. That we greatly rejoice in the prosperity of our Zion.
2. That we approve of all the official acts of the President during the last Synodical year.
3. That the ad interim licensure of the brethren, W. H. Keller and J. V. Miller, be referred to the Ministerium for further action.
4. That in regard to brothers Ray and Leathers, their case be referred to synod for further action.

Respectfully submitted.

J. M. LANG,  
W. H. FARIS.

Report adopted.

On motion, Rev. G. Fachtman was granted permission to address the Synod in behalf of the Home Mission cause of the Lutheran Church in Minnesota: And on motion it was

(I.) *Resolved*, That Synod has heard with interest the statements of brother Fachtman of Minnesota, on the subject of Mission, and that him and his cause have the sympathy, prayers and support of this Synod.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Prayer by Rev. F. Biddle.

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## THIRD SESSION.

THURSDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. N. Barnett.

Minutes read and approved.

Rev. J. H. Hoffman having arrived, took his seat.

Rev. J. Stininger was introduced, and having a regular dismissal from the Central Pennsylvania Synod, on motion was received as a member of this body.

On motion, Rev. W. Waltman was excused from attendance at Synod until to-morrow morning.

On motion, Rev. J. W. Henderson was received as an advisory member.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 2.

### MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF LAST YEAR.

1. Synod adopted a report recorded on the 9th and 10th pages of the minutes of last year. What further action will Synod take on the subject contained in the report?
2. What is the amendment to the constitution of Synod referred to in its sixth, pages 12 and 13?
3. Have the resolutions recorded on page 13 been complied with?
4. What has been done with respect to a resolution concerning our beneficiaries, Leathers and Ray—page 16?
5. What has been done for the vacant missions referred to on pages 17 and 18?
6. Did the Pastor's Fund Society report favorably to the applications made by order of Synod—pages 16 and 17?
7. Have the Delegates to sister Synods done their duty?
8. Have the Directors to Wittenberg College attended the meeting of the Board?
9. Were the minutes of Synod published and distributed as ordered on page 18?
10. Are the brethren prepared to fill the appointments made for them on page 18?

Respectfully submitted.

HUGH WELLS,  
R. F. DELO,  
W. WALTMAN.

### Report received and adopted seriatim.

Item 1st. The committee on Liturgy reported that they have nothing to offer, but would respectfully confide the whole matter to the General Synod.

H. WELLS,  
R. F. DELO,  
W. P. RUTHRAUFF,  
M. PLANK,  
J. W. BELL.

Item 2; Amendment to the Constitution.

## ARTICLE VII.

SECTION 5. The power to form or change pastoral charges belongs also to this body, therefore no minister, conference or congregation shall make any change or alteration in any of the pastorates connected with this Synod without the consent of Synod.

3; Generally complied with.

4; Executive Committee reports that brother P. Ray received \$75,00 and brother Leathers \$25,00.

5; Referred to Missionary business.

6; In part.

7; In part.

8;

## REPORT OF DIRECTOR.

Your Director to Wittenberg College met the Board of Directors at Springfield, O., in March and June last. Much business of importance to the College and the Church was transacted of which you have been advised already through other channels of communication.

We are encouraged to hope for great and good things from this "School of the Prophets," which has strong claims upon our sympathy, prayers and means.

Your Director claims of Synod for traveling expenses, \$21.00.

Respectfully submitted.

H. WELLS.

9. Yes.

10. Yes.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 8.

The document in the hands of your committee is a letter from Rev. J. W. Goodlin, containing a resolution passed at a joint meeting of the Board of Directors, and Theological Alumni of Wittenberg College, at a meeting held in the basement of the Lutheran Church, at Springfield, Ohio, June 29th, 1865.

## RESOLUTION.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary, either in person or by letter, present the matter to the Western Synods at their annual meetings, requesting that they appoint delegates who shall meet in convention at some place designated by the Synods, in order to consult as to the *propriety* of establishing a Church Paper in the West.

After giving this subject some reflection, your committee most respectfully submit: That it is *not* advisable for this Synod to appoint a committee as contemplated in the above resolution, having already a sufficient number of Church Papers, such as the Lutheran Observer, Lutheran and Missionary, &c.

It is the opinion of your committee, that it is most emphatically the duty of the church to sustain the Papers which we now have, and make them a power in the church, and when that is done, and well done, it will then be time to originate others, believing it to be the true policy of the church to centralize, instead of dividing its resources.

Further, being admonished by the fate of the Evangelical Lutheran, it would not be wise for the Synod to risk the pecuniary embarrassment and loss that attended that unfortunate enterprise.

Respectfully submitted.

R. F. DELO,  
J. M. LANG,  
GEO. BITTINGER.

Adopted.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 9.

Your committee report respecting the Masillon Charge:

*Whereas*, The people of Wells Chapel congregation, together with that of Bethlehem, belonging to said charge in Indiana, but residing in Ohio, desire to be detached from said charge, and honorably dismissed from Synod, to unite with Van Wert charge of the Wittenburg Synod of Ohio:

We therefore would ask that their request be respectfully granted, and that the Secretary of this Synod officially inform them of this action.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGH WELLS,  
J. M. LANG,  
BENJAMIN HOUK.

Adopted.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 7.

Your committee find the documents placed in their hands to be,

1. A letter from Rev. J. C. Bradfuehrer, delegate appointed to represent the Miami Synod at our present convention.
2. A letter from Rev. J. W. Schreves, delegate appointed to represent the East Ohio Synod at our present convention.

Your committee regret that these brethren could not meet with us, and recommend the reading of said letters before synod, and that we sincerely reciprocate the fraternal feelings of our brethren of the Miami and East Ohio Synods; also that delegates be appointed to correspond with those Synods.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. FARIS,  
J. N. BARNETT.  
J. TRESSLER.

Report adopted and letters read.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 6.

