

1 **5. SEMINARY AND UNIVERSITY EDUCATION**

2  
3 **To Establish Specific Ministry Pastor Program**

4  
5 **RESOLUTION 5-01B**

6  
7 Overtures 5-01–10 (CW, pp. 205–216)

8  
9 **Background**

10  
11 Amidst today’s mission challenges, including the persistent need to provide  
12 pastoral ministry in ways that go beyond the current residential models, we will do well  
13 to engage the best collaborative thinking and creativity that we can muster to provide  
14 missional pastoral leadership driven by the depth of theological integrity that remains a  
15 hallmark of our church and its ministerium. The mission focus ignited by the Ablaze!  
16 movement has generated the need to identify laymen already in place in a local  
17 community to serve as church planters and missionaries. This work will certainly entail  
18 Word and Sacrament ministry. Historically, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and  
19 its antecedents have attempted to meet such needs by preparing men as quickly as  
20 possible to be called and ordained in order to meet the urgent mission needs of the  
21 church. Such men were prepared to catechize, preach, and provide pastoral care. Within  
22 the LCMS, the need for such a track to ordination was initially embodied in the seminary  
23 begun by F. C. D. Wyneken and Wilhelm Löhe in Fort Wayne, Indiana. However,  
24 developments in ministerial formation since World War II have effectively eliminated  
25 this track altogether.

26  
27 Ministers of religion—ordained will have two designations. “General ministry  
28 pastor” will serve as the designation for pastors graduated from a current approved  
29 theological education program (e.g., M.Div., Certificate, DELTO), and “specific ministry  
30 pastor” will be the designation for those educated for a specific ministry context through  
31 distance education. The Specific Ministry Pastor Program seeks to address the needs of  
32 the church by reinstating a multiple-track approach and by developing a program that  
33 combines a commitment to faithfulness to a Lutheran theological confession with a  
34 missionary perspective and that is tailored to the preparation of men for service in  
35 specific kinds of ministries.

36  
37 Such an effort must attempt in some measure to uphold two significant  
38 considerations in the service of our Lord’s mission and Great Commission. On the one  
39 hand, we are committed to upholding the Lutheran understanding of the pastor as  
40 theologian and insist on as much education as possible for the good of the church. On the  
41 other hand, emerging needs and economic pressures often make it impossible to call a  
42 pastor who has received a broad and thorough theological education to every  
43 congregation or mission station where, nevertheless, people need to hear the Gospel. This  
44 proposal is offered as a sincere and thoughtful attempt to address real-world needs with  
45 an urgency for bringing the Gospel to a dying world and to do so with theological

1 integrity with respect to both the doctrine of the ministry and our commitment to high  
2 standards of pastoral education and formation.

### 4 **Theological Foundations Guiding the Proposal**

- 6 1. All those who regularly and publicly perform the functions of the Office of the  
7 Holy Ministry should do so as those called to and placed into that office. “It is  
8 taught among us that nobody should publicly teach or preach or administer the  
9 sacraments in the church without a regular call” (AC XIV). As it is true that  
10 means of grace, the Gospel and the sacraments, are the rightful possession of all  
11 believers in Christ as members of the priesthood of all believers, only the one  
12 Office of the Holy Ministry is entrusted with the public exercise of these means.  
13 As such, we affirm that only those who are rightly and publicly called and  
14 ordained should publicly exercise the functions which are entrusted to this  
15 ministry.
- 16  
17 2. Lutherans affirm that there is only one Office of the Holy Ministry, established by  
18 God for the public conduct of the ministry of Word and Sacrament. However, the  
19 church may recognize certain distinctions within that one Office of the Holy  
20 Ministry and establish degrees of supervision without undermining the unity of  
21 the office.  
22
  - 23 a. All those who serve Christ and the church in the Office of the Holy  
24 Ministry exercise *de iure divino* (by divine authority) the power to preach  
25 the Gospel, forgive sins, administer the Sacraments, and exercise church  
26 discipline. There is no distinction within the one office with respect to this  
27 power and authority.
  - 28 b. Nevertheless, all ministers serve under supervision. In ancient times, the  
29 practice of making certain distinctions within the one Office of the Holy  
30 Ministry *de iure humano* (by human authority) was established so that  
31 those ministers with broader and deeper theological understanding should  
32 be able to provide doctrinal supervision for less experienced, or less well-  
33 prepared, ministers. These distinctions were made to ensure that the  
34 Gospel was rightly preached and taught, and to preserve the unity of the  
35 church.
  - 36 c. By the time of the Reformation, the common way of talking about such  
37 distinctions within the Office of the Holy Ministry was to speak of the  
38 differentiation between the power (or authority) associated with the Office  
39 of the Holy Ministry and the jurisdiction (or scope of the administration)  
40 of the office.
- 41  
42 3. The church may establish, by human authority, distinctions in jurisdiction and in  
43 categories of service of its pastors so long as these distinctions do not compromise  
44 the authority of the office, undermine the Gospel, or burden the consciences of  
45 Christians by confusing human regulations with divine commands.

