

To: All Convention Delegates
From: President Russ Sommerfeld
Re: Sixteenth Convention, Nebraska District LCMS
June 4-6, 2009, Concordia University, Seward



We present this *Convention Workbook* to you in preparation for our sixteenth Nebraska District Convention. It offers you the opportunity to evaluate our ministry of the last three years. The District, in convention, will determine some goals for ministry for the next three years. These materials will assist you in understanding our common ministry in Nebraska and throughout the world.

The theme for our convention this year is “Full of Grace—Seasoned with Salt,” based on Col. 4:5-6. We look forward to this Convention, seeking the Lord’s guidance and blessing as we make decisions about our common ministry in Nebraska and the world. This Convention will be a joyful and inspiring time for those in attendance.

The convention will begin on Thursday evening (June 4) at 6:00 p.m. with the opening worship service at St. John Lutheran Church in Seward. Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod President, will preach the sermon. Please note that our convention will run from Thursday evening through Saturday noon. This action was taken at a past District Convention, where the decision was made that we not meet on a Sunday.

Essayist Rev. Dr. Jacob A. O. Preus III will join us to help remind the delegates of the responsibility Christians have in conversations in which they engage and how God’s Word can “season” these opportunities in this post-churched world.

The position of the delegate, both advisory and voting, is one of great responsibility. Your words and votes, given at the convention, are extremely important to the Lord’s work in Nebraska and the church at large. Every speech and vote has implications for our common ministry.

Be an informed delegate—knowledgeable of the mission and ministry of our District and Synod, concerned and aware of the needs and feelings of the people you represent, and knowledgeable of the opportunities and challenges for mission and ministry in the Nebraska District. Be an informed and objective delegate, one who is capable of making decisions at the convention on the basis of material presented and discussed during the sessions. Being an informed delegate will require some time on your part in reviewing the information presented to you in this *Workbook*, and in gathering additional information, if you feel the need. This is a very demanding and important role.

Please also study the contents of this *Workbook*. Inform your congregation of the issues and opportunities for ministry to be presented at the convention. Following the convention, you will need to inform your congregation of the decisions and actions of the convention.

For the first time this year, the convention *Workbook* is being sent to all delegates in CD form. The sections of the *Workbook* are included in their entirety on the enclosed CD. It is the responsibility of each delegate to print and review the materials included on this CD prior to their arrival at Convention. As usual, each delegate will receive a binder to hold the pages when he or she arrives at Convention.

If you do not have a computer and printer available to you, please take your CD to your church office and ask that they print the pages for you. You may also ask a member of your congregation for assistance. Often public libraries provide computers and printers for use by their patrons. If there is no possible way for you to print the materials on this CD, or for technical assistance, please contact the District Office.

The sections of the *Workbook* included on this CD are provided as PDF files. If you are unable to open these files on your computer, **Adobe Reader**, a free program that allows you to open and view these files, is available to be downloaded from www.adobe.com. These files are also available on the District website, www.ndlcms.org.

While all of the materials on this CD are important for informing delegates of the ministry of the District and business to be handled at Convention, it is imperative that each delegate bring at least the **Nominations Report** and the **Proposed Resolutions** with them to Convention. Paper copies of the *Workbook* will NOT be available at Convention. Please note, the Standing Rules of the Convention prohibit any electronic devices on the Convention floor, including laptops, so delegates must bring paper copies with them.

Also included on this CD are blank nominee information forms. Any nomination from the floor must be accompanied by a completed and signed form.

All Floor Committees initially met on Saturday, March 7, to do their work. The proposed resolutions that came out of this meeting are presented in this *Convention Workbook* CD. Please review them carefully. If you have input for the Floor Committees, please write the chairman of the appropriate Floor Committee and share your thoughts. The Chairmen are:

Rev. Ron Holling, St. Paul Lutheran Church, 5020 Grand Ave, Omaha, NE 68104. (Floor Committee #1: Theology and Education)

Rev. Mark Middendorf, Zion Lutheran Church, PO Box 334, Scotia, NE 68875. (Floor Committee #2: Administration)

The Floor Committees will review all input they receive when they meet on Thursday, June 4, at 10:00 a.m. Open hearings will also be held that day from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. You are invited to attend the open hearings and share your input with the committee should you so desire.

The decisions we make should enhance our common ministry and offer opportunities for spiritual growth for our people. We ask the Lord's guidance and blessing as we come together to celebrate, discuss policy and program for ministry, choose our District leadership, and share information on opportunities and privileges for ministry in our District, and through our Synod into all the world.

