

Evangelical Lutheran Synod
of New Jersey.

Proceedings of the
convention.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION.

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GERMAN VALLEY, N. J. February 19th, 1861.

A Convention of Lutheran Pastors and lay delegates, favorable to the formation of a Synod in the State of New Jersey, was held in the Lutheran Church, German Valley, Morris County, N. J. (Rev. A. Hiller's charge,) commencing on Tuesday, 19th February, 1861—2 P. M.

The Rev. Jacob C. Duy was appointed Chairman and Philip A. Strobel, Secretary.

After prayer by the Revd. J. H. Barclay, the following brethren enrolled their names, viz :

Revd. Jacob C. Duy,	New Germantown,	New Jersey.
“ Philip A. Strobel,	Spruce Run,	“ “
“ J. H. Barclay,	Stewartsville,	“ “
“ A. Hiller,	German Valley,	“ “
“ C. A. Fritze,	Egg Harbor City,	“ “
“ J. Ilgen Burrell,	Stone Church,	Pennsylvania.

LAY DELEGATES.

Mr. Joachim Guelick, from Rev. J. C. Duy's charge.

Mr. George Vossler from Rev. P. A. Strobel's charge.

Mr. Morris Naughtright from Rev. A. Hiller's charge.

Mr. John Richards from Rev. J. I. Burrell's charge.

Messrs. John A. Fritts and Elias Fritts were also present as a Committee from Spruce Run, N. J.

On motion of Rev. P. A. Strobel, it was unanimously

I.—RESOLVED, That the time has, in our judgment, arrived when the wants of the Lutheran Church in New Jersey demand that we should have some efficient agency within the State, which shall more successfully look after the varied interests of our Zion; we will therefore, now proceed, in humble dependence on the Divine blessing, to organize a Synod to be known as the *Evangelical Lutheran Synod of New Jersey*,

and we adopt the following as our Doctrinal basis, viz : That we receive with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of our fathers the WORD OF GOD, as contained in the Canonical Scriptures of the *Old and New Testaments* as the *only* INFALLIBLE rule of faith and practice ; and the *Augsburg Confession*, with *Luther's Smaller Catechism*, as a correct exhibition of the fundamental doctrines of the Divine Word, and the faith of our Church founded on that WORD.

2.—RESOLVED, That a Committee consisting of Bros. Strobel, Duy and Burrel, be appointed to prepare a Constitution for this Synod, and an order of exercises for public worship in our Congregations.

Letters were read from Bros. Harold, Plitt and Deyoe, expressing their regret at not being able to attend.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow at 9 A. M. Prayer by Rev. A. Hiller.

WEDNESDAY, 20th Feb., 9 A. M.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. C. Duy. Minutes of previous session read and confirmed.

The Chairman of the Com. on Constitution, &c., presented a report, which after full discussion, was unanimously adopted.

The election of officers under the Constitution resulted as follows :

Rev. Jacob C. Duy, New Germantown, N. J., President,
 " Philip A. Strobel, Spruce Run, N. J., Secretary,
 Mr. John Richards, Stone Church, Pa., Treasurer.

The Rev'd. C. A. Fretze, Pastor of the German Lutheran Church, at Egg Harbor City, made a statement of the condition of his Congregation. He has 170 Communicants, with every prospect of a large increase. He has a Sabbath School of 180 scholars, in which English is taught by his wife. The members are generally poor, but are building a fine church, to complete which, they will need some assistance. The Pastor is now receiving \$200 annually, from the Missionary Fund of the Penn. Synod. On hearing this statement it was

3.—RESOLVED, That the Penna. Synod be respectfully requested to continue their contribution to Bro. Fretze, at least for another year.

4.—RESOLVED, That we recommend this field to the notice of the Church Extension Society.

5.—RESOLVED, That each of our Pastors in New Jersey be earnestly requested to take up collections for Bro. Fretze's church building fund, and forward the amount to him as early as may be practicable.

6.—RESOLVED, That we connect ourselves with the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, and will send two Clerical and two Lay Delegates to represent us in the next meeting of that body.

The election of delegates resulted as follows :

Clerical—Rev. J. H. Barclay, Rev. A. Miller.

Lay—Abraham Klotz, William Fulmer.

7.—RESOLVED. That we will send corresponding delegates to the Pennsylvania, New York and East Penna. Synods.

The following delegates were appointed :—

To Pennsylvania Synod—Rev. J. C. Duy.

“ New York—Rev. P. A. Strobel.

“ East Penna.—Rev. J. H. Barclay.

Rev'd. Messrs. P. A. Strobel, C. A. Fretze and J. H. Barclay were appointed an Examining Committee.

The Committee on Order of Exercises for Public Worship presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted, and is as follows :—

Whereas, we deem it important that as far as may be practicable, uniformity should be established in our modes of worship, we earnestly recommend that the following order of exercises be observed in all the Churches connected with this Synod, and that they use the Hymn Book and Liturgy of the General Synod.

Order of Exercises.

1.—Anthem or Hymn. 2.—Altar Service, Confession and Prayer, as laid down in the Liturgy. 3.—Hymn. 4.—Reading of the Scriptures. 5.—General Prayer—either extempore or from the Liturgy, as the Pastor may elect. 6.—Hymn. 7.—Sermon. 8.—Prayer. 9.—Singing—with the doxology. 10.—Benediction.

8.—RESOLVED, That our Congregations be requested to allow their Pastors at least two Sabbaths in each year, to preach at Missionary Stations, if necessary.

9.—RESOLVED, That we will hold a Conference in Bro. Burrell's Church, Centreville, Pa., on Tuesday, 23d. of July, at 2 o'clock, P. M., and that during that Conference we will discuss the following subjects : 1.—Catechetical instruction. 2.—Best means of establishing and sustaining Sabbath Schools. 3.—Duty of Christian Parents to dedicate their children to God, in Baptism.

10.—RESOLVED, That we adjourn to meet this evening as a Missionary Society.

Prayer by the Secretary.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, 7 P. M.

Synod met as a Missionary Society. Religious exercises were conducted by the President.

RESOLVED, That we organize ourselves into a Missionary Society ; each person paying \$1 00 to be an annual member. and each person paying \$5 00 to be a member for life.

The following persons became annual members, by paying \$1 00 :

P. A. Strobel, D. A. Swackhammer, Elizabeth Dufford, Lawrence Dufford, Sylvester Lake, Mary Lake, N. Anthony, E. W. Dufford, W. S. Naughtright, Henry Dufford, Theodore Dufford, George Dufford, N. C. Naughtright, J. H. Parker, Samuel Smith.

The following persons contributed \$2 00 :

E. M. Bartels, Henry P. Stryker, Frederick Swackhammer, Mary Naughtright, R. Schoenheit.

The following became life members by paying \$5 00 :

Rev. A. Hiller, (donation by Abraham Klotz,) Mrs. H. Hiller, (donation by Morris Naughtright,) Rev. J. C. Duy, (donation by J. P. Stryker and P. S. Wyse,) Hugh Bartley, (donation by the choir,) Jacob A. Wyse, John Naughtright, Hugh Bartley, Jr., Theodore Naughtright.

Total subscriptions and cash, \$55 00.

A Committee consisting of Messrs. Strobel, Duy and Hiller was appointed to prepare a constitution for a Missionary and Educational Society, to be presented at the next meeting.

RESOLVED, That a Missionary Committee be appointed to take charge of our Missions until the next meeting of Synod.

Committee—Messrs. Strobel, Barclay and Hiller.

The Chairman of Committee was requested to visit Egg Harbor City, to see the condition of the Mission there.

At this point Synod resumed its business.

11.—RESOLVED, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the members of this Congregation for their Christian hospitality.

12.—RESOLVED, That the first annual meeting of this Synod be held in the Lutheran Church, at Spruce Run, N. J., on Friday before 2d. Sabbath in October, 1861, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

13.—RESOLVED, That the President preach the Synodical sermon on Friday evening at 7 o'clock.

14.—RESOLVED, That the meeting on behalf of Missions and Education, be held on Monday evening, during the ses-

sions of the Synod ; that Bro. Barclay deliver an address on Education, and Bro. Hiller one on Missions.

The Secretary was appointed to preach the ordination sermon.

15.—RESOLVED, That the President and Secretary with Bros. Barclay and Hiller, be a Committee to prepare a seal for this Synod, as well as Certificates of Licensure and Ordination, and blank Parochial reports.

16.—RESOLVED, That we do now adjourn to meet at the time and place specified in Resolution No. 12.

Closed with singing and prayer, and the benediction by the Secretary.

I certify that the above is a correct and faithful record of the proceedings of the *Convention* held on the 19th and 20th of February, 1861, which resulted in the formation of the *Evangelical Lutheran Synod of New Jersey*.

P. A. STROBEL,
Secretary.

Spruce Run, N. J., March 2, 1861.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE SYNOD.

FIRST SESSION.

SPRUCE RUN, N. J., October 12th, 1861.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather and other causes a sufficient number of the brethren did not arrive in time to hold a session on Friday at 3 o'clock as was required by resolution.

On Saturday morning at 9 o'clock the Pastors, with their delegates having assembled, the President, Rev. J. C. Duy, opened the session with reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer, as required by the Constitution. Upon organizing the Synod, it was found to consist of the following members :

Ministers.