- 1 4. Ordination vows may be taken prior to the conclusion of a complete course of  
2 study provided that the ordained has received a preparation sufficient to preach  
3 and teach the Gospel rightly, administer the Sacraments correctly, and take his  
4 vows with integrity.  
5
- 6 5. The church should provide the opportunity for a pastor who has been certified and  
7 ordained to serve in a specific kind of ministry subsequently to be prepared to  
8 serve the church more broadly through a combination of further academic  
9 preparation, accumulated pastoral experience, and examination.  
10

### 11 **Overview of the “Specific Ministry Pastor” Program**

12  
13 The student will take a core curriculum so as to acquire a foundational  
14 competency in Lutheran theology for pastoral ministry. This foundational core will be  
15 both contextualized and specialized within and for a specific ministry. In addition to the  
16 original objective of the Distance Education Leading To Ordination (DELTO) Program  
17 to provide pastoral ministry where full-time ministry cannot be maintained, such specific  
18 ministries will include such categories as church planter, staff pastor, and others as needs  
19 arise.  
20

- 21 1. The specific curriculum will be determined and developed by the seminary  
22 faculties, in collaboration with those from the field who represent the  
23 specific ministerial contexts at district and congregation levels. It will be  
24 based on the following principles: Curricular goals based on outcome  
25 competencies appropriate to the stages of the program
- 26 2. The contextual nature of this educational model, which includes  
27 experiential learning within a mission context
- 28 3. The engagement of supervisors/mentors by the seminary in consultation  
29 with the district president as a critical element of the distance education  
30 model
- 31 4. A combination of distance education and residential components (likely  
32 through short-term seminars and the option to take courses within the  
33 residential curriculum)
- 34 5. The potential applicability of coursework for academic credit towards an  
35 M. Div.
- 36 6. A time frame for completion of approximately 4–5 years  
37

38 The Specific Ministry Pastor Program will be divided into a pre-ordination curriculum  
39 and a post-ordination curriculum. The pre-ordination curriculum will equip the student in  
40 such a way that the church has confidence that the student will preach the Gospel in its  
41 truth and purity and conduct his ministry in conformity with Lutheran doctrine and  
42 practice. In order to do this, the pre-ordination curriculum will address such basic  
43 competencies as *Catechism, interpretation of Scripture, God and Christ and the work of*  
44 *Christ, the Sacraments, introduction to the Book of Concord, the conduct of worship, and*  
45 *preaching.*

1 The post-ordination curriculum will address these topics in greater depth and  
2 detail and will include such topics as *OT content and theology, NT content and theology,*  
3 *gifts of Christ, body of Christ, Church history and the history of Lutheranism, Christian*  
4 *education, pastoral theology, and theology of missions.*

5  
6 In addition, the student will participate in several residential and field seminars  
7 aimed at cultivating the requisite ministry skills for his specific ministry context (e.g.,  
8 church planters, staff pastors, and evangelists).

- 9 • Possible residential seminars might include *pastoral formation, issues in*  
10 *pastoral ministry, team ministry, urban ministry, spiritual formation.*
- 11 • Possible field seminars might include *basic mission planter training, edge*  
12 *gathering, and advanced mission planter training.*

13  
14 The Specific Ministry Pastor Program will utilize selected mentors in the  
15 preparation of a man for pastoral ministry with an emphasis on the area of spiritual  
16 formation.

### 17 18 **Step 1: Preparation for and Admission to the Program**

19  
20 The identification of an applicant will be carried out by the congregation and  
21 district through a comprehensive screening process.