I pray the Lord of the Church to give each of you wisdom and discernment, and to bless the discussion and every decision made by the Nebraska District in convention. May the Lord bless you and our upcoming District Convention, and give you safe travel. I look forward to seeing you in Seward.

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Proposed Resolutions

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**2009 Nebraska District Convention
Special Standing Rules**

1. The chair shall see that the agenda is followed as closely as possible.
2. Each member of the convention, when recognized by the chair, shall state his or her name, the congregation represented, and indicate pastor voting delegate, lay voting delegate, or advisory delegate status.
3.
 - A. Voting delegates must wear their badges at all sessions and sit in the section reserved for voting members.
 - B. Only delegates wearing voting delegate badges and seated at their assigned individual keypad will be allowed to vote using the electronic voting system. Delegates may only vote on their assigned individual keypad. Any indication of improper voting practices will result in a stopping of Convention business and a revote on that ballot.
 - C. Voting shall ordinarily be carried out by use of an electronic response system which requires delegates to be present at the beginning of the business portion of each session. When not used, instead of only a voice vote on motions before the convention, the Chair shall ordinarily also call for the raising of the right hand.
4.
 - A. Only members of the voting body may introduce motions and vote.
 - B. Resolutions from the convention floor by voting delegates can only be brought to the attention of the delegates between agenda items, as the chair moves to a new item on the agenda. Please address the chair, "Point of privilege, Mr. Chairman."
 - C. A motion from the floor of convention must be presented in writing and signed by the maker. A copy is to be handed both to the secretary and to the chair at the time of presentation.
5. The preface, preamble, and whereas sections shall be considered an integral part of the resolution or overture, and as such, subject to the same serious consideration and adoption in all its parts as the main motion itself.
6. Proposed resolutions of each floor committee shall be prioritized by number and normally presented in the numerical sequence assigned.
7. Discussion is limited to two minutes for all who speak from the floor for each issue. No one may speak more than twice to each question.
8. Any voting delegate may call the question at any time, except item #9, below. After every thirty minutes of debate on any one motion, there shall be an automatic call of the question by the chair. The chair may also call for a vote on the close of debate, two-thirds majority required, when in his judgment the assembly has heard sufficient speaking on both sides of the issue.
9. Any voting delegate who has spoken to an issue may not call the question (cease debate) at the end of his/her speech.
10. If a substitute motion is offered and seconded, the presenter shall be offered two minutes to provide the rationale for presenting it. The convention shall then decide by majority vote, without debate, whether or not to consider the substitute. If the decision is in the affirmative and the substitute motion is subsequently adopted, the original motion fails. If the substitute motion does not receive favorable action either to consider or to adopt, the original motion is again before the house. (This is the so-called Behnken Rule for dealing with substitute motions.)
11. The Chair shall have the privilege of calling up for action resolutions which, in his judgment, must be acted upon by convention before adjournment.
12. Proposed resolutions prepared by the floor committees, which are not acted upon by the convention before adjournment, die.

13.
 - A. Unless covered by these standing rules of the convention, parliamentary procedure shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, latest edition, unless in conflict with the Nebraska District and/or The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Bylaws.
 - B. The parliamentarian interprets the rules and advises on parliamentary procedure when asked to do so.
14. Minutes of the convention will not be read in open session, but will be read by the Minutes Review Committee and presented to the convention for approval. Minutes of the final session will be approved by the Board of Directors of the Nebraska District before printing them.
15. Announcements necessary during convention should be taken to the convention office. At the chairman's discretion, announcements will be made from the podium or posted on the message board.
16. Use of sound producing or communication devices such as pagers, telephones, handheld PDAs, computer modems, etc., are not permitted to be used in the voting or advisory delegate sections of the convention floor. These devices must be turned off when delegates enter the convention floor and are not to be turned on during any part of convention business.
17. Written material may only be distributed to delegates as a part of registration, convention business in session as recognized by the chairman, the Convention Daily, or through displays pre-authorized and displayed at the Convention site.
18. Any violation of these rules will be brought to the attention of the chair of the convention immediately and appropriate action will be taken. Action may include, but is not limited to, immediate removal of the offender from the convention floor.
19. These rules may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the voting body.