Your committee would report that the documents placed in their hands, are

1. The minutes of the nineteenth annual convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Illinois, convened at Beardstown, Ill., August 25th, 1866.
2. Is a copy of the minutes of the twenty-second annual meeting of the Evan. Lutheran Synod of Miami, convened at Lancaster, O., June 8th, 1865.

We find nothing in these minutes claiming the attention of this body.

Respectfully submitted,

F. BIDDLE,  
E. V. ERICK,  
A. OLDFATHER.

Adopted.

Rev. J. G. Biddle was asked for the reasons for his late arrival, which he made satisfactory to the Synod.

Revs. J. Miller and J. H. Hoffman the same.

Synod now adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. H. Hoffman.

## FOURTH SESSION.

THURSDAY, 2 o'clock P. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. W. Henderson.

Minutes read and corrected.

On motion parochial reports were now taken up. (See Appendix.)

## HOME MISSIONS.

Home Mission business was now taken up, of which the following was transacted.

## REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your committee respectfully report, that they have paid out of the Home Missionary Treasury to Rev. H. Wells, one hundred and thirty-four dollars and to Rev. W. H. Faris, eleven dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

D. SMITH,  
G. W. WILSON,  
W. WALTMAN.

Adopted.



## TRAVELING MISSIONARY'S REPORT.

Your Missionary immediately after Synod in October last returned home and resigned as pastor of the Columbia Charge. He was about ready to enter upon the mission work, when he was informed that his resignation at Columbia could not be accepted, and that if he left that people they would have a pastor. He then consented to remain in the charge with the understanding that he might travel and labor six or seven weeks as a missionary. He is very that in that time he has accomplished so little for the church.

In last November he visited Kendallville and Waterloo. The latter had retained a pastor in connection with other points. In the former place, he and a few respectable, faithful Lutherans, one of whom proposed, on certain conditions, to give one thousand dollars towards building a house of worship for our denomination.

There being some seven or eight churches already in the place, and the most of these zealously laboring to build up their respective denominations the question with respect to what we should do at present is undecided. Hearing that brother Kirtland's health had failed and that he had left Waterloo, and thinking that some arrangement might be made to unite those two points in one charge, another visit was made to Waterloo the first of this month, where it was ascertained that the people who had been served by brother Kirtland had procured a Pastor for the same field. Therefore the case of Kendallville is yet to settle.

Your Missionary visited Logansport twice in May and August. He found a few Lutherans and good friends, but unless some other point adjacent can be united with it, the present prospects of our denomination there is not flattering. He also visited Warren and preached several sermons recently.

Wrote a constitution for an organization there which ten persons signed, with the promise of at least ten or twelve more.

The brethren at Warren say there are a number of Lutheran families at Dundee, and also at Hartford, and that these three places could be formed into a charge which would soon be able to support a pastor.

They need a man who can preach in the English and German languages. I have spent six weeks in the mission work, and have promised the people another visit to Warren to complete the organization of their church.

Your Missionary collected nothing from the people visited by him.

He received of your Treasurer \$134, and asks that for traveling expenses and services rendered, said amount be considered paid and the debt cancelled.

Respectfully submitted.

H. WELLS.

Report received and adopted.

On motion, it was

II.) *Resolved*, That this Synod devote one hundred dollars to the cause of the Missions in Minnesota, and place it in the hands of Rev. G. Fachtman that purpose.

On motion, it was

III.) *Resolved*, That Rev. J. H. Hoffman be allowed to retain those funds subscribed in his charge, and not yet collected, for missionary labor performed, which he has not been properly remunerated.

Rev. J. Boon was asked for his excuse for late arrival, which he made satisfactory to Synod.

Brother Keller also arrived, and was excused.

On motion, pledges were now taken to be paid next meeting of Synod. (See Appendix.)

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE No 13.

The papers handed to your committee, are a letter and parochial report Rev. A. H. Scherer, together with eight dollars and ten cents for benovol purposes.

This brother wants to be excused for nonattendance, for the following reasons: Want of *means* to pay traveling expenses, want of *time*, as he is almost entirely dependent upon his own labor for support.

Your committee regret the absence of brother Scherer, and think it a great failure not to be at Synod, yet recommend that he be excused.

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. HOFFMAN,  
G. E. MOORE,  
W. BEMENDEFER

This report was received, and amended thus:

(IV.) *Resolved*, That the excuse of Rev. A. H. Scherer is not valid.

Adjourned until to-morrow 9 o'clock A. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. Stininger.

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 FIFTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, 9 A. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. Boon.

Minutes read and corrected.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

The receipts and expenditures for the last year were as follows:

## SYNODICAL TREASURY.

Receipts.....	\$134 3
Expenditures.....	133 8
Balance in treasury .....	4

## HOME MISSIONARY TREASURY.

Receipts.....	\$149 4
Expenditures.....	134 0
Balance in treasury.....	4 4

## FOREIGN MISSIONARY TREASURY.

Receipts.....	\$56 0
Expenditures.....	56 0

## EDUCATION TREASURY.

Receipts.....	\$141 5
Paid to P. Ray.....	75 0
Paid to A. Leathers.....	25 0
Balance on hand.....	\$41 5

## PASTOR'S FUND TREASURY.

Receipts.....	\$45 45
Paid Treasurer of P. Fund.....	44 50
	<hr/>
Balance on hand .....	95

## WITTENBURG COLLEGE.

Receipts.....	\$242 00
Paid to said College.....	242 00

Attest:

W. WALTMAN, Treas.

Report received and placed in the hands of an auditing committee, Revs. Boon and Cromer.

## REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

Your committee to whom was referred the Treasurer's Report, would report that they have examined the same and find it correct.

Respectfully submitted,

J. BOON,  
A. J. CROMER.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 5.

The paper placed in the hands of this committee is a letter from Rev. M. Officer, General Agent of the Home Missionary Society of the General Synod, the reading of which your committee recommend before Synod.