22  
23 For entry into the program, a student will need to show that he possesses the  
24 requisite social skills and passion for theology and mission, as well as demonstrating the  
25 specific skills and competence needed to be successful in a distance-education program.

26  
27 For entry into the program, a student will need to pass the Entry Level  
28 Competency Exams (ELCEs) in the areas of OT, NT, and Catechism/Christian Doctrine.  
29 Preparation for the ELCEs may be accomplished by taking the corresponding district-  
30 level courses, Concordia University System or seminary-offered courses. In addition,  
31 other courses within a district's lay training program may be helpful, such as courses on  
32 evangelizing and catechizing. All students will need to demonstrate competency to  
33 engage the program in the English language and in public speaking.

34  
35 Based upon completion of the above requirements and with recommendations  
36 from congregation and district, the student's application will be presented to the  
37 admissions committee of the seminary for action. As part of the application process, each  
38 student, sponsoring congregation, and district will sign a covenant of commitment to  
39 complete the entire specific ministry pastor curriculum, including all coursework and  
40 seminars following examination and ordination.

### 41 42 **Step 2: Pre-Ordination Curriculum**

43  
44 Upon entrance into the Specific Ministry Pastor Program, the student will be  
45 assigned as a vicar in a specific locality but normally will not be authorized to administer  
46 the Sacraments. He will preach sermons prepared in collaboration with and approved by

1 his supervisor. At this point, he will participate in courses and seminars comparable to  
2 those offered to residential seminary students designed to prepare him in the following  
3 areas:

- 4 • *Catechism, hermeneutical principles, God and Christ, work of Christ, the*  
5 *Sacraments, Worship, the Book of Concord, and preaching*
- 6 • *Possible residential seminars: intro to pastoral formation; issues in pastoral*  
7 *ministry*
- 8 • *Possible field seminars: basic mission planter training, etc.*

### 10 **Step 3: Certification/Call/Ordination**

11  
12 After demonstrating competence in the pre-ordination areas, the student must  
13 apply for an examination hearing by the seminary in order to be certified for call and  
14 ordination. Each student will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The examination  
15 hearing shall include a review of the student’s portfolio, vicarage reports, an interview by  
16 the faculty, and recommendations by the district president and circuit counselor.

17  
18 After call and ordination according to the usual order, the student is placed on the  
19 pastoral roster of the Synod as a “specific ministry pastor.” He now may preach and  
20 administer the Sacraments under supervision in a specific locality.

### 22 **Step 4: Post-Call and Ordination Curriculum**

23  
24 Upon call and ordination, the student shall complete the remainder of the Specific  
25 Ministry Pastor Program. The following areas are intended to continue development of  
26 the foundational competencies necessary for serving as a specific ministry pastor:

- 27 • *OT content and theology, NT content and theology, gifts of Christ, Body of*  
28 *Christ, Church history and the history of Lutheranism, Christian education,*  
29 *pastoral theology, and theology of missions*
- 30 • *Residential seminars, possibly including pastoral formation, issues in pastoral*  
31 *ministry, team ministry, urban ministry, and spiritual formation*
- 32 • *Field seminars, possibly including basic mission planter training, edge*  
33 *gathering, and advanced mission planter training*

34  
35 Refusal to complete the Specific Ministry Pastor Program would result in the  
36 pastor’s removal from the Synod roster, at which point he is not eligible for a call.

### 38 **Step 5: Completion of the Specific Ministry Pastor Program**

39  
40 Upon completion of the program, the candidate is examined by a committee of  
41 faculty, laity, and district representatives in order to be recognized as eligible for calls  
42 elsewhere within his rostered status. Apart from the usual need for continuing education,  
43 he is not required to take any further prescribed course of studies (but see below).

44  
45 Specific ministry pastors are recognized as just that: pastors certified for calls into  
46 specific ministry contexts, who serve under the supervision not only of the district

1 president but also of a designated general ministry pastor. As such, they are eligible for  
2 calls into a similar specific ministry context, where they continue under the supervision  
3 of a general ministry pastor.  
4

5 Because their theological education is formed within the context of their specific  
6 ministry and does not represent the breadth and depth of theology and ecclesiology that  
7 forms a basis for pastoral oversight beyond the local level, they may not be placed into  
8 ecclesiastical roles of exercising pastoral oversight outside the location of their specific  
9 call (i.e., in the church-at-large), such as  
10