A Primer of Parliamentary Procedure

A. PURPOSE OF PARLIAMENTARY LAW AND PROCEDURE

The purpose of parliamentary procedure is to carry out the aims of the assembly in an orderly and fair manner, to expedite business, to insure justice and fairness to all, both the majority and the minority.

It is not the purpose of parliamentary procedure to make the conduct of business in an assembly difficult, or to entangle an assembly in technicalities, or to provide a channel for individuals to flaunt their parliamentary knowledge.

Above all, there should be a spirit of Christian love and trust.

B. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AT A GLANCE

The motions or points listed below, 1 through 9, are in order of precedence. In other words:

A. When any of them is pending, you may not introduce one listed below it.

B. You may introduce one that is listed above it.

YOU WANT TO:	YOU SAY:	May Speaker Be Interrupted To Make this Motion?	Is Second Required?	Is Motion Debatable?	Can This Motion Be Amended?	Is Vote Required? What % Required?
1. Adjourn	I move we adjourn.	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
2. Recess	I move we recess.	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
3. Register a complaint	Point of privilege, Mr. Chairman...	Yes	No	No	No	No vote required
4. Suspend further consideration (To Table)	I move to table this matter.	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
5. End discussion	I move the previous question.	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 vote
6. Postpone consideration	I move we postpone this matter until...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
7. Have further study on the matter	I move we refer this matter to a committee.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
8. Amend a motion	I move this be amended to read...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
9. Introduce a matter of business	I move that...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

The items listed below are general points, proposals, and motions, and they have no order of procedure over one another. You may introduce any one of them at any time, except:

- A. When a motion to adjourn is pending;
- B. When a motion to recess is pending;
- C. When a point of privilege is pending.

YOU WANT TO:	YOU SAY:	May Speaker Be Interrupted To Make This Motion?	Is Second Required?	Is Motion Debatable?	Can This Motion Be Amended?	Is Vote Required? What % Required?
1. Object to error in procedure due to a personal affront	Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	No
2. Request for information	Point of Information	Yes, if urgent	No	No	No	No
3. Verify voice vote by taking actual count	I call for a division of the house	No	No	No	No	No, unless Someone objects; Then majority
4. Object to consider a matter you think improper	I object to consideration of this question	Yes	No	No	No	Yes - 2/3
5. Take up a matter which has been tabled	I move we take from the table	No	Yes	No	No	Yes majority
6. Reconsider matter already disposed of	I move we reconsider our action relative to...	Yes	Yes	Yes, if original motion was debatable	No	Majority
7. Consider matter out of scheduled order	I move we suspend rules & consider...	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
8. Vote on a ruling of the chair	I appeal the chair's decision	Yes	Yes	Yes, if original motion was debatable	No	Majority

**Nebraska District LCMS
2009 Nebraska District Convention
Tentative Agenda**

(You will receive a detailed agenda upon registration on June 4)

Thursday, June 4

11:00 – 5:00	Red Cross Blood Drive - HHPAC
1:30 – 5:00	General Registration - HHPAC
1:30 – 2:30	Floor Committee Open Hearings - HHPAC
4:00 – 5:30	Supper Break - Janzow Campus Center
6:00 – 7:15	Opening Communion Service - St. John
7:30	Opening of Convention - HHPAC Elections Begin

Friday, June 5

6:00 – 7:30	Optional Exercise Opportunity - Location TBD
6:00 – 7:30	Breakfast - Janzow Campus Center
7:45	Convention Reconvenes - HHPAC
11:30 – 1:30	Lunch Break - P.E. Building Gym
1:30	Convention Reconvenes - HHPAC
6:30	Mission Festival Dinner - P.E. Building Gym
9:00	President's Reception - Janzow Campus Center

Saturday, June 6

6:00 – 7:30	Breakfast - Janzow Campus Center
7:45	Convention Reconvenes - HHPAC
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch Break (Box Lunch) - HHPAC
1:00	Convention Reconvenes - HHPAC (If Necessary)

Leadership

Officers of Synod

President: Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick
1st V Pres: Rev. Dr. William R. Diekelman
2nd V Pres: Rev. Dr. Paul L. Maier
3rd V Pres: Rev. Dr. John C. Wohlrabe Jr.
4th V Pres: Rev. Dr. Dean W. Nadasdy
5th V Pres: Rev. Dr. David D. Buegler
Secretary: Rev. Dr. Raymond L. Hartwig
V Pres Finance-Treasurer: Dr. Thomas W. Kuchta