As bearing upon the contents of this letter, we submit the following:

1. That we do not consider the action of this Synod at its last session in employing one of its own members as an exploring missionary in its own territory, as involving either directly or indirectly, a withdrawal from co-operation with the parent Home Missionary Society of the General Synod.
2. That hereafter, all monies coming into the charge of this Synod, be paid over to the treasurer of the parent society for disbursement.
3. That this Synod appoint an advisory committee of co-operation with the executive committee of the parent society relative to missionary operations on our territory.
4. That we instruct our delegates to the next meeting of the General Synod to vote for an amendment to the constitution of the Home Missionary Society as will limit its membership to those only who co-operate with it.
5. That this Synod extend a cordial invitation to the General Agent, Rev. M. Officer, to visit our field with a view to locate and establish therein mission charges.
6. That Synod constitute the Waterloo, Wittenberg and Butler churches a pastoral charge, and advise the members of St Paul's church to unite themselves with said charge.
7. That the Butler charge present a copy of its constitution to Synod, at its next meeting, for approval.

Your committee regret that Bro. Officer could not meet with us, and present the subjects of his letter to us in person.

Respectfully submitted,

S. P. SNYDER,  
M. SPANGLER,  
W. WALTMAN.

Report received, and taken up seriatim.

Adopted as a whole.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 14.

Your committee report, that the paper given them is a letter from Rev. J. Cather, wherein he gives his reasons for non-attendance at this meeting.

We recommend that his letter be read before Synod, and such further action be had as you deem necessary.

Respectfully submitted.

J. N. BRNETT,  
W. H. FARIS,  
S. ECKERT.

Report received, and letters read.

Brother James Cather excused.

Rev A. J. Cromer and Delegate offered their excuses for late arrival, and were excused.

The following resolution concerning Rev. C. Caskey was passed.

Inasmuch as Rev. C. Caskey has been absent from Synod for several successive years, without giving any excuse for non-attendance, therefor

(V.) *Resolved*, That Rev. C. Caskey be called upon to show cause why his name should not be stricken from the roll of our Synod; also that he be called upon to give a reason for not presenting his parochial report to this Synod.

### VACANT CHURCHES.

Rev. B. F. Hills reports Spencerville charge vacant.

Rev. J. M. Lang, Lost Creek charge.

On motion, it was

(VI) *Resolved*, That Rev. W. Hunt be recommended to Lost Creek charge.

On motion, it was

(VII) *Resolved*, That Rev. J. Stinger be recommended to visit Burr Oak and Colon, and try to organize congregations, if possible, and supply them with preaching the coming year.

On motion, it was

(VIII) *Resolved*, That Rev. F. Biddle be recommended to the people of Warren, and that he preach to them and at other points contiguous, to build up a charge.

On motion, it was

(IX.) *Resolved*, That Rev. R. F. Delo visit South Bend to look after our interests there.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

Prayer by Rev. A. J. Cromer.

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### SIXTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, 2 o'clock P. M.

Prayer by Rev. W. Waltman.

Minutes read and approved.

### REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your committee would respectfully report that they have appropriated of



the funds of the Educational Society, to Philip Ray, seventy-five dollars (\$75) and to A. Leathers twenty-five dollars (\$25.) Both of these brethren have been to Wittenburg College during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

D. SMITH,  
G. W. WILSON,  
W. WALTMAN.

### Report Adopted.

On motion, it was

(X.) *Resolved*, That Bro. A. Leathers be granted \$150 for his support at Wittenburg College this coming year, or \$175 if the Executive Committee think it necessary.

The regular order of business was suspended until Bro. — Crouse, Commissioner from St. Paul's Church, was received.

After hearing Bro. Crouse, the following resolution was passed.

(XI.) *Resolved*, That this Synod, having heard the Commissioner from St. Paul's Church, see no reason for changing their action already taken upon this subject, but would most kindly and respectfully advise those brethren to unite with the organization at Butler.

On motion, it was

(XII.) *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to mature some plan for the establishment of an institution of learning within the bounds of this Synod, and that they be instructed to receive bids for the location of such an institution, to report at the next session of Synod.

On motion, it was

(XIII.) *Resolved*, That the President appoint two, and Synod one of that committee.

*Committee*—Rev. W. P. Ruthrauff, Rev. H. Wells, Rev. R. F. Delo.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 16.

Your committee would report that they have in their hands the proceedings of the Council Association of the Horeb charge, in which they express dissatisfaction with the action of Synod at Camden, 1864, in electing Rev. H. Wells as traveling missionary.

Your committee, believing that Synod was ignorant of the arrangement existing between Rev. H. Wells and the Horeb charge, would consider that Synod is not responsible for any deleterious results to said charge, following that action of the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

R. F. DELO,  
J. W. HENDERSON,  
D. D. KNISELY.

Report adopted.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 10.

The papers placed in the hands of this committee are the constitutions of the following newly organized churches. The First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Elkhart, Elkhart County, Ind.; the East Union Church, in Noble County, Ind.; the Silver Lake Church, Silver Lake, Kosciusko County, Ind.; the St. Peter's Church, in Fulton County, Ind.; the Salem Church in Wells county, Ind., and the First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lawrence, Decalb county, Ind.

Having examined these constitutions, we find them to be in accordance

with the requirements of this Synod, and therefore move that they be received into connection therewith.

Respectfully submitted,

S. P. SNYDER,  
V. EXLINE,  
S. STOUGH.

Report adopted.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 15.

Your committee would respectfully report that the paper placed in their hands is a letter from Elizabeth C., daughter of Rev. P. Locker, wishing that her father may be excused for not attending this meeting of the Synod, in consequence of his present severe illness. He is unable, at present, to make out his parochial report, but will do so as soon as he recovers his health, and forward it, with the funds, to the Secretary of Synod.

Your committee ask that he be excused, and that we heartily express our sympathy for Bro. Locker and family, praying that he may be spared to the church and his family.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN BOON,  
JOS. STININGER.