- 11 a. holding elected or appointed office at the district or Synod level that is assigned  
12 by the Bylaws to “a pastor” (though they will serve in all other capacities,  
13 especially representing the ministerial contexts in which they serve);
- 14 b. serving as circuit counselors;
- 15 c. serving as a voting delegate to a national Synod convention (but they may serve  
16 as an advisory delegate at national conventions and as a pastoral delegate at  
17 district conventions); and
- 18 d. supervising vicars.  
19

## 20 **Step 6: Continued Service and Status**

21  
22 Students who have completed the Specific Ministry Pastor Program may decide to  
23 remain in their rostered status as “specific ministry pastor” for the remainder of their  
24 ministry or they may choose to pursue a growth path that leads to a change in roster  
25 status to “general ministry pastor.” It is envisioned that most students will pursue the  
26 second path, either through an M. Div. route or nondegree certification. Thus, they have  
27 three options:

- 28 1. They may remain rostered as a specific ministry pastor.
- 29 2. They may enroll in an M. Div. program. It is anticipated that coursework  
30 done for the Specific Ministry Pastor Program may become applicable to  
31 an M. Div., determined by equivalencies.
- 32 3. They may continue their theological education and pastoral formation,  
33 reaching a level appropriate to general ministry pastor without a full M.  
34 Div. (cf. current “alternate route”) and then complete an interview with an  
35 examining board in order to have their rostered status changed to “general  
36 ministry pastor.”  
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1 **Resolution**

2  
3 WHEREAS, The DELTO Oversight Committee was formed by the 2001  
4 convention and given the task “to revise DELTO”; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, This oversight committee concluded that original assignment, and a  
7 revised DELTO Program was deployed by the two seminaries in the fall of 2004; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, The original and ongoing intent of DELTO was to “provide ordained  
10 pastoral service to congregations that cannot support a full-time pastor, ordained pastoral  
11 service to contexts where English is not spoken, ordained missionary personnel where  
12 finances and/or conditions do not permit calling a full-time missionary” (BHE document,  
13 “What Is DELTO?” Sept. 2000); and

14  
15 WHEREAS, The needs for providing pastoral ministry in specific and specialized  
16 situations where a traditionally prepared seminary candidate or pastor is not available  
17 continue to multiply; and

18  
19 WHEREAS, Our Synod needs to find a way to provide for an increase in pastoral  
20 ministry to meet such needs of the church, especially in light of the mission challenges of  
21 today’s world; and

22  
23 WHEREAS, Our Synod has resolved to plant 2,000 new congregations by 2017,  
24 for which a net gain of 2,000 pastors will be needed; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, Any way of providing for pastoral ministry must be faithful to our  
27 Lutheran Confessions, faithful to our historic commitment to a well-educated and well-  
28 formed ministerium, faithful to our historic commitment to provide pastors in both  
29 academic and practical tracks, and faithful to our historic commitment to provide pastoral  
30 ministry and leadership at the cutting edges of the mission fields, wherever they might  
31 be; and

32  
33 WHEREAS, All those who regularly and publicly perform the functions of the  
34 Office of the Holy Ministry should do so as those called to and placed into that office  
35 because “It is taught among us that nobody should publicly teach or preach or administer  
36 the sacraments in the church without a regular call” (AC XIV); and

37  
38 WHEREAS, A variety of programs and routes leading to pastoral service have  
39 arisen at both district and seminary levels; and

40  
41 WHEREAS, The DELTO Oversight Committee, after concluding its original  
42 assignment, was given the further assignment by the President of Synod to “study the  
43 various routes leading to ordination currently available, to study which routes leading to  
44 ordination would be most helpful to the Synod in producing a sufficient number of able  
45 and effective pastors to provide leadership to Synod’s congregations in fulfilling the  
46 Great Commission”; and

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- WHEREAS, In carrying out this further task, it was apparent that
- a. the existing focus of DELTO, even as it was redesigned and redeployed, would not be sufficient to meet these needs;
  - b. the Synod would benefit from a more coherent and comprehensive approach to pastoral preparation and certification for ministry in specialized and specific contexts;
  - c. the past years have provided the church, in general, and the seminaries, in particular, with substantial experimentation and experience with distance-education models, including the evaluation of both the advantages and disadvantages; and
  - d. the Synod is presented with an opportunity to build on such experience and to coordinate and consolidate programs and curriculum into a more cohesive and comprehensive