Officers of the District

President: Rev. Russ Sommerfeld, Seward
1st V Pres: Rev. Clint Poppe, Lincoln
2nd V Pres: Rev. Dr. Orville Walz, Bennington
3rd V Pres: Rev. Richard Snow, Battle Creek
4th V Pres: Rev. Mike Gruhn, Lexington
Secretary: Rev. Roland Jank, Jr., Omaha
Treasurer: Mr. Paul Pettit, Lincoln
Mr. Glenn Van Velson, North Platte (Region A),
Chair
Mrs. Kathy Brashear, Omaha (Region D)
Mr. Stan Fehlhafer, Lincoln (Area I)
Mr. Kevin Fry, Ewing (Region C)
Mr. Glennis Holtmeier, Tobias (Region B)
Mr. David Knorr, Humboldt (Region B)
Mr. Paul Leckband, Norfolk (Area II)
Mr. Christopher Martin, Omaha (Region D)
Dr. Marvin Swan, Grant (Region A)
Mr. Kent Warneke, Norfolk (Region C)

Circuit Counselors

Ainsworth: Rev. John Ryding
Beatrice: Rev. Paul Beyer
Columbus: Rev. Terry Timm
Deshler: Rev. Richard Kelm
Falls City: Rev. Robert Schermbeck
Fremont: Rev. Bruce Schut
Grand Island: Rev. Glen Keylon
Hastings: Rev. Ronald Kuehner
Holdrege: Rev. Jeff Ernstmeyer
Kearney: Rev. Dean Hanson
Lincoln: Rev. Craig Whitson
McCook: Rev. Paul Warneke
Norfolk: Rev. Gordon Bruce
Omaha North: Rev. Richard Gudgel
Omaha South: Rev. Karl Ziegler
Omaha West: Rev. Gary Werling
Plainview: Rev. David Kuhfal
Seward: Rev. Arnold Jurchen
Wayne: Rev. William Engebretsen
West Point: Rev. James Carretto
Western Sandhills: Rev. Robert Pierce
York: Rev. Loren Cooper

District Administration

Business/Finance: Mr. Paul Pettit
Church Worker Health: Rev. Mark Rockenbach
Communications: Mrs. Nichole Hetz
Education/Youth: Mr. Donald Weber
Gift Planning: Mr. Neal Koch
Lay Leadership Program: Rev. Marvin Bergman
LCEF Vice President: Mr. Paul Pettit
LCEF Promotions: Rev. Gene Gierke
Mission Development Counselor: Mr. Gary Thies
Missions and Outreach: Rev. Richard Boring

Constitution and Handbook Committee

Rev. Roland Jank, Jr., Omaha, Chair
Mr. Mark Fahleson, Lincoln
Rev. Terell Huber, Creighton
Mr. Tim Moll, Seward
Rev. James Rasmussen, Omaha
Mr. Wil Tewes, Lincoln

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Committee

Mr. Paul Pettit, Vice President, Seward
Rev. Gene Gierke, LCEF Promotions, Seward
Rev. Norman Friedmeyer, Plattsmouth
Mr. Mark Kisker, Lincoln
Mrs. Linda Reiser, Grand Island
Mr. Brent Stehlik, Lincoln
Mrs. Vicky Van Velson, North Platte

New Mission Committee

Mr. Lee Vieselmeyer, Lincoln, Chair
Rev. Richard Boring, Seward
Mr. James Haack, Omaha
Rev. Dean Hanson, Pleasanton
Mr. Christopher Martin, Omaha
Mr. Paul Pettit, Seward
Mr. Ron Rathe, Tecumseh
Mr. Dennis Rosenthal, Juniata
Rev. Georg Williams, Ainsworth

Nominations Committee

Rev. Charles Gierke, Omaha, Chair
Mrs. Linda Ahrens, Lincoln
Mr. Steve Althouse, Waverly
Mr. ElRoy Bartels, Tobias
Rev. James Carretto, Wisner
Rev. David Dobbertien, Ogallala
Mr. Larry Rathe, Sterling

School Ministry Committee

Mr. Donald Weber, Seward, Chair
 Mrs. Sandy Armstrong, Grand Island
 Mrs. Judy Bartels, Tobias
 Dr. Ronald Bork, Seward
 Mrs. Shelley Dartmann, Omaha
 Mr. Mervin Dehning, Lincoln
 Mr. Thomas Hiegel, Omaha
 Mr. James Knoepfel, Kearney
 Mrs. Eunice McCarty, Grand Island
 Mr. Ronald Royuk, Seward
 Mr. Stuart Tietz, Lincoln
 Mr. Loren Wilshusen, Fremont