Report adopted.

On motion, it was

(XIV.) *Resolved*, That we consider it a duty of ministers of the Lutheran Church, in dismissing members leaving their congregations by removal, to give them letters of dismissal, and recommend them to unite with Lutheran Churches; and that we hereby most earnestly pray our ministerial brethren in the East, to attend strictly to this duty, and thus assist our ministers in the West in saving to the Lutheran church our Lutheran immigrants.

### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On motion, it was

(XV.) *Resolved*, That the Secretary be instructed by this Synod to distribute the Minutes of this Convention according to the amount contributed by the different charges for Synodical purposes.

On motion, it was

(XVI.) *Resolved*, That the committee on Examination now be appointed for next year.

Committee. { REV. R. F. DELO,  
REV. J. H. HOFFMAN,  
REV. J. M. LANG.

On motion, adjourned to meet again to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Prayer by Rev. F. Biddle.

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### SEVENTH SESSION.

SUNDAY, 9 A. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. W. Henderson.

Minutes read and approved.

On motion, it was

(XVII.) *Resolved*, That the Constitution of this Synod be published with the Minutes of this Convention.

On motion, it was

(XVIII.) *Resolved*, That the making or selling of intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage is an immorality; and therefore inconsistent with church fellowship, and the true spirit of Christianity.

On motion, it was

(XIX.) *Resolved*, That in view of the fearful prevalence of intemperence all our ministers, officers and church members are besought to preach, talk, pray and labor to roll back the desolating tide, and save the youth of our land from the curse of drunkenness, the middle aged from premature and dishonored graves, the aged from the night of sorrow that hopes for no morning, heartbroken wives and mothers, from sorrow unutterable, and precious little ones from a worse condition than that of helpless orphans.

(XX.) *Resolved*, That the Secretary be requested to prepare a synopsis of the proceedings of this Synodical Convention for publication in the Lutheran Observer, and Lutheran and Missions, and that the resolution relative to the removal of members be given in full.

(XXI.) *Resolved*, That we gratefully recognize the hand of Divine Providence in crowning the efforts of the army and navy of the United States with success in crushing the slave holding gigantic rebellion, and convincing the world that our government has power to punish treason and quell insurrection at home, and to maintain peace and order on sea and land, and command the respect of the civilized world.

(XXII.) *Resolved*, That this Synod do here record our gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the return of peace to our land, and the re-establishment of the government on the basis of the immortal Declaration of Independence, and of the God given rights which it secures.

(XXIII.) *Resolved*, That we recognize the God of our fathers as the Almighty Ruler of heaven and earth, who hears and answers the prayers of his people, and that we be admonished ever encouraged to obey the gospel precept, to pray for all in authority over us, and thus in our devotions remember our government and all its officers.

(XXIV.) *Resolved*, That Synod request a copy of Rev. W. P. Ruthrauff's sermon on Education for publication in our church papers.

(XXV.) *Resolved*, That Rev. W. Hunt\* be received into this Synod, on condition that he locate within the bounds of this Synod.

Brother Spangler asks to be excused from further attendance at this Convention, which was granted.

## ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NEXT GENERAL SYNOD.

Synod now went into an election of delegates to the next General Synod, and when the vote was had, it was declared to be.

### CLERICAL.

#### PRIMARI.

Rev. W. P. Ruthrauff,  
 " R. F. Delo,  
 " S. P. Snyder,  
 " H. Wells,

#### SECUNDI.

Rev. J. N. Barnett,  
 " J. Boon,  
 " J. M. Lang,  
 " D. Smith.

\* Since the meeting of Synod, brother Hunt has taken charge of the Lost Creek Congregations.

## LAY DELEGATES.

ELECTED.	ALTERNATE.
H. J. Rudisill,	S. Eckert,
N. B. Freeman,	J. Wory,
M. Spangler,	H. Snyder
D. D. Knisely,	J. Plank.

## DIRECTORS TO WITTENBERG COLLEGE.

Synod now held an election for Directors to Wittenberg College, which resulted in the choice of the following brethren.

CLERICAL.	LAY.
J. N. Barnett.	D. D. Knisely.

## DELEGATES TO SISTER SYNODS.

The following brethren were appointed to represent this body at the meetings of other Synods.

Rev. H. Wells.....	Wittenberg Synod.
" D. Smith.....	Olive Branch Synod
" J. Boon.....	Nor. Illinois Synod.
" B. F. Hills.....	Miami Synod.
" J. M. Lang.....	East Ohio Synod.
" A. J. Cromer.....	Illinois Synod.

## NEXT MEETING OF SYNOD.

The next meeting of Synod will be held in Cicero, Hamilton county, Indiana, commencing on Wednesday morning 9 o'clock, just before the full moon in October, 1866. Synodical serman to be preached on Tuesday evening previous.

Synod now adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. J. H. Hoffman.

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 EIGHTH SESSION.

SATURDAY, 3:30 P. M.

Prayer by Rev. B. F. Hills.

Minutes read and corrected.

WHEREAS, The time-honored and scriptural custom of giving our children to God in the holy rite of baptism has fallen into neglect among many of our people; therefore,

(XXVI.) *Resolved*, That we urge upon our people the regular observance



of this duty, and ask the brethren of Synod to preach at least once a year on the subject.

### BRETHREN APPOINTED TO PREACH NEXT YEAR.

On Education—Rev. R. F. Delo.

On Ordination—Rev. H. Wells.

On Home Missions—Rev. W. Hunt.

On motion, it was

(XXVII) *Resolved*, That fifteen hundred copies of the minutes be published this year, and distributed according to the funds paid into the Synodical Treasury.

On motion, it was

(XXVIII.) *Resolved*, That the President of Synod express the thanks of the brethren of Synod to the people of Albion for their kindness in receiving and entertaining them during their stay in Albion.

Adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. J. N. Barnett.

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### NINTH SESSION.

SATURDAY EVENING, 8:30.

Minutes read and approved.

On motion, Rev. C. Sink was requested to visit Spencer-ville charge with a view to become their pastor.

On motion, an order was drawn on the treasury for \$100 to publish the minutes.

Adjourned to meet at the time and place appointed for the next Synod.

Prayer by Rev. J. M. Lang.

# MINISTERIUM.

## FIRST SESSION.

FRIDAY, 4:30 P. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. G. Biddle.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 3.

Your committee report upon the papers of Rev. Geo. E. Moore.

For full report, see protocol.

Report adopted.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 4.

Your committee report upon the papers of Rev. E. W. Erick.

Report received and adopted.

For full report see protocol.

On motion, adjourned to meet at the call of the President.

Prayer by Rev. J. M. Lang.

## SECOND SESSION.

SATURDAY, 1:30 P. M.

Prayer by Rev. V. Exline.

Minutes read and approved.

### REPORT OF EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

Adopted. For full report see protocol.

Bros. Erick and Moore are recommended to have their licenses renewed for one year.

Bro. C. Sink is recommended for licensure.

The following resolutions were then passed.

(XXIX.) *Resolved*, That Bros. Moore and Erick have their licenses renewed for one year.

(XXX.) *Resolved*, That Bro. Sink be licensed to preach the Gospel for one year.

(XXXI.) *Resolved*, That this Ministerium does not think it advisable to renew the license of Bro. J. W. Miller, but that he be recommended to pursue a course of study in theology under Rev. W. Waltman, for the coming year.

Bro. Keller is recommended to attend Wittenberg College, to prepare himself for the ministry, and Synod promises \$100 for his support the first year.

On motion, it was

(XXXI.) *Resolved*, That this Synod do not sustain the action of the S. W. Conference of this Synod, in the case of Rev. J. M. Smith.

The Ministerium now adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. J. M. Lang.

APPENDIX A.—PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

NAMES	Churches.		Infants Bap- tised.	Adult Bap- tised.	Confirmations.	Admitted by Letter.	Excom. cad.	Deaths.	Removals.	Communicants.	Sabbath Sch'ls.	Teachers.	Scholars.	Prayer Meet'gs.	Cash for Synod.	Home Missions	Foreign Miss'n.	Education.	Pastor's Fund.	Wittenberg College.	Local objects.	General Benev- olence.
	Stations.	...																				
Rev. J. Smith	1	1	25	8	6	19	1	1	...	266	2	20	125	2	\$6 00	5 00	\$5 00	\$10 00	5 00	\$10 00	100 00	90 45
Rev. J. W. ...	1	2	3	6	4	12	...	2	...	95	2	23	140	2	5 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	300 00	75 00
Rev. A. W. ...	1	1	3	6	21	26	...	2	...	76	1	6	80	2	7 00	30 00	...	5 00	5 00	5 00	125 00	30 00
Rev. E. P. ...	2	2	3	...	...	49	...	1	...	48	2	15	118	...	3 00	3 00	...	3 00	...	...	...	...
Rev. J. H. ...	2	2	5	1	2	2	...	1	...	90	2	20	80	...	3 00	2 00	3 00	3 00	1 00	...	900 00	...
Rev. A. T. ...	1	1	6	3	1	14	...	3	...	64	2	10	60	...	2 00	3 10	10 00	10 00	3 50	...	250 00	25 00
Rev. W. P. ...	1	1	7	1	1	2	...	...	...	96	1	9	50	1	3 00	20 00	10 00	10 00	3 50	...	50 00	...
Rev. S. P. ...	2	2	8	1	8	16	...	3	...	213	1	10	80	25	8 75	26 50	7 50	9 50	12 35	22 25	...	...
Rev. E. J. ...	7	1	11	19	11	43	...	5	...	271	4	24	210	5	12 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	3 00	5 00	...	42 00
Rev. G. C. ...	4	4	13	5	9	9	...	4	...	273	3	34	360	3	6 00	6 00	6 00	5 00	3 35	20 00	...	87 80
Rev. B. P. ...	4	4	13	5	9	9	...	4	...	250	5	40	250	4	3 00	...	...	...	...	...	20 00	20 00
Rev. J. M. ...	2	2	11	5	1	...	...	...	...	80	2	10	60	1	5 00	7 00	...	6 00	...	...	1400 00	...
Rev. J. ...	2	2	11	5	1	...	...	...	...	80	2	10	60	1	5 00	7 00	...	6 00	...	...	1400 00	...
Rev. Y. ...	1	1	...	6	2	...	3	...	...	36	1	4	25	1	3 30	10 00	3 00	3 00	...	...	...	...
Rev. F. ...	1	1	...	6	2	...	3	...	...	36	1	4	25	1	3 30	10 00	3 00	3 00	...	...	...	...
Rev. G. W. ...	2	2	8	12	20	12	...	3	...	204	2	12	150	3	4 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	...	2000 00	67 00
Rev. J. N. ...	4	4	1	1	2	14	...	3	...	180	4	30	170	3	11 25	25 90	1 00	25 00	15 00	...	8 00	30 00
Rev. J. M. ...	2	2	4	4	...	9	...	1	...	120	2	13	128	...	2 00	3 50	...	...	...	...	275 00	...
Rev. W. H. ...	4	4	2	5	...	15	...	8	...	204	3	25	180	2	4 00	10 00	5 00	...	...	...	45 00	...
Rev. G. E. ...	4	4	2	5	...	15	...	8	...	204	3	25	180	2	4 00	10 00	5 00	...	...	...	45 00	...
Rev. H. W. ...	7	7	4	19	7	29	...	3	...	60	4	21	150	2	3 00	3 00	2 00	2 00	2 00	...	...	...
Rev. J. ...	1	1	5	...	...	12	...	5	...	60	4	21	150	2	3 00	2 80	10 00	2 00	2 00	...	...	...
Rev. A. J. ...	4	4	5	...	...	18	...	3	...	15	5	5	30	...	1 00	2 00	2 00	5 00	2 80	...	...	...
Rev. J. W. ...	2	2	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	80	2	30	220	1	5 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	2 80	...	...	...