Rev. J. C. Duy,
" P. A. Strobel,
" E. Deyoe, †
" J. N. Unruh,
" J. H. Barclay,
" Alfred Hiller,
" J. I. Burrell, *

Post Offices.

New Germantown, N. J.
Clarksville, "
Saddle River, "
Allowaystown, "
Stewartsville, "
German Valley, "
Stone Church, North'n Co. Pa.

Lay Delegates.

- From Rev. J. C. Duy's charge Mr. F. H. Lane.
 " " P. A. Strobel's charge Mr. John A. Fritts.
 " " E. Déyoe's charge Mr. H. Blauvelt.
 " " J. N. Unruh's charge Mr. Joshua Mickle.
 " " J. H. Barclay's charge John Fulmer.
 " " Alfred Hiller's charge Jacob A. Wyse.
 " " J. I. Burrells charge John Dunbar.

Commissioner from Rieglesville charge C. W. Fincher.

† Received at this meeting. * Ordained at this meeting.

The President read his annual report which was received and laid on the table to be referred to a Committee.

The following is the report :

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Dear Brethren—You will expect, according to the custom of our church, that I should present you, at this time, something in the form of a report.

The term of my office has been brief, the existence of our Synod dates only a few months back, and but little requiring my official attention has occurred.

The foundations of the Lutheran church were laid at an early date in this State. The congregation I served was organized in 1745. The one at Friesburg in 1749, and those at Ramapo and German Valley very near the same time. But though our origin in New Jersey dates so far back, our progress as a church has been slow.

The greater part of the State was originally occupied by members of other christian denominations, while the settlements of our people were few and far between. Besides, here as well as elsewhere, our Zion has suffered from the want of ministers. Two churches, to my knowledge, viz. one near Hackensack, in Bergen County, and another at Pluckamin, Somerset County, actually dying out for the want of Pastoral attention. Within a few years past however, the members of our communion, especially from the fatherland, have greatly increased among us, and settlements, with congregations, at numerous points, have sprung into existence, which claim our sympathy and assistance.

For a length of time some of us have felt that it was desirable and important that we should have a synodical organization in our State, as a common bond of unity, and centre of operation for the benefit of all concerned in the prosperity of our particular communion.

This matter was the subject of many letters and discussions. A conference of ministers residing in this State was held at New Germantown in 1855, at which this subject received due attention. Various meetings of this conference were held subsequently, until, finally, on February 20th, 1861, at a convention called for the purpose, the "Evangelical Lutheran Synod of New Jersey" was duly formed; a constitution adopted, officers elected, and every necessary step taken to give us shape and life.

Since then, eight months have elapsed, and as remarked little requiring my supervision has occurred. About the
of I received from Rev. J. H. Unruh his letter of dismission from the East Pennsylvania Synod and his application for admission into our Synod.

I have heard that Bro. Deyoe has also obtained a similar dismission from the New York Min. and that he together with his congregations will apply for admission at our present session.

Upon consultation among the officers of the Synod it was thought advisable that Bro. Strobel should visit the charge of Br. Fritze at Egg Harbor City to ascertain the condition and claims of that interesting place and people. A report of that visit is herewith submitted to you, upon which some action should be taken.

I would call attention also to the important mission field in Salem and Cumberland Counties, and hope something effectual will be done to supply our destitute people there with the ministrations of the Gospel.

It is with pleasure I can refer to the general prosperity with which our churches are favored.

Bro. Hiller's people are remodelling and refurnishing their house of worship, at a considerable expense—when completed it will be a commodious and beautiful structure an ornament to the neighborhood, and a monument of the enterprize and liberality of the people.

The church and parsonage where we now meet has also recently been much improved and beautified and all our charges, so far as I know are in an encouraging condition.

At our present meeting there will be one applicant for ordination, and one young brother will perhaps look to us for assistance in prosecuting his studies with a view to the holy office.

The creation of a Synod in this State we believe to be of the greatest importance in regard to its bearing upon the interests of our Zion. We trust all the brethren will be of

one mind in regard to this subject, and unite heart and hand with us in the effort to build up the church of Christ and of our Fathers. Let none despise the day of small things.—The New York Ministerium now numbering upwards of 60 members, after sparing enough to form two other Synods, began with three ministers and two laymen, (sixteen years ago the Pittsburg Synod was organized with seven ministers) and a few small churches, and now they have fifty ministers and nine thousand church members. If those to whom we can naturally look for co-operation will come to our help, it will soon be said of us that we are not among the smallest of the thousands of Israel.

At the formation of our Synod we voted to unite ourselves with the General Synod, and elected delegates to attend the meeting which was to be held in May last, and we not only regret that the General Synod did not meet according to appointment, but we utterly dissent from the reasons given, for the postponement, and hope that a meeting of that body will be called as soon as practicable.

But how can I close without adverting to the state of our beloved country. The calamity of civil war is upon us, and though we are not called upon to legislate in the matter nor as ministers of the Gospel of Christ, to take up arms in defence of our Constitution, our Union and our laws, yet I think we should come out at a crisis like this, and let the rest of the church and the world know that we are true and loyal citizens of this favored republic, and that we go for our country one and inseparable, now and forever.

May God in his mercy and grace be with us in all our deliberations—may his Spirit guide and sanctify us, and make us more zealous in building up the church and kingdom of Christ.

JACOB C. DUY.

Spruce Run, October 12th, 1861.

The Rev. Ephraim Deyoe, late a member of the New York Synod, made application for admission on behalf of himself, and the churches at Ramapo, Rockland County, N. Y., and Saddle River, Bergen County, N. J. The dismissals being regular, Brother Deyoe and his congregations were unanimously received—the names of Brother Deyoe and his delegate Mr. Henry Blauvelt, were enrolled.

The Rev. J. L. Rau of the N. Y. Synod, Rev. A. Youmans of the Presbyterian church, and Mr. J. W. Lake, a Theological student from Hartwick Seminary, were received as Advisory Members.

The Rev. W. W. Gulick, corresponding delegate from the New York Synod, not being able to attend, addressed a letter to the President excusing his absence.

I.—RESOLVED that we reciprocate the kindly feelings of our brethren of the New York Synod, as evinced by the appointment of a corresponding delegate, and sincerely regret Brother Gulick's absence.

The election of officers being in order, Rev. J. N. Unruh and Mr. F. H. Lane were appointed tellers. The following was the result :

President—Rev. J. C. Duy.

Secretary— “ P. A. Strobel.

Treasurer—Mr. Abraham B. Weller.

Various communications, Minutes of Synods &c. were laid on the table, arranged by the Secretary and referred to the following committees :

Committee No. 1, Presidents report—Messrs. Hiller, Barclay and Deyoe.

Committee No. 2, Messrs. Unruh and Lane.

Committee No. 3, Messrs. Barclay and J. A. Fritts.

Committee No. 4, Messrs. Deyoe, Blauvelt and Mickle.

The Minutes of the Convention held at German Valley N. J., on the 19th and 20th of February, 1861, which resulted in the formation of this Synod, were read and confirmed.

The Rev. J. C. Duy, from the Committee appointed to prepare a seal for this Synod, reported that the duty had been performed and presented the seal, which was adopted.

The Rev. A. Hiller from the Committee to prepare a Constitution for the Home Missions and Education Society, presented the Constitution, which was read and adopted.

(See Constitution back of the Minutes.)

The Rev. P. A. Strobel read his report as chairman of the Missionary Committee, detailing his visit to Egg Harbor City. As that congregation has not yet connected itself formally with this Synod, the report is omitted.

The reading of the Parochial reports being in order, the order of business was suspended and the hour of 10 o'clock on Monday morning was fixed for hearing said reports.

At this point the Secretary read the Constitution of the Synod, as adopted at the Convention, held at German Valley in February last.

Adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 9 A. M.—Prayer by Rev. J. H. Barclay.

Religious Exercises.

On Friday afternoon the services, preparatory to the Lord's Supper were performed by the Pastor, after a suitable address from Rev. J. H. Barclay.

Meeting for the Sabbath Schools.

On Saturday afternoon the various Sabbath Schools, (four in number) assembled in the church and were addressed by Rev. E. Deyoe, J. N. Unruh and J. I. Burrel. The Pastor briefly catechised the schools, and the children sung a number of appropriate hymns.

On Saturday evening, Rev. A. Hiller preached from Romans, 13, 11.

Sabbath Services.

Prayer meeting was held at 9 A. M. At half past 10, the Rev. J. N. Unruh preached to a large and attentive audience from Lam. i, 12. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was then celebrated by the Pastors and their delegates and a very large number of communicants. The occasion was very solemn and affecting.

Sabbath, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ A.M.—Rev. J. H. Barclay preached in the Presbyterian Church—Matt. xxii, 36.

Sabbath 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ P.M.—Rev. E. Deyoe, at Changelwater, 2 Cor. xii, 5.
 “ “ “ J. C. Duy, Clarkesville, Luke xiii, 24.
 “ “ “ A. Hiller, High Bridge, 1 Tim. iv, 8.
 “ “ “ J. I. Burrell, Hampton, Gen. vii, 1.
 “ “ “ S. L. Raw, Whitehall, Isaiah v, 3-6.

Ordination Service.