Stewardship Committee

Mr. Dennis Wittmann, Auburn, Chair
 Mrs. Jan Beck, Lincoln
 Rev. Charles Gierke, Omaha
 Rev. John Kunze, Lincoln
 Mr. Paul Pettit, Lincoln
 Mrs. Jean Riley-Schultz, Lincoln
 Rev. Russell Sommerfeld, Seward
 Rev. Marion Von Rentzell, North Platte

Student Aid Committee

Mr. Tom Pruitt, Lincoln, Chair
 Mrs. Diana Boring, Seward
 Mrs. Gloria Henning, Seward
 Mrs. Joyce Lase, Bancroft
 Rev. Verdell Schramm, Lincoln
 Rev. James Witt, Blue Hill

Youth Committee

Mrs. Julie Johnston-Hermann, Seward, Chair
 Mr. Tyler Beltz, CUNE representative
 Mr. Carl Eliason, Grand Island
 Mr. Scotte Hansen, Lincoln
 Mr. Hank Rausch, Schuyler
 Ms. Andrea Roettger, Omaha
 Mrs. Kimbrie Vlach, CUNE representative
 Mr. Donald Weber, Seward

District Convention Committees and Appointments**Floor Committee #1: Theology & Education**

(P) Rev. Ronald Holling – St. Paul, Omaha, Chair
 (P) Rev. Michael Klatt – Peace, Columbus
 (T) Mrs. Darla Rosendahl – Zion, Omaha
 (T) Mr. Anthony Splittgerber – Zion, Kearney
 (L) Mr. James Everts – Holy Cross, Goehner
 (L) Mrs. Virginia Von Seggern – St. Peter,
 Orchard

ADVISORY MEMBERS

(VP) Rev. Clint Poppe – Good Shepherd, Lincoln
 (VP) Rev. Richard Snow – St. John, Battle Creek
 (BoD) Mr. Paul Leckband – Grace, Norfolk

Floor Committee #2: Administration

(P) Rev. Mark Middendorf – Zion, Scotia, Chair
 (P) Rev. Rick Kanoy – St. Paul, Arlington
 (T) Mr. David Bliss – Zion, Pierce
 (T) Mrs. Michelle Prince – St. Peter, Davenport
 (L) Mr. David Timm – Concordia, Clearwater
 (L) Mrs. Denise Saathoff – St. Paul, Malcolm

ADVISORY MEMBERS

(VP) Dr. Orville Walz – Zion, Omaha
 (VP) Rev. Michael Gruhn – Trinity, Lexington
 (BoD) Mr. Glenn Van Velson – Beautiful Savior,
 North Platte

Local Arrangements Committee

(P) Rev. Michael Neidow – Emmanuel, York,
 Chair
 (P) Rev. Louis Griser – Bethlehem, Pleasant Dale
 (T) Mrs. Sandra Royuk – St. John, Seward
 (T) Mrs. Kathryn Sirek – Messiah, Lincoln
 (L) Mrs. Vicki Meysenburg – Bethlehem, Crete
 (L) Mr. Jack Swanson – St. John, Seward

Credentials Committee

(P) Rev. David List – St. John, Beemer, Chair
 (T) Mr. Stuart Tietz – Faith, Lincoln
 (L) Mr. Steve Lewis – Holy Cross, Kearney

Elections Committee

(P) Rev. Allen Bergstrazer – Faith, York, Chair
 (T) Mr. Dean Plummer – Christ, Columbus
 (L) Mr. Gary Grefe – St. Paul, Arlington

Minutes Committee

(P) Rev. Terell Huber – Christ, Creighton, Chair
 (T) Mrs. Suzanne Sylwester – St. John, Seward
 (L) Mr. Gary Geiselman – Immanuel, Merna

Nominations Committee

- (P) Rev. Charles Gierke – Lord of Life, Elkhorn
Chair
(P) Rev. James Carretto – St. Paul, Wisner
(P) Rev. David Dobbertien – St. Paul, Ogallala
(T) Mrs. Linda Ahrens – Good Shepherd, Lincoln
(L) Mr. Steve Althouse – Peace, Waverly
(L) Mr. ElRoy Bartels – Zion, Tobias
(L) Mr. Larry Rathe – Immanuel, Sterling