## APPENDIX B.

## PLEDGES TO BE PAID NEXT YEAR.

NAMES.	Wittenburg College.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Pastor's Fund.
Rev. H. Wells .....	\$ 5 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 5
Rev. W. Waltman .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rev. R. F. Delo .....	.....	10 00	.....	.....	.....
Rev. J. H. Hoffman .....	.....	10 00	3 00	2 00	3
Rev. J. G. Biddle .....	5 00	5 00	2 00	5 00	2
Rev. J. Miller .....	.....	2 00	2 00	.....	1
Rev. G. W. Wilson .....	5 00	7 00	1 00	3 00	4
Rev. W. H. Faris .....	.....	10 00	5 00	.....	.....
Rev. E. W. Erick .....	5 00	10 00	5 00	3 00	2
Rev. G. E. Moore .....	3 00	3 00	2 00	2 00	5
Spencerville Charge .....	10 00	10 00	5 00	5 00	5
Total .....	\$33 00	\$72 00	\$30 00	\$25 00	\$27 00

# CONSTITUTION.

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the Ministers and Delegates of the Lutheran Churches in Northern Indiana, in convention assembled, acknowledging the Lord Jesus Christ as the Supreme head of the church, and the word of God as the sufficient and infallible rule of faith and practice, and trusting in the protection of Almighty God, and the guidance of his Holy Spirit, do ordain and establish for our government the following constitution.

## ARTICLE I.

### THE TITLE AND POWERS OF THE SYNOD.

1. This association shall be called the *Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Northern Indiana*.
2. The Synod shall be composed of ordained ministers, licentiates and delegates only, who are members of the churches they represent.
3. Each pastoral district shall be entitled to one lay delegate to Synod, shall have a seat, the liberty of speech, and a vote.
4. The Synod shall have power to examine into the official character of its members, and decide in all charges against ministers and licentiates, to suspend and ordain ministers to preach the gospel—to attend the business of the churches in connection with the Synod, and give advisory counsel in cases which may be presented for consideration, and provide supplies for vacant churches. The objects of the Synod shall be to devise and promote Christian intercourse and communion with each other, and to unite our counsels and efforts for the welfare of the churches, the salvation of souls, and the general interests of Christ's Kingdom.
5. The Synod shall hold one session annually, and the time and place of each meeting shall be determined at the previous meeting of the Synod.—Special sessions may, at any time, be called by the president, with the consent of one-third of the ordained ministers.
6. Five members of the Synod shall constitute a quorum to transact business: *Provided*, That not less than three of that number shall be ordained ministers.
7. The Synod shall have power to enact such by-laws, rules of order, and regulations, as shall not be inconsistent with this constitution.

## ARTICLE II.

### THE OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD.

1. The officers of the Synod shall be a President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be annually chosen by ballot, from among the ordained ministers who are regular members of the Synod. The election to these offices shall require a majority of the votes of the members present.
2. The same persons shall not be eligible for more than two successive years.

## ARTICLE III.

### OF THE PRESIDENT.

1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Synod and Ministerium; to deliver a Synodical discourse at each session, in conjunction with the pastor loci, shall appoint the persons who are to preach during the session.
2. He shall make a report at the opening of every annual session of the Synod, of all the official business transacted by him, and other important



events which have occurred in relation to the churches during the past year and may recommend for their consideration any subject or measure which seems necessary, or is calculated to promote the cause of God.

Sec. 3. The president has a right to take part in the discussion, and vote as the rest of the members.

Sec. 4. The president has the appointment of all committees which are to be elected by ballot, or otherwise; and every motion for the formation of a committee shall specify in what way it is to be formed.

Sec. 5. He shall take care that each subject be duly considered, before a decision is made. He shall distinctly rehearse each motion, and when the house is ready for the question, he shall take the vote on the same.

Sec. 6. It is an important part of his office to advise and counsel the members of the Synod in relation to pastoral duties, and admonish them to faithfulness and holiness of life, and warn every brother who errs in doctrine or practice.

## ARTICLE IV.

### OF THE SECRETARY.

Sec. 1. The secretary shall keep a faithful and accurate account of all proceedings of the Synod and Ministerium; carefully preserve all the papers, the seal, etc., of the Synod, subject to their direction, and shall do all the official writing not otherwise provided for.

Sec. 2. He shall give notice through the medium of one or more of the church papers, to the ministers and licentiates belonging to the Synod, of time and place of the synodical meeting, at least six weeks previous to their appointment.

Sec. 3. He shall keep a register of the names of all the ministers and licentiates, arranging them according to their age in office; and also, of all the churches, whether vacant or not, connected with the Synod.

Sec. 4. If the president should resign his office, or depart this life, the secretary shall succeed him, and discharge the duties of the president until the next session of the Synod.

Sec. 5. If the secretary should resign, or depart this life, the president shall require all the property of the Synod to be delivered to him, or to a minister whom he shall appoint as secretary until the next session of Synod.

Sec. 6. Unless the archives are otherwise disposed of by the Synod, they shall be in the charge and custody of the secretary. Any minister or delegate of a congregation connected with said Synod shall have free access to them, but no part of them shall be allowed to be taken away or destroyed.

## ARTICLE V.

### OF THE TREASURER.

Sec. 1. The treasurer shall take charge of all the monies belonging to the Synod, and shall keep them subject to his order. He shall keep and present to each annual meeting, a detailed and faithful account of the state of the treasury. An order from the president, attested by the secretary, shall be a sufficient voucher for money paid by him out of the treasury.