On Sabbath evening, after an appropriate sermon from Rev. J. H. Barclay, (2 Timothy iv, 2,) the Rev. John Ilgin Burrell, Pastor of the Lutheran Churches in Northampton County, Pa., was solemnly set apart to the work of the holy ministry by prayer and the laying on of hands. The President, Rev. J. C. Duy, proposed the usual questions; the Secretary and the other brethren officiating. The Rev. A. Youmans, of the Presbyterian Church, also took part in the ceremony. The services were very solemn and deeply impressive.

SECOND SESSION.

MONDAY, 14th October, 9 A. M.

Synod met, and was opened with prayer by Rev. J. H.

Barclay. The minutes of the previous session were read and confirmed.

The Secretary, who had been appointed a delegate to the New York Synod, stated that, owing to the distance and the heavy expense of traveling and the state of the Synodical treasury, he did not consider it expedient to represent this Synod in person, but had addressed a suitable letter to that body.

The Rev. J. H. Barclay, delegate to the East Pennsylvania Synod, could not attend the meeting of that body, because its Convention had been postponed, and was to be held at the same time with our own.

The Rev. J. C. Duy as delegate to the Pennsylvania Synod, submitted the following :

Report of the Delegate to the Pennsylvania Synod.

Your delegate appointed to attend the meeting of the Pennsylvania Synod, complied with his commission ; but he is sorry to say that though he presented himself before that body, he was not noticed, nor introduced to the brethren, as is the custom in our Church. He had therefore no opportunity to represent this body, or to give them our greetings.

JACOB C. DUY.

Mr. C. W. Fincher, a Commissioner from the Church at Riegelsville, appeared and was admitted to a seat.

The Rev. A. Hiller, from the Committee on the President's report, submitted the following, which was adopted :

Report of Com. on President's Report.

Your Committee, to whom the President's report was submitted with a view of pointing out such portions of the same as require the specific action of the Synod, would respectfully report that we find the above report a comprehensive and business-like document, but contains nothing requiring the action of this body, unless it be that portion of the report that refers to the meeting of the General Synod, and in this connection we would offer the following :

RESOLVED, That we do not consider the reasons given for the postponement of the General Synod sufficient, and that we the more regret that the above Synod did not meet at the time appointed, inasmuch as we wish to be in regular connection with that body, and hence we request that a meeting of the General Synod be called at an early day.

We would also invite the attention of Synod to that portion of the President's report which refers to the present state

of our beloved country, and in this connection we would present the following:

Realizing the important truth expressed in the President's report that "The calamity of civil war is upon us, and that the government which was so dearly purchased by the blood of our Fathers and which we have so long and so richly enjoyed, is in danger, therefore

RESOLVED, that from the teachings of the word of God we consider it to be the plain duty of every citizen, of every christian, of every patriot, to be loyal and to take a firm and decided stand in support of our Constitution, our Union and our Laws.

RESOLVED, that the safest, shortest and cheapest way to peace is, by the most thorough and energetic prosecution of the war, until those who have raised a standard against their country's flag, lay down their arms and submit themselves to the constitution and the laws.

RESOLVED, that whilst your committee are men of peace and earnestly desire to see this [great blessing resting upon the land, we utterly dissent against the action of the so-called "peace" party originated among us, as only calculated to promote faction and clog the wheels of government.

RESOLVED, that we look with compassion on our deluded brethren at the South and most earnestly pray our common God and Father to show them the error of their ways and lead them to cheerfully submit to the "powers that be."

RESOLVED, that we consider the present calamities, under which we are suffering, as the judgment of God upon us for our national wickedness and that it becomes us all to humble ourselves under His mighty hand and to sincerely repent of our many transgressions.

Respectfully submitted.

A. HILLER,
J. H. BARCLAY, } Com'ee.
E. DEYOE,

Report of Committee No. 2.

The Rev. J. N. Unruh from committee No. 2 reported that the documents entrusted to them are Minutes of the West Penn., Wittenburg and Kentucky Synods. After a close examination, your committee rejoice to say, that energy, zeal and activity, in promoting the glory of God and advancing the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom, are not wanting a-

mong the brethren of these Synods. We find nothing in them however, which demands action on the part of this synod.

JOHN N. UNRUH, } Committee.
F. H. LANE, }

Report of Committee No. 3.

Rev. J. H. Barclay, from this Committee, reported as follows :

Your committee, appointed to examine the minutes of the New York and Hartwick Synods, have attended to their duty but find nothing of importance therein, demanding the consideration of this body. We would notice however, the commendable degree of zeal in the Master's Kingdom, manifested by the brethren of these bodies—and we would especially notice with joy, the earnest Gospel spirit of the brethren of the Hartwick Synod upon the subject of Temperance ; may God help us to declare against the evils of strong drink, that we may discharge our whole duty in the sight of God. We would recommend the appointment of a committee to express the sentiments of Synod upon this subject.

JOS. H. BARCLAY, } Committee.
J. A. FRITTS, }

The report was adopted and the brethren, J. H. Barclay and A. Hiller were appointed a committee to prepare a pare a minute on Temperance.

The Secretary read the proceedings of Conference held at Freisburg, Salem county, N. J. on 10th and 11th September.

Bro. Unruh, appointed at that conference to enquire into the expediency of buying the 2nd Baptist Church in Salem, N. J. for the use of our German brethren, reported that he had made the necessary enquiries and that the Church could be had for \$3000.

7. *Resolved*, that Bro. Unruh be continued on said committee and that he be authorized to secure the refusal of the Church for this Synod.

The Secretary reported that he had conducted the correspondence assigned him by action of Conference. He had received replies from the Pastor and Church Council of the Church in Still Valley and the Rieglesville Church had sent a Commissioner to this body. These were the only replies, except a letter from Rev. Gardner, of Trenton, N. J. to the President.

The hour of 10 having arrived, the brethren read their parochial reports, which are as follows :

(The Reports follow on next page.)

Parochial Reports.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Congregations.	Baptisms.			Statistics of Membership.						Sabbath Schools.			Contributions.			Prayer Meetings.
			Infants.	Adults.	Total.	Confirmed.	Rec. by Cert.	Deceased.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Total.	Lutheran.	Union.	Teachers.	Scholars.	Synodical.	Home Missions and Education		Local Objects.
New Germantown, N. J.,.....	Rev. J. C. Duy,.....	1	12	..	12	5	5	4	..	148	1	17	105	\$5.00	\$18.00	..	..
Spruce Run, N. J.,.....	" P. A. Strobel,...	1	12	10	22	40	5	3	..	135	2	35	250	10.00	100.00	\$1.500	..	
Saddle River, N. J.,.....	" E. Deyoe,.....	1	5	..	5	2	2	..	..	114	2	15	125	2.00	*30.00	..	..
Ramapo, N. Y.,.....	" ".....	1	32	13	45	49	2	1	..	167	..	..	..	2.00	8.00	..	..
Friesburg, and Luther's Chapel	" J. N. Unruh.....	2	11	19	30	37	3	2	1	200	1	35	135	5.00	45.50	..	100	
Stewartsville, N. J.,.....	" J. H. Barclay,...	1	15	..	15	8	5	1	1	132	1	30	130	5.00	155.00	..	..
Zion's, German Valley, N. J.,	" A. Hiller,.....	1	14	2	16	1	1	7	..	173	1	20	100	5.00	8.44	..	..
St. Paul's & Mt. Sinai, Pa.,...	" J. I. Burrell,.....	2	25	9	34	90	51	1	2	326	2	20	200	5.00	40.00	..	4,400	
		10	126	53	179	230	68	15	19	1395	10	7	207	1045	\$39.00	\$384.94	..	\$7,000

* Of this amount \$22 00 was contributed by the Benevolent Society at Saddle River.

REMARKS ACCOMPANYING PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

Rev. P. A. Strobel.—The past year has been marked with many tokens of God's mercy. We have been blessed with a revival which added 40 members to the church. We have enjoyed peace and unity in the Church. The piety, zeal and liberality of my people have been quickened. Over \$1,500 have been expended in improvements on the Church and parsonage. The Sabbath Schools have become more prosperous and efficient. The school at Spruce Run has numbered over 100 scholars, and we take 40 copies of the S. S. Herald.—The pastor and its people are much encouraged at the marked changes which have been effected in the condition of the Church, under the Divine blessing, and if we are faithful, we anticipate still greater improvements. My people gave over \$100 to Hartwick Seminary.

Rev. E. Deyoe.—During the past Synodical year we have been blessed with peace in our congregations.

The attendance on the means of Grace has been uniformly good. Upwards of sixty have been added to our communion. Besides the moneys reported at this time, about \$100 have been paid towards raising a fund of \$10,000 for Hartwick Seminary, and about the same amount for repairs and improvements about the church and the parsonage. The benevolent society of the church at Saddle River raised \$22 for Education.

Rev. A. Hiller.—In addition to the money stated in my report, we have contributed during the past year, \$25 00 to the Brooklyn Mission, and at the organization of the Synod \$55 00 were paid for Missions and Education. Subscriptions have also been made to the amount of \$100, towards endowing a new Professorship in Hartwick Seminary. Our people are now engaged in enlarging and renovating our church edifice, and already great improvements are visible. The cost of our repairs is estimated at between three and four thousand dollars, and when finished our church will be very fine. We have erected a bell-tower and spire over 100 feet high. The ladies in the congregation held a fair last August, the proceeds of which amount to about \$400 00. With this sum we have purchased a fine cast steel bell, weighing nearly 1500 lbs. Owing to the unfinished state of the church and my preaching only in the outskirts of my congregation, I have found it difficult to take up collections and hence our contributions for Synod this year are small.