Convention Parliamentarian

Mr. Kermit Brashear, Omaha

Assistant Secretary

Rev. Jim Rasmussen, Omaha

Convention Theme

Full of Grace—Seasoned with Salt
*Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make
the most of every opportunity. Let your
conversation be always full of grace, seasoned
with salt, so that you may know how to answer
everyone.* Colossians 4:5-6

Convention Banner

Mrs. Kathy Paulson, Seward

Convention Logo

Mrs. Nichole Hetz, Seward

Convention Chaplain

Rev. Tim Gierke, Fremont

Convention Essayist

Rev. Dr. Jacob A. O. Preus III, president of
Concordia University Irvine

**Synodical Representative and Opening
Worship Service Preacher**

Rev. Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

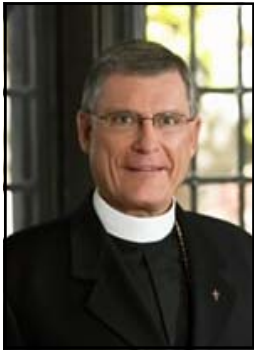
Bible Study Leaders

Rev. Michael Awe, Immanuel, Tilden
Rev. Keith Grimm, Beautiful Savior, LaVista

Opening Worship Service

St. John Lutheran Church, Seward

Synodical Representative
Rev. Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



The Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick was elected to his third three-year term as president of the 2.45-million-member Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in July 2007, an office in which he has served his Lord and Church since September 2001. His vision for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is summarized as **One Mission – One Message – One People**, which he expounds, as follows: “Our **One Mission** is to seek the lost for Christ by communicating the **One Message** that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world as **One People** united by God's love in Jesus Christ.” Just prior to becoming LCMS president, Kieschnick had been president of the Synod's Texas District for ten years. He also served that district as a circuit counselor from 1978-81 and as director of public relations from 1977-86. Prior to his Texas District presidency, Kieschnick was director of development of the Lutheran Foundation of Texas from 1986-88 and then served as its executive director from 1988-91.

From 1998 until his election as LCMS president, Kieschnick chaired the LCMS Commission on Theology and Church Relations, and served on the executive committee of the LCMS Council of Presidents.

Born in Houston on January 29, 1943, Kieschnick attended Texas A&M University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1964. He is a 1970 graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield, IL, obtained his Master of Divinity degree in 1977 from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN, and received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1996 from Concordia University, Austin, TX.

After his ordination in 1970, Kieschnick served as pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Biloxi, MS, until 1973; pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Beaumont, TX, 1973-81; and mission developer and pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, Georgetown, TX, 1981-86.

Dr. Kieschnick and his wife of 41 years, Terry, have two grown children, Andrew Kieschnick and Angela (husband Todd) Keith and two grandchildren, Kolby and Kayla Keith — all of whom live in Texas.

Keynote Speaker

Rev. Dr. Jacob A. O. Preus
President, Concordia University Irvine

The Rev. Dr. Jacob A. O. Preus was appointed as the third president of Concordia University Irvine in 1998. Concordia University, a university of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's Concordia University System, is home to more than 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students pursuing more than 50 majors and minors.

Guided by the belief that a Christian higher education equips students to serve both God's Word and God's world, Dr. Preus leads Concordia University with a background in Lutheran theology, parish leadership, academic administration, and international education.

Conversant in Spanish and Portuguese, he has traveled extensively and taught in Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Kazakhstan, Africa, and Asia. Dr. Preus frequently serves the church community as a speaker on the intersection of contemporary culture and faith through Concordia's President's Forum.

Prior to his call to Concordia University Irvine in 1998, Dr. Preus served at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, where he was a Dean of Faculty, Professor and Chair of the Department of Systematic Theology, and served as the liaison to the seminary's Hispanic Institute of Theology.

Before joining the Seminary faculty in 1986, Dr. Preus was a parish pastor at Holy Sacraments Lutheran Church in St. Louis, Missouri, from 1984 to 1986 and Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Rancho Palos Verdes, California, from 1980 to 1983. Dr. Preus served as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy (Reserves) and was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 24th Regiment of the U.S. Marine Corps during Operations Desert Shield and Storm.

Dr. Preus completed his Bachelor's degree in Spanish and Latin American studies at the University of Missouri in Columbia. He earned his Master of Divinity, Master of Sacred Theology, and Doctorate in Theology degrees from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. He and his wife, Sherry, live in Irvine, California, and have three children.