Sec. 2. Should the treasurer, during the recess of the Synod, become disqualified for the discharge of his official duties, remove out of the bounds of the Synod, or be removed by death, the president shall have all the moneys, certificates, bonds and documents belonging to the Synod, delivered to him, and shall have charge of them until the next synodical session.

## ARTICLE VI.

### ORDAINED MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES.

Sec. 1. No minister or licentiate shall interfere with the congregation of another, by preaching or performing other ministerial duties in them, ex-

by his request or consent, or except with consent of the Synod, or the advice of a prudential committee, consisting of three ordained pastors, annually elected by ballot from the members of this body, for such purpose.

Sec. 2. Any minister or licentiate in good standing, who removes from the bounds of this Synod into those of another, shall, on application to the president, receive a certificate, over his signature, of his honorable dismissal, and such certificate shall be required by this Synod of every member of any other Synod who applies for admission.

Sec. 3. Every ordained minister has the right to leave his charge and move to another, whenever he believes it his duty to do so; yet he must give the president timely notice of his intended removal.

Sec. 4. A licentiate shall have liberty to visit vacant congregations, either upon receiving an invitation from them, or upon the advice of the Synod or president.

Sec. 5. After a licentiate has a stated charge he shall be restricted to it, and shall not resign it without the consent of the Ministerium, or, in its recess, by the president.

Sec. 6. A licentiate has power to perform all the ministerial functions, during the time specified in his license.

Sec. 7. In addition to the obligation of ministers specified, Chap. iii, of the Formula, it is the duty of the licentiates particularly to devote all their leisure time to their personal improvement, in knowledge and grace, to receive counsel from the president, and to apply to him for advice in cases of difficulty.

Sec. 8. Every licentiate must keep a general journal of his ministerial acts, which, with a few sermons of his own composition, he must deliver or send annually for the inspection of the Ministerium.

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## ARTICLE VII.

### OF CHURCHES AND LAY DELEGATES.

Sec. 1. Every Lutheran Church which applies for admission into this Synod, upon giving satisfactory evidence of the piety and orthodoxy of its members, shall be admitted, if in the bounds of said Synod.

Sec. 2. Every church thus connected with this Synod is entitled to the prayerful oversight of the same, and shall make an annual contribution according to its ability, towards defraying the necessary expenses of Synod; and it shall not withdraw from this body without a regular dismissal therefrom, signed by the president.

Sec. 3. Lay delegates shall present written certificates of their election, signed by the proper officers of the pastoral district which they represent in the Synod.

Sec. 4. Vacant churches are recommended to appoint commissioners to the Synod, who shall have all the privileges of lay delegates.

Sec. 5. The power to form or change pastoral charges belongs alone to this body, therefore no minister, conference, or congregation shall make any change or alteration in any of the pastorates connected with this Synod without the consent of Synod.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Sec. 1. At the time appointed for the meeting, the members present shall assemble, and if three ordained ministers and two lay delegates be present, proceed to transact business in the following order.

Sec. 2. The president, after the brethren have sung a hymn, shall open the first session by prayer. Every session of the Synod and Ministerium shall be opened and closed with prayer. In the absence of the president, the first prayer shall be made by the secretary, and if he be absent by one of the oldest ministers present.

Sec. 3. The secretary shall call the names of all ordained ministers and licentiates belonging to the Synod, and note the absentees.

Sec. 4. The lay delegates shall present their certificates, and have their names registered as members of the Synod.

Sec. 5. The president shall make his report.

Sec. 6. The election of officers for the ensuing year shall then take place.

Sec. 7. Admission of delegates or ministers from other ecclesiastical bodies.

Sec. 8. The minutes of the last annual convention and unfinished business shall be examined and reported.

Sec. 9. Papers and documents for the Synod and Ministerium may be handed in, and notice given of any important business intended to be acted on by this body.

Sec. 10. The president and secretary shall arrange and number the papers and documents to be referred to committees. The reports of committees may be heard and acted on at any time.

Sec. 11. Sessions of the Ministerium may be held at any time by resolution of the Synod. Parochial reports may now be made.

Sec. 12. The treasurer's report shall be audited.

Sec. 13. Vacant churches shall be inquired into, and, if possible, provided for.

Sec. 14. Missionary business.

Sec. 15. Educational business.

Sec. 16. Promiscuous business.

Sec. 17. Election of delegates and directors.

Sec. 18. Time and place of the next Synod.

Sec. 19. Should the president or secretary be absent at the proper time for opening a session, the Synod may elect others, *pro tem*.

## ARTICLE IX.

### PROCESS AGAINST A MINISTER.

Sec. 1. As the honor and success of the gospel depend very much on the character of its ministers, every Synod ought to guard with the utmost care and impartiality the conduct of its ministers.

Sec. 2. All christians should be very cautious in giving credit or circulation to any ill report of any man, and especially of the minister of the gospel; if any man knows a minister to be guilty of a private fault, he should warn him in private. If this prove fruitless, he should apply to the church council, who may proceed as specified in chap. iii, sec. 5, of the Formula.

Sec. 3. If accusation be lodged according to chap. iii, sec. 5, with the president, within four months of the time of the next synodical meeting, he shall defer the charge to said meeting; yet, if it be drunkenness, lewdness, heresy, or a higher crime, he shall suspend the accused till his case is decided by the Synod. If such accusation be presented at an earlier date, the president shall give notice to all the members of the conference to which the accused belongs, to meet and investigate the case. The chairman of the conference shall appoint the time and place for the trial, and give all the parties at least fifteen days notice.

Sec. 4. Three members of the conference shall be a quorum and have power to investigate the case, and determine the guilt or innocence of the accused.

Sec. 5. If the accused confess, and the charge be as named in sec. 3, he must be suspended; and, if thought expedient, a time may be appointed for him publicly to confess his guilt and penitence.

Sec. 6. If a minister thus accused and notified refuses to attend the trial, he shall be suspended.