Rev. J. H. Barclay.—The cause of Jesus Christ prospers in

our midst. We have every reason to thank God and take courage; and from present indications we expect to see the work of the Lord greatly revived. Much hemmed in as to boundaries, we nevertheless are enlarging the same, and trust soon to see, what a few years since, appeared to some a hopeless mission field, a prosperous and flourishing church, fully sustaining itself and able to do something in the regions beyond.

Rev J. I. Burrell.—In this charge, much prosperity has been enjoyed during the past year. As the fruit of a revival, 90 were added to the Churches and 50 by certificate. Thirteen prayer meetings are sustained. Of these, eight are Lutheran, three Union and two Female. One of the latter is a "Mothers' Prayer Meeting," held monthly, at which pious women unite in prayer for the conversion of their children.—The congregations have been supporting a beneficiary at the Mission Institute. We have built a new brick church, costing \$4,400 and repairs and additions are now being made to the Parsonage lot, which will cost \$400.

At this point Synod adjourned to attend public worship and to resume its session at 2½ P. M. Prayer by Bro. Deyoe.

At 11 A. M. Bro. Burrell preached an edifying Sermon from 1 Corin. 3, 11.

THIRD SESSION.

MONDAY, Oct. 14, 2½ P. M.

Synod met and was opened with prayer by Rev. A. Rumpff, of the Hartwick Synod, who was received as an Advisory member. The minutes of the morning session were read and confirmed,

Mr. John Richards late Treasurer presented his report, which was referred to Bros. Deyoe & Blaufault as an Auditing Committee. The committee reported the accounts of the Treasurer all correct, leaving a balance of \$35 in the Treasury.

8.—RESOLVED, That this amount be appropriated for Home Missions and Education.

The following is the Treasurer's account :

John Richards in acct. with New Jersey Synod.

1861. DR.

March 10.	Cash received for Synodical purposes,	\$7,55
March 15.	“ “ Missions and Education,	35,00
April 15.	Cash from Rev. J. I. Burrell,	18,00
July 24.	“ “ “	12,61
Sept. 8.	“ “ “	8,00
Oct. 14.	Cash from J. N. Unruh,	4,00
		<hr/> \$85 16

1861. CR.

Feb. 20.	By cash paid Rev. C. A. Fritze,	\$00,25
Feb. 20.	By cash paid for Treasurer's book,	00,31
April 10.	By cash paid Rev. C. A. Fritze,	18,00
July 24.	By cash paid Rev. P. A. Strobel, per order,	11,03
July 24.	By cash paid for Education purposes,	8,00
July 24.	“ “ Synodical seal,	10,50
Oct. 14.	“ “ expenses attending Synod,	1,25
		<hr/> 49 34

Balance in Treasury, \$35 82

The Minutes of the New Jersey Conference were presented by the Secretary, and referred to a Committee consisting of Bros. Unruh & Weller.

Brother Barclay made a statement on behalf of Mr. Fincher, the Commissioner from the Rieglesville charge. The request addressed to said church had been received and favorably considered, but the Congregation, although willing to unite with the New Jersey Synod, would not take any definite action, until after the arrival and settlement of their Pastor.

The subject of our Missions in Cumberland and Salem Counties was discussed by Bro. Unruh and others,

9.—RESOLVED, That we recommend Rev. J. L. Raw, to our German brethren at Bridgeton and vicinity and Rev. Adolphus Rumpff to those at Salem, N. J., and that this Synod hereby pledges itself to sustain these brethren to the full extent of its ability.

Bro. Unruh from the Committee of the Minutes of the N. J. Conference, reported that the Minutes are all correctly kept and that there is nothing in them requiring special action of Synod.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, 9 A. M. Prayer by Rev. A. Hiller.

FOURTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, Oct 15th, 9 A. M.

Synod met and was opened with prayer by Bro. Burrell.—

The Minutes of the previous Session were read and confirmed.

An election was held for the next place of meeting—New Germantown and Freisburg were the only places named.—New Germantown was chosen.

10. *Resolved*, that our next annual meeting be held in the Lutheran Church, New Germantown, N. J. commencing on Friday evening, October 3, 1862, at 7 P. M.

The Rev. P. A. Strobel was appointed to preach the Synodical sermon on Friday evening, the Rev. E. Deyoe to preach the preparatory sermon on Saturday afternoon and Rev. J. H. Barclay the Communion Sermon on Sabbath morning.

11. *Resolved*, that the officers of Synod apply to the Legislature of New Jersey at its approaching session, for an act of incorporation.

12. *Resolved*, that we recommend to our Pastors to organize societies in their respective charges, auxiliary to the Synodical Missionary and Education Society.

13. *Resolved*, that Rev. J. H. Barclay and Rev. A. Hiller, with Messrs. Abraham Klotz and William Fulmer be continued as our delegates to the General Synod.

The Rev. J. H. Barclay was appointed delegate to the N. York Synod, Rev. J. N. Unruh to East Penn. and Rev. J. I. Burrell to the Central Penn. Synod.

The Rev. E. Deyoe, from committee on letters, reported as follows :

“Your committee, to whom certain letters were referred, have examined the same and would say that one is a communication from Rev. J. K. Plitt, in answer to a Letter from our Secretary, inviting him and his Church to unite with the Synod of their own State, the more effectually to promote the interests of the Lutheran Church in New Jersey. Your committee regret that Bro. Plitt and his Church do not see their way clear to accept our invitation at present. But as we need the co-operation and influence of all the friends of our Church in this State, we hope that the time may soon come when Bro. Plitt and his people will be with us in hand and heart.

E. DEYOE,
H. BLAUVELT, } Committee.
J. MICKLE.

MINUTE ON TEMPERANCE.

The Rev. J. H. Barclay, presented the following Minute on Temperance, which was unanimously adopted :

Your committee, appointed to express the views of Synod upon the subject of Temperance, respectfully report :

The importance of the subject committed to them, must appear to every intelligent mind, as well in the world as in the Church. The evils resulting to the cause of our common religion and to the cause of humanity at large, demands consideration, especially from those who preach that gospel which has plainly declared that no Drunkard shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. Looking at Intemperance around us, not merely in our large cities, but in every village and hamlet, and beholding its fearful increase, its frightful ravages and the apathy in the minds of an intelligent community, upon this matter, we feel as ministers of the Lord Jesus that we would be false to the high trust committed to us, if we did not lift up our voice in denunciation of the traffic in strong drink. This giant iniquity staggers unrebuked among us and we feel that it is high time that we awake to the responsibilities and obligations of our office and be firm in our purpose to do what we can to stay the flood tides of this vice, which is sweeping over our land. It is a subject which admits of no compromise. Standing on the foundation of a pure Gospel, we should yield nothing to the claims of Alcohol. We have lived too long to be blind to its results. The innumerable victims sacrificed upon the altar of this moloch of rum, demands that we put forth every energy to stay its progress—not merely shackling the giant, but endeavoring to kill it.—The cause of God and humanity cry aloud, not so much for words as action. Heart-broken wives and worse than orphaned children appeal to us. The slaves of intemperance themselves demand our care in our pulpit efforts and in all our social intercourse we should turn our face against intemperance as an evil fraught with consequences almost too horrible for human credence. Brethren, let us in season and out, preach against strong drink. Your committee would recommend the setting apart of the First Sabbath of December, to preach to our people upon this subject.

J. H. BARCLAY,
A, HILLER.

14.—*Resolved*, that all Congregations hereafter organized

in this State be required to adopt the Formula of discipline recommended by the General Synod and that if any additions be necessary, they be made in the form of by-laws.

15. *Resolved*, that Revd. A. Hiller be suggested to the Board of Trustees of Hartwick Seminary, as a suitable person to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Col. Prentiss.

16. *Resolved*, that Bros. Unruh and Barclay be a committee to ascertain whether or not we have any right to a representation in the board of trustees in Gettysburg Seminary—to enquire into the claims of that Institution upon us and report at next meeting of Synod.

The Rev. E. Deyoe laid before the Synod “the Child’s easy Chatechism,” published by Mr. Charles A. Morris, of York, Pennsylvania.

17. *Resolved*, that the Secretary write to Mr. Morris, requesting him to print a new edition of his Catechism and that we pledge ourselves to purchase one thousand copies for the use of our Sabbath Schools.

The Rev. J. C. Duy read a Constitution for our Conference which was adopted.

Resolved, that our next Conference be held in the Lutheran Church at Saddle river, N. J. in January, 1862, and that the Pastor fix the date of meeting.

18. *Resolved*, that at some suitable time, the Pastor of this Church return to the members of his Congregation, the thanks of this body, for their liberality in contributing to our funds and the Christian hospitality extended to us during our sojourn with them.

Resolved, that six hundred copies of our Minutes be printed, together with the Constitutions of the Synod and of the Home Missionary and Education Society ; also 100 extra copies of the Constitutions—the Secretary to superintend the printing and to be authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the funds.

19. *Resolved*, that the Revd. J. I. Burrell be installed in his charge in Northampton Co., Penn’a. early in December—the day to be fixed by himself—that Rev. P. A. Strobel preach the Sermon and give the charge to the Congregation and the Revd. J. C. Duy give the charge to the Pastor.

20. *Resolved*, that we do now adjourn to meet at New Germantown, N. J. on Friday the 3rd day of October, 1862, at 7 P. M.

The Session was closed with devotional exercises and the apostolic benediction by the President.

I certify that the above is a faithful record of the proceedings of the first annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of New Jersey.

P. A. STROBEL, *Secretary*.

Spruce Run, N. J. October 18. 1861.

MEETING OF THE MINISTERIUM.

The Ministerium held a Session on Saturday afternoon, after the adjournment of Synod and was opened with prayer by the Secretary.

The President presented the Journal and Sermon of Rev. J. I. Burrell, with his request for ordination at the present meeting. The Sermon and Journal were referred to Bros. Barclay and Deyoe.

The Committee retired and examined the Journal and sermon and reported as follows :

Your committee find from an examination of Bro. Burrell's journal, that our Brother has been actively and successfully engaged in preaching the Gospel and performing his pastoral duties. His sermon is evangelical and contains many excellent thoughts, appropriately expressed. We would however recommend to our Brother, that he pay more attention to the subject of homiletics, as he is, to a degree, lacking of system.

We recommend that Bro. Burrell be admitted to a colloquium.

J. H. BARCLAY,
E. DEYOE.

Resolved, that Bro. Burrell be admitted to Ordination and that the ceremony take place to-morrow (Sabbath) evening, in this Church.

Adjourned with prayer by Bro. Unruh.

P. A. STROBEL, *Sec'y*.

Spruce Run, N. J. }
October 18, 1861. }

MEETING OF THE HOME MISSIONS AND EDUCATION SOCIETY.

This Society held its annual meeting on Monday evening. The exercises were introduced with an anthem by the Choir and prayer by the Revd. A. Rumpff, of the Hartwick Synod.

An appropriate and eloquent Address was made by the Rev. A. Hiller on Missions and one by the Rev. J. H. Barclay on Education.

An election for officers resulted as follows :

Revd. J. C. Duy, President.

Revd. P. A. Strobel, Secretary.

Mr. Abraham Weller, Treasurer.

The following gentlemen were chosen as the Executive committee, to serve for three years : Rev. P. A. Strobel, Chairman, and Rev. E. Deyoe and Rev. J. H. Barclay, with Messrs. George Vossler and A. Weller.

At the close of the Addresses, the following persons were made Life members :

Rev. P. A. Strobel by Elias Fritts,	\$5 00
Mrs. E. M, Strobel by George Vossler,	5 00
Rev. J. H. Barclay by Jacob Pense,	5 00
Rev. E. Deyoe by Abraham Klotz,	5 00
Rev. J. I. Burrell by the Choir,	5 00
Rev. J. N. Unruh by Prof, White \$2, Mrs. R. Beavers \$2 and Rev. Burrell \$1,	5 00
Prof. White by M. F. Martenus, \$2, and Mrs. Strobel, J. N. Unruh and W. Derenberger each \$1	5 00
Miss Sallie Martenus by M. D. Wells and J. M. Welstead, \$2,50 each,	5 00
Miss Jeanie Fritts by J. N. Unruh and Mrs. Mickle each \$1 and the Choir \$3,	5 00
	\$45 00

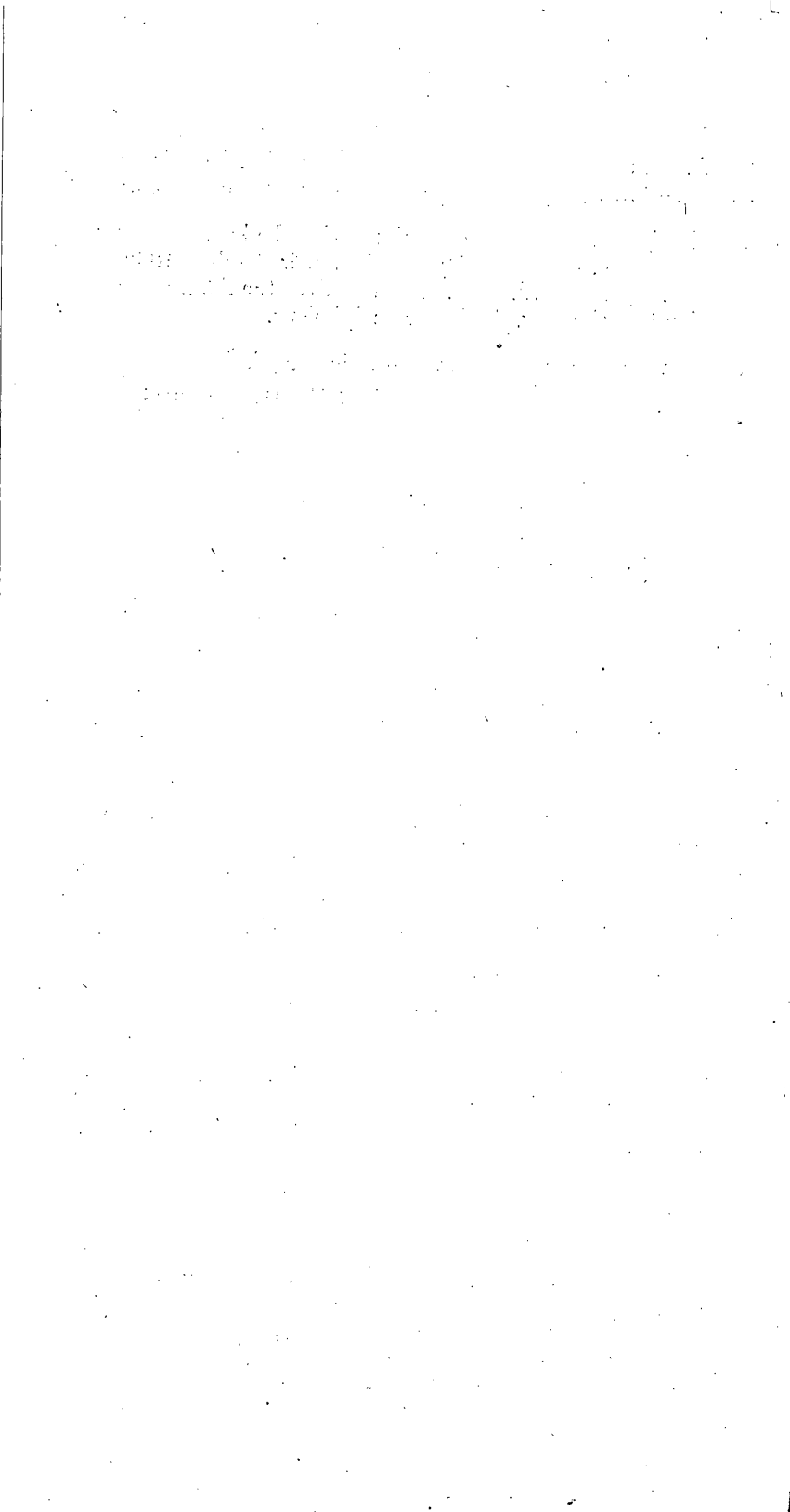
The following persons became annual members by paying \$1,00 each : J. C. Duy, P. A. Strobel, A. Hiller, J. N. Unruh, J. I. Burrell, Wm. Derenberger, J. H. Barclay, E. Deyoe, H. Blauvelt, B. A. Wyse, J. Dunbar, F. H. Lane, J. Fulmer, Joshua Mickle, Abraham B. Weller, \$2,00, J. L.

Raw, A. Rumpff, P. A. Beavers, A. Pearson, J. Richards, J. A. Fritts—total \$22, collections, \$8,50—grand total \$75,50.

Resolved, that our next annual meeting be held at New Germantown, N. J. on Monday evening, 6th October, 1862, at 7 P. M. That Revd. J. N. Unruh deliver the Address on Education and the Rev. A. Hiller on Missions.

Closed with Singing and the Apostolic benediction.

P. A. STROBEL, Secretary:



CONSTITUTION,

OF

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod,

OF

NEW JERSEY.

*Adopted at German Valley, Morris County, N. Jersey,
February 20th, 1861.*

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CHAPTER I.

TITLE OR NAME.

We whose names are hereunto annexed, Ministers and representatives of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in the State of New Jersey, having united ourselves into a body to be governed by the following Constitution, call this association, "The Evangelical Lutheran Synod and Ministerium of the State of New Jersey."

CHAPTER II.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

- 1.—The President shall be chosen by ballot from amongst the ordained Ministers, licentiates and lay delegates.
- 2.—The President shall be elected annually, but shall not be eligible for more than three consecutive years.
- 3.—He shall preside in all meetings of the Synod and Ministerium, and is at liberty to take an active part in the discussions of the house, even as the rest of the members.
- 4.—When, on any question, the house is equally divided, he has the casting vote. In all other cases he has no suffrage; except only when an election is made by ballot, and then he has not the casting vote.
- 5.—Unless objection is made, he appoints all Committees. In cases of difference, each of the contending parties is at lib-

erty to choose one person, to which the President shall add a third, to constitute a Committee.

6.—In all meetings of the Synod, the President, with the advice of the Pastor of the place, appoints the individuals who are to preach.

7.—He performs the ordinations, assisted by the Secretary, and two or more ministers of his own choice, in the public congregation ; selects the persons who are to examine candidates for licensure. and gives to approved candidates letters of licensure, which, as well as all certificates of ordination, he is to subscribe with his official signature, seal with the seal of the Synod, and deliver to those, to whom they belong.