Sec. 7. If the accused deny the charge and he be found guilty, the conference shall nevertheless suspend him.



Sec. 8. The highest penalty which a special conference can inflict is suspension, which remains in force till reversed by Synod or Ministerium.

Sec. 9. Any minister intending to appeal to the Synod must give at least three weeks notice to the accusers, that all may have time to prepare for a new trial.

Sec. 10. If accusation of a less fault than any of the above be presented to the president, he shall exhort the parties to mutual forbearance and refer them to the next Synod.

Sec. 11. If accusation against a minister be made to the Synod, the case may be examined and decided, but if the necessary evidence cannot then be obtained, the case shall be referred to the conference of which the accused is a member, and disposed of as above directed.

Sec. 12. If the common report of immorality against any minister of this Synod be such as seriously to injure the church, it shall be the duty of any member of this body, or any Lutheran church member to report the case to the president.

## ARTICLE X.

### SPECIAL CONFERENCES.

Sec. 1. This Synod shall be divided into two or more special conference districts.

Sec. 2. Two conferences shall be held in each district, each synodical year, to be continued at least two days, and the various duties of such meetings shall be performed.

Sec. 3. The state of religion in the district shall be inquired into, and conversation on pastoral experience be held by the conference.

Sec. 4. Special conferences may examine into any business of congregations, which is regularly referred to them, and give advice; but shall not license or ordain to the ministry, without being authorized by a special resolution of Synod.

Sec. 5. Lay delegates may be members of conferences, and participate in the transaction of business as in Synods.

## ARTICLE XI.

### MINISTERIUM.

Sec. 1. A meeting shall be held exclusively of ordained ministers, for the purpose of attending to those duties which Christ and his apostles enjoined on them alone, viz.: examination, licensure, and ordination of candidates for the ministry.

Sec. 2. The Ministerium shall hear and decide all charges of heresy.

Sec. 3. When ministers of other denominations apply for admission into this body, the Ministerium shall decide all such cases.

Sec. 4. A majority of the members of the Ministerium shall be required to license, renew licenses, ordain ministers, or admit ministers of other denominations to membership in this Synod.

Sec. 5. The order of business in the Ministerium shall be as follows:

1. The sessions shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. The president shall report any business he may have for action.
3. Licenses, sermons, journals, etc., of licentiates may be reported on by the committees to whom they had been referred.
4. Applicants for licensure may be examined.
5. Promiscuous ministerial business.

## ARTICLE XII.

### EXAMINATION AND LICENSURE.

Sec. 1. The examination shall be conducted by a committee of ordained

ministers, appointed for the purpose at the meeting of the previous year or at the present time.

Sec. 2. After the examination by the committee, any member of the Ministerium may ask additional questions.

Sec. 3. The examination shall embrace at least (extraordinary cases excepted,) personal piety, motives for seeking the ministry, Greek and Hebrew languages, evidences of christianity, natural and revealed theology, church history, pastoral theology, rules of sermonizing, and church government.

Sec. 4. The Ministerium shall not license any one whom it does not believe to be pious, and possessed of a competent acquaintance with the above subjects, except in extraordinary cases.

Sec. 5. Licensure shall be performed according to the Liturgy.

## ARTICLE XIII.

### ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION.

Sec. 1. Ordination may be performed at the time and place of the Ministerium, or in the church of the applicant by his conference or a committee appointed by the president, but, if by either of the latter, it must be by a special resolution of the Ministerium.

Sec. 2. The ceremony shall be according to the liturgy of the church.

Sec. 3. If the ordination is to be in the church of the candidate, the presiding minister, if desired, may instal him pastor at the same time.

Sec. 4. Pastors may be installed at any time by a committee appointed for the purpose by the president. The pastor to be installed may nominate said committee.

## ARTICLE XIV.

### OF VACANT CHURCHES.

Sec. 1. Vacant congregations which cannot be immediately supplied with a pastor, are advised to assemble every Sabbath and appoint one of the brethren to conduct the exercises, by reading the Scriptures, exhorting, leading in prayer, selecting the hymns and inviting others to participate in the public devotions.

## ARTICLE XV.

### OF MISSIONS AND EDUCATION.

Sec. 1. Vacant congregations which cannot be immediately supplied with a minister should regard it as their duty to assist in the education of suitable young men for the ministry, and the support of missionaries.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of every member of this Synod to seek out a way to influence pious young men to prepare for the ministry, and collect a fund of the funds they can for beneficiary education and missions.

Sec. 3. At each Synod the pastors shall be requested to specify a certain sum, which they will endeavor to collect during the ensuing synodical year for missions and education, and at the time and place of each annual Synod meetings shall be held, speakers appointed, and collections made for these objects.

Sec. 4. The officers of the Synod shall be the officers of the Missionary and Education societies of this body, and shall be the executive committee of each of the societies to receive and appropriate all missionary and educational funds, and transact all the business of the societies in the recess of Synod at their own discretion, when not specifically instructed by Synod.

Sec. 5. The executive committee shall report annually at the Synod to the respective societies all its official acts, and the condition of the societies, and may propose such plans as it deems expedient for the future.

## ARTICLE XVI.

## ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND DIRECTORS.

The election of delegates to the General Synod, and of clerical delegates to theological institutions, shall be by ballot, and none but ordained ministers shall be eligible to either of these offices.

## ARTICLE XVII.

## OF BY-LAWS AND ALTERATIONS.

Sec. 1. This Synod may, at any regular meeting, adopt such by-laws as circumstances require: *Provided*, they do not conflict with this constitution.

Sec. 2. Any alteration of any portion of the constitution, or any addition thereto, may be made, or any part may be omitted: *Provided*, that such alteration, addition, or omission, be presented in writing to the Synod at the annual meeting preceding the one at which the vote shall be taken on the subject, and that two-thirds of the members present vote for such alteration, addition, or omission.

H. WELLS.

R. F. DELO.

I. W. KITSON.