8.—He is to sign the minutes of each Synod in the journal ; to sign and deliver copies of resolutions, passed in the Synod, to those whom they concern, and to see, that, immediately after each Synod, all documents are placed in the archives.

9.—It is an important part of his office, to give counsel to every member of this body, when he deems it expedient, and particularly to admonish and advise every erring brother.

10.—If in the recess of the Synod, the President should be prevented from attending to the duties of his office, should be disabled, or disqualified for the functions of office, or should leave the bounds of the Synod, or should depart this life ; then, in any of these cases, the Secretary of the Synod, shall be authorized to fulfill the duties of the President, *pro tempore*.

CHAPTER III.

OF THE SECRETARY.

1.—The Secretary of the Synod, shall be elected out of the number of ordained ministers who are members of this body by ballot, by a majority of the votes of the Synod. Like the President he shall not be eligible for more than three consecutive years.

2.—He is to keep a faithful record of the proceedings of the Synod and Ministerium, attest by his official signature all certificates of Licensure and ordination, resolutions concerning ministers, delegates or churches, and the minutes of the Synod in the journal.

3.—He is to address letters to all the members of the Synod, and to the officers of such churches as may be vacant, making known to them the time and place of each meeting of the Synod ; of which he shall always give notice in the papers of the church.

4.—He is to keep a register of the names of all ordained ministers and licentiates united with this body, of their respective Post Offices of the several congregations for which they officiate, and of all vacant congregations.

5.—He is to keep in his possession the archives and seal of the Synod.

6.—If during the recess of the Synod, the Secretary should be disabled or disqualified to hold his office, or should remove beyond the jurisdiction of the Synod, or should depart this life, the President shall require the archives and the seal of the Synod, to be delivered to himself, and shall appoint another Minister to act as Secretary, until the next annual meeting.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE TREASURER.

1.—The Treasurer is to be elected from amongst the ordained Ministers, or from amongst the laymen, in the manner pointed out for the election of President and Secretary, and may be re-elected from year to year. Should the Treasurer be a layman, he shall be *Ex officio* a member of Synod, and shall be entitled to a seat and vote.

2.—He shall receive and have the care of all moneys belonging to this body; pay all sums ordered to be expended by Synod, and keep and deliver at each of its annual meetings, an exact account of the state of the Treasury.

3.—When entering upon his office, he shall give to the President a bond, duly executed, with at least one good security, for the repayment of the whole amount of the moneys, which then are, or thereafter may be placed in the Treasury, whilst he continues in office, which bond shall be kept in the archives.

4.—If the state of the funds, should in his judgment and that of the President, make it advisable, he may invest part of them in some public stocks, or lend them to individuals at lawful interest and upon unexceptionable securities; in such a way however, that the whole, or such parts as the Synod may require, may be available at a short notice.

5.—If in the recess of the Synod, the Treasurer should leave the bounds of Synod, or be removed by death, the President shall appoint another to hold this office, until the meeting of the Synod; and shall take proper measures for the delivery into his hands of all moneys, certificates, bonds or other documents held by the former Treasurer.

CHAPTER V.

OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

1.—All ordained ministers are perfectly equal as to rank, title and privileges, having no power the one over the other, except only what the before described offices, make necessary for the maintenance of order, and the well being of the whole association. Although they are not to neglect or slight any advice imparted by the President, still they have no overseer in their respective congregations, and each is to be regarded as the bishop of his own church.

2.—One minister, of course, shall not interfere with the office or congregation of another, by preaching or performing other ministerial duties except at the request, or with the consent of the other.

3.—In all cases of controversy or difference between two ministers or between a minister and his congregation, which they cannot amicably settle by their own endeavors, or by the mediation of the President, the parties, or either of them may make application to the Synod, and shall abide by its decisions. If it appear to the Synod that a controversy between a Minister and his congregation has proceeded such lengths, as to preclude all hope of its favorable termination, and that a dissolution of the connection is necessary to restore the peace and promote the prosperity of the church, the Synod shall recommend to such minister to resign his charge, on such conditions as may to the Synod appear reasonable and proper. And if such minister or congregation refuse to comply with such recommendation, the Synod may at its discretion, proceed to suspend the former from the exercise of all ministerial functions with this body, and refuse to the latter a representation and seat in the Synod, until they submit to the terms of the recommendation : subject however to an appeal to the General Synod.

4.—If a minister be convicted of criminal or immoral conduct before his congregation, his church council, a court of Justice, or the Ministerium, of this Synod, upon a fair and sufficient investigation, he shall be disowned or suspended, at the discretion of the Ministerium. If, however, the Ministerium should be afterwards convinced that he has sincerely repented and reformed his life, he may, after sufficient trial and proof, be restored to his former office, and be recommended to Congregations other than that in which the offence had been committed.

5.—In every case of impeachment against a Minister, the charges on which he is to be tried must be duly preferred in writing, and he must be furnished with a list of the witnesses against him, and have due time allowed to make his defense.

6.—Each Minister has a right to adopt such regulations in his own Congregation as circumstances may require, and as are consistent with the spirit of Christianity and the harmony of his Church. But in the exercise of this right, as much unity and agreement with the usages and regulations of sister Churches as can conscientiously be observed, are to be preserved.

7.—Each ordained Minister has a right to leave one Church and remove to another. Yet in so weighty a concern, he should be especially careful to act deliberately and conscientiously, as before God; and he must give the President timely notice of his intended removal. Licentiates shall not dissolve their pastoral relations, without the consent of the President of the Ministerium.

8.—If an ordained Minister or a Licentiate, regularly connected with this body, shall relinquish his ministerial office and shall pursue another profession, he shall no longer enjoy the privileges of a member of this body. And if any ordained Minister resigns his pastoral charge, and is not afterwards settled in some other Congregation as a Pastor, he shall, so long as he is devoid of a charge, retain his seat, but shall not have a vote in the Synod, nor be eligible to any office. If, however, a member of this body, though not officiating as the Pastor of a Congregation, shall be employed by the Synod as a Missionary, or shall be engaged as a professor, tutor or instructor of youth, in some college, academy or general seminary of learning, and performs ministerial duties as often as his other engagements admit, he shall retain both his seat and vote.

9.—If a Minister, ordained by a bishop, presbytery or other ecclesiastical body, of another denomination, shall apply for admission into this Synod, the Ministerium being satisfied on proper examination, that he is a man of piety and unexceptionable character, and that he possesses the necessary literary and other qualifications, may receive him as a member, without re-ordination, two-thirds of the ordained ministers present, consenting thereto: and if he be called to the pastoral office in a Congregation connected with this Synod, he shall be entitled both to a seat and a vote.

10.—Ministers ordained by an Evangelical Lutheran institution, or by an Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium in the

United States, or in a foreign country, must, if thought requisite, exhibit satisfactory evidence of their good standing and ministerial character, at the time of their removal, if they wish to be received into this Synod. If no objections against them are made and sustained by two-thirds of the ordained Ministers present, they shall be admitted as members of this body; and if called to the charge of a Congregation connected with it, and shall be entitled to all the other privileges of regular members.

11.—An ordained Minister belonging to any other Evangelical Lutheran Synod or Ministerium, and occasionally visiting this Synod, shall be received as an advisory member.

12.—All candidates for the Ministry shall be duly trained in our Colleges and Seminaries, and when a candidate is permitted to pursue his studies under the private instruction of a Pastor, it must be with the consent of the Synod, and it shall be regarded as an exception to the rule.

13.—Every ordained Minister and Licentiate shall keep a register of baptisms, marriages, of the communicants, of those who have been received by confirmation or otherwise, and also those who died within his Congregation, unless these registers are kept by some officer of his Church; and the books containing these registers shall be the property of the Congregation.

CHAPTER VI.

OF CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY.

1.—Candidates for the Ministry, in connection with this Synod, shall give due notice to the President of their intention to apply for license; and such persons shall not indulge in any conduct or amusements unfavorable to that seriousness or those pious and studious habits, which become those who are preparing for the holy ministry.

2.—Every person who desires to be received by this body as a Licentiate, must make application to the Ministerium whilst in Session, or in its recess to the President and must produce testimonials of his abilities, the regular time and course of his theological studies and the piety and virtue of his life.

3.—If he applies to the President during the recess of the Ministerium and the President and Secretary, after due examination, are satisfied respecting his character and proficiency, they may give him a License until the next Session of the Ministerium.

4.—If he applies to the Ministerium, and his testimonials are satisfactory, the President shall propose him to the Examining Committee.

5.—The examination here directed shall embrace a knowledge of the phraseology, doctrines and Books of the Holy Scriptures, ability to read the new Testament in the original Greek, a complete knowledge of the natural tongue—natural and moral philosophy and Church history; and attention to Composition and Pulpit eloquence. It is also declared to be desirable, that every candidate should be acquainted with the Hebrew and German languages: but the Ministerium may dispense with a knowledge of the two latter, of these branches of learning, if the person applying is possessed of other qualifications peculiarly fitting him for the Gospel ministry.

6.—Besides subjecting himself to such an examination each person who wishes to be received as a candidate, must produce and read to the Examining committee, a Sermon or discourse composed by himself, and must, if thought necessary, answer questions which may be proposed to him by other members of the ministerium.

7.—If after an examination, he be approved by two-thirds of the ordained Ministers present, he shall be licensed before the public congregation, upon his giving a solemn promise to the President that he will comply with this Constitution.

8.—A Licentiate shall have liberty to visit vacant Congregations, either upon receiving an invitation from them or upon receiving a recommendation of the Ministerium or President.

9.—He shall not interfere with another licentiate, to whom any particular congregation has been pointed out, by the Ministerium or the President; nor shall he perform any ministerial services in the pastoral charge of an ordained minister, unless requested by the latter.

10.—It shall be his duty to preach the Word of God faithfully, to catechise the young, to visit, to administer the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, to solemnize matrimony, to pursue his theological studies, to receive counsel from the President, and apply to him for advice in all cases of difficulty.

11.—He must keep a journal of his ministerial acts, which, with a few sermons of his own composition, he must deliver or send every year for the inspection of the Ministerium.

12.—Without necessity, he is not to absent himself from the meetings of Synod and Ministerium. But if he is pre-

vented from attending, he must excuse his absence in writing, and send his journal and sermon, as required in Sec. 11.

13.—In the meetings of the Synod, he has a seat and a vote and the privilege of taking part in all the discussions and other business of Synod.

14.—In congregations for which he shall perform ministerial duties, he shall keep a record of all baptisms, marriages, &c., celebrated by him, and either preserve it himself, or transmit it to any Minister that may become Pastor of such Congregations.

15.—If a licentiate should desire to visit congregations connected with another Evangelical Synod, the President shall furnish him with such testimonials as will secure him a friendly reception from the officers of such Synod or Ministerium.

16.—If a congregation which adopts this Constitution, or which is not connected with another Evangelical Synod, presents to a licentiate a call to become their Pastor and engage to give him a competent support, he shall, if he accepts it, give notice to the President, and said congregation shall request his ordination to the work of the Ministry. And if no objections be sustained against him, he may be ordained at the next meeting of the Ministerium, or at a meeting of that body specially called for that purpose; provided that at such special meeting, at least two ordained Ministers besides the President be present, and the congregation, for which a licentiate is to be ordained, be willing to defray the necessary expenses incurred by Ministers coming to said meeting.

17.—Ordination is hereby declared to be, in our judgment, the solemn dedication of a man to the Gospel Ministry. In this public dedication of a Minister, which shall be followed by an earnest charge to him, and by prayer to Almighty God, we account the imposition of the hands of the President and others on his head, an expression of approval of him, and of our best wishes and prayers for his success and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon him and his Ministry. And we establish it as a fundamental rule of this Synod, that every person who may hereafter become connected with this Synod, either by ordination or otherwise, shall be required to subscribe to our doctrinal basis, as laid down in Chapter VII., and shall solemnly pledge that he will faithfully teach, as well as perform all ministerial duties, and regulate his walk and conversation according to the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, as contained in the Holy Scriptures, and that he will observe this Constitution, while he remains a member of this Synod.

18.—Every candidate who may be ordained shall, if practicable, be introduced into his Congregation with a suitable charge, both to him and them, by the President or some other Minister appointed for the purpose. And, if it be practicable, this rule shall also be observed, not only with respect to him, but all others, who may settle as Pastors with any of our Congregations.

19.—If the Synod should at any time send a Missionary to plant churches or supply vacancies, in which the services of an ordained Minister may be requisite, and a licentiate should be found qualified for the performance of such duties, he may if willing to act as a Missionary, be ordained for the work.

CHAPTER VII.

DOCTRINAL BASIS.

1.—We establish and ordain the following as the doctrinal basis of this Synod ; “ That we receive with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of our fathers, the WORD OF GOD, as contained in the Canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as the only infallible rule of faith and practice; and the Augsburg Confession, with Luther’s Smaller Catechism, as a correct exhibition of the fundamental doctrines of the Divine Word and of the faith of our Church as founded on that word.”

CHAPTER VIII.

OF LAY-DELEGATES.

1.—Whereas, separate congregations, although not dependent one upon another, may need mutual counsel and assistance, and ought to enter into common measures for the promoting of knowledge and religion ; and whereas, congregations as well as Ministers have rights which ought to be protected, the churches connected with this Synod shall be entitled to be represented by delegates.

2.—Every congregation which has a settled Pastor, or is attended by a licentiate, has a right to be represented in this Synod by one delegate; and every Collegiate Church by two or more delegates, in proportion to its Ministers. When two or more congregations are united under the care of one Pastor, all such congregations shall have but one representative entitled to a vote. When a Commissioner attends Synod with a delegate legally appointed, such Commissioner shall be received and heard, although he cannot be admitted as a delegate. And a similar privilege shall be granted to a Commissioner who may be sent from a party in a congregation,

believing itself aggrieved, and seeking the mediation of this body.

3.—Each lay delegate, claiming a seat in this Synod, must exhibit a written certificate of his appointment, by the church council of the congregations from which he is sent. Each lay delegate shall have a right to take part in the debates, to offer resolutions, and to vote on all questions which may be brought before Synod.

4.—Every congregation which is represented by a delegate in this body, is bound to receive and submit to the resolutions and recommendations of the Synod, and to bear its part of all expenses, and services, necessary for the welfare of the associated churches generally, and the advancement of the common cause. And if any congregation refuses such submission, it shall no longer be entitled to a representative.

CHAPTER IX. OF THE SYNOD.

1.—The Synod shall meet annually in general convention, and in special convention, when called together by the President on his own authority, or when desired by three ordained ministers, stating to the President sufficient reasons for the request. In calling a special Synod, care shall be taken to give seasonable notice to the members and churches.

2.—The Synod may deliberate upon all matters pertaining to the general welfare of our churches; but nothing shall be transacted in a *special* Synod, besides the particular business for which it was called. The Synod is always composed of the ordained ministers, licentiates and lay delegates.

3.—Except through unavoidable necessity, (with which voluntary ministerial engagements are not to be reckoned synonymous,) no ordained minister or licentiate shall neglect to attend the Synod. If any such necessity should occur to any, he shall send in a written apology for his absence. If any one neither makes his personal appearance nor sends in his excuse, he shall be brought to account by the President at the next meeting. Whoever is three times successively absent, and does not regularly apologize for it, shall no longer be considered a member of this body.

4.—Written apologies as well as all other letters and statements must be addressed to the President.

5.—In the place where Synod is held, divine worship shall be celebrated and a sermon preached, as often as shall be consistent with the business of Synod.

6.—Each session of the Synod shall commence at the hour previously appointed by the President or by the Synod ; and from the beginning to the close of all the sessions, no regular member shall absent himself without the permission of the President.

7.—At the time appointed for the first session, the Synod shall be organized even if but three ordained ministers, regular members of Synod, and as many lay delegates should be present.

8.—If any member of the Synod, except only the Pastor of the place, shall not appear in Synod, until an hour after the appointed time of meeting, he may be reprov'd by the President.

9.—Should the President himself be absent at the proper time for proceeding to business, the members present shall choose a president *pro tempore*.

10.—If the Secretary shall not be present, the President shall appoint one, *pro tempore*.

CHAPTER X. ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The transactions of Synod shall be conducted in the following order, viz :

1.—The President shall open the first session of Synod, with reading the Scriptures, singing and prayer. At least one half hour previous to each morning session, shall be spent in devotional exercises. In the absence of the President these devotions shall be conducted by the Secretary, and in the absence of both, by one of the elder ministers.

2.—After opening the first session as above stated, the Secretary shall register the names of the ordained ministers and licentiates present, and note the absentees.

3.—The lay delegates shall then exhibit the certificates of their appointment and be likewise registered,

4.—The President shall then give a written report of all business transacted by him, or by a special Synod, since the adjournment of Synod. Said report shall be referred to a special committee.

5.—Applicants for membership from other Synodical bodies, as well as corresponding delegates and visiting brethren shall now be received.

6.—The election of officers shall then take place.

7.—Each member shall then present any letters or other documents, or verbally give notice of the business which he may wish to lay before Synod.

8.---The Secretary shall arrange and number the different articles in order as they are presented, and make a minute of all notices of business to be brought forward. He shall also enter on the minutes ministers and licentiates, who do not excuse their non-attendance.

9.---The minutes of the last Synod shall be read or may be referred to a committee.

10.---The President shall assign to appropriate committees all letters, documents, &c. which may require examination, with a view to bring the subjects to which they relate, properly before Jynod.

11.---Each minister shall then give a written account, of the number of those whom he has during the year baptized, buried, and admitted by the rite of confirmation or otherwise; and to the Lords supper; and of the state of religion in his charge.

12.---The Treasurer's account shall be read and referred to an auditing committee; all demands against the Synod shall be rendered, examined, and, if correct, allowed; and the contributions from churches or individuals shall be received; of all which, notice shall be carefully taken in the minutes.

13.---Reports of committees and other miscellaneous business may be attended to; and reports of special committees shall always have precedence.

14.---Synod shall then determine by ballot the place where, and fix by resolution the time when, the next Synod shall be convened; which shall be decided by the majority.

15.---At the close of any Jynodical Jession, a meeting of the ordained ministers and licentiates may be called by the President. In this meeting the Ministerium shall consider and decide all those matters which belong particularly to its province—such as the examining, licensing or ordaining candidates for the Ministry, the admission of ministers into this association, or their exclusion from it. At this meeting, also, consultations shall take place respecting the best methods of discharging ministerial functions and promoting the spread of truth and piety; and weighty articles of faith or cases of conscience may receive a friendly discussion; provided always, that the first principles of Protestantism, the right of inquiry be not infringed, and no attempt be made to erect the Ministerium into an inquisitorial tribunal.

16.—Each session of the Synod and Ministerium shall be opened and closed with prayer; to which office the President

shall appoint the person. The last session shall be closed with religious exercises by the President.

17.—No member of the Synod or Ministerium shall call the President or any other member out of the meeting for the purpose of communicating to him any private matters, unless they be of very great moment.

18.—It shall be the President's duty to maintain order in the meetings ; to see that two or more do not speak at the same time ; and to secure to every person the right of free and full discussion.

19.—The President shall also take care that each subject be duly considered before a decision be had. He shall distinctly rehearse each motion which is made and seconded, when no one has any further observations to offer, and take the sense of the Synod on the same.

20.—When members give their votes on any question, all observations are inadmissible. They are to vote simply by yea or nay.

21.—If the business of Synod should require it, the President shall appoint an Assistant Secretary.

CHAPTER XI.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

1.—All the minutes, acts, decisions, &c., of the Synod and Ministerium shall be drawn up and framed in the English language. Translations, however, shall be given in the German, if requested or needed.

2.—The archives shall be placed under the care of the Secretary, who shall be accountable for their safe keeping. Any minister or lay-delegate connected with this body, shall have free access to them ; but no part of them shall be taken away, or destroyed or mislaid.

3.—The SEAL of this Synod and Ministerium shall consist of the following device, viz : "The figure of a man representing Luther on Pilate's stair-case at Rome. He has been crawling up that stair-case, by way of doing a work of merit ; but, whilst thus engaged, the precious truth is brought home

to his mind with power, by the Holy Spirit. "The just shall live by faith." "*Justus ex fide vivet.*" He rises, ashamed of his conduct, and descends as the freeman of the Lord, gazing with holy wonder at the life-giving words."

4.—If any other Evangelical Lutheran Synod or Ministerium in the United States, shall send a commission or delegate to attend this Synod, he shall be received and have a right to speak and vote in all its proceedings; provided that such Synod or Ministerium grant equal privileges to a commissioner deputed from this body.

5.—The Synod, and in its recess' the President, shall endeavor to furnish supplies to vacant congregations, as far as such can be obtained. Small congregations, unable to support a minister, shall be directed and encouraged to appoint some member of suitable character and capabilities, to hold religious services as often as practicable.

6.—If an alteration of any of the foregoing articles, or an addition of new ones should be thought necessary, the motion for such alteration or addition must be laid on the table at one Synod, and if seconded, the final decision shall be given at the next. But no alteration or addition shall be made to this Constitution unless two-thirds of the members agree thereto.

ORDER OF EXERCISES FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP.

Whereas, we deem it important, that as far as may be practicable, uniformity should be established in our modes of worship, we earnestly recommend that the following "*Order of Exercises*" be observed in all the churches connected with this Synod, and that they use the Hymn Book and Liturgy published by the General Synod: 1.—Anthem or hymn. 2.—Altar service—confession and prayer as laid down in the Liturgy. 3.—Hymn. 4.—Reading the Scriptures. 5.—General prayer, either extempore or from the Liturgy as the Pastor may elect. 6.—Hymn. 7.—Sermon. 8.—Prayer. 9.—Singing, with the doxology. 10.—Benediction.

We, the subscribers, do hereby declare, that we consider this Constitution as the basis of our ecclesiastical union, and pledge ourselves before God, to regulate our conduct according to its provisions.

ORDER OF SYNODICAL BUSINESS.

The first session must be opened with reading the Scriptures, singing and prayer by the President, and in his absence by the Secretary.

1.—The Secretary will register the names of Ordained Ministers and Licentiates; as also the Lay-delegates—the latter to present certificates of their appointment.

2.—The President will read his annual report, which is to be referred to a special committee.

3.—Applicants for membership from other Synods, corresponding delegates and visiting brethren shall be received.

4.—The election of officers shall be held—tellers to be appointed by the President.

5.—Letters, Minutes of other Synods, &c., will be presented, and verbal notice given of any special business or motion to be introduced. The Secretary to arrange the documents and make a minute of notices.

6.—The Minutes of the last Convention may be read or referred to a committee.

7.—The President shall appoint the Committees on the Minutes, Letters, &c.

8.—The Parochial Reports will now be presented and read.

9.—The Treasurer will read his report, which must be referred to an Auditing Committee.

10.—Contributions for Synodical and other purposes shall be paid to the Treasurer.

11.—Reports of Committees shall always be in order, and Special Committees shall have preference.

12.—Vacant Congregations shall be provided for, and the condition of our Missions considered.

13.—Synod shall determine the time and place of next Convention.

14.—Delegates to General Synod and other corresponding bodies shall be chosen.

15.—Standing Committees and Committees or Trustees of Seminary shall be chosen.

16.—Miscellaneous business.

CONSTITUTION,

OF THE

Home Missionary and Education Society

OF

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod,

OF

NEW JERSEY.

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1.—The name of this Society shall be the "Home Mission and Education Society of the Evangelical Synod of New Jersey.

2.—The officers of this Society shall be a President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected at the regular Annual meetings.

3.—The objects of this Society are (a) to promote the cause of domestic missions within our Synodical bounds, and (b) to aid suitable young men who are preparing for the Gospel Ministry.

4.—Any person may become a member of this Society by the annual payment of one dollar to the Treasurer.

5.—The annual meetings of the Society shall be held at the same time and place with the annual convention of Synod. But extra meetings may be called by the President whenever the interests of the Society may require it.

6.—A Committee of three ministers and two laymen shall be chosen for a term of three years, which shall be called the *Executive Committee*. This committee shall be empowered to consider and act upon applications for aid from the funds, either for Beneficiaries or feeble churches, when recommended by Synod, and the Chairman of said committee shall have the right, when authorized by the committee, to make the specified drafts upon the Treasurer.

7.—The President, besides presiding at the meetings and performing the duties usually incumbent upon such an officer, shall also present an annual report to the Society.

8.—The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Society, conduct its correspondence, and furnish the Secretary of Synod with a suitable abstract of the proceedings for publication in the minutes.

9.—The Treasurer shall keep and disburse the funds of the Society, making payments only upon the order of the Chairman of the Executive Committee, and at each annual meeting he shall present a statement of all monies received and expended during the year, together with the necessary vouchers.

10.—Each Beneficiary under the care of this Society shall receive a sum not to exceed \$150 annually, to be paid quarterly, or half yearly, as the state of the funds may warrant.

11.—Societies, auxilliary to this Synodical Society, ought to be formed in each Congregation, and the members of such Societies, when present at our annual meeting, shall be entitled to take part in our deliberations and elections.

12.—Any person contributing \$5 00 at one time shall be considered a member for life.

13.—Every Beneficiary of this Society shall give his obligation for the amounts which he may receive, payable, without interest, if he should not enter the Ministry; said obligation to be cancelled the day of his ordination as a minister of the Gospel, in regular connection with some Lutheran Synod.

14.—Before any student can receive aid from our funds, he must obligate himself to pursue a regular course of studies in some College or Theological Seminary, which this Synod may approve, and he shall not be permitted to vary from such course without the consent of the Executive Committee, so long as he is under their care.

15.—If a Beneficiary shall for any reason relinquish his intention of entering the ministry, or if he be dismissed from any Classical School or Theological Seminary for improper conduct, the amount received by him shall immediately become due, and he shall be required to refund it.

16.—Each Beneficiary upon our funds shall furnish the President of this Society with an annual statement from his instructors, of his literary and moral standing, and each Missionary shall furnish a yearly report of his labors and the condition of his field of operation.

17.—At each annual meeting of the Society, two speakers shall be appointed to present respectively the interests of Education and Home Missions at the next meeting.

18.—This Society will expect all Beneficiaries who may be sustained by its funds, to apply for license to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of New Jersey.

19.—New articles may be added to this Constitution at any annual meeting of the Society. The amendment to be adopted by a two-thirds vote.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Conference of the New Jersey Synod.

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TITLE.

SEC. I.—The name of this Association shall be “The Central Conference of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of the State of New Jersey.”

OFFICERS.

SEC. II.—The officers shall be a President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected by a majority of the members present and shall hold their offices for one year.

MEETINGS.

SEC. III.—The Conference shall meet three times a year at such time and place as the members may designate.

MEMBERS.

SEC. IV.—Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Lutheran Ministers of New Jersey and adjacent parts and of all lay delegates appointed by any Lutheran Congregations who may desire to be represented therein.

PREACHING APPOINTMENTS.

SEC. V.—The Pastor of the place where Conference is held, shall make the various appointments for preaching.

THE OBJECTS OF CONFERENCE.

SEC. VI.—The objects of Conference shall be,

- 1.—To promote the spiritual welfare of the Congregation in whose midst the Conference is held.
- 2.—To discuss subjects that may be proposed, relating to the interests of the Church.
- 3.—To mark out new fields of labor.
- 4.—To recommend Missionaries within our bounds, to the Executive Committee of the Missionary Society.
- 5.—And to adopt such other measures as may be deemed expedient for the extension and establishment of our Church in the State of New Jersey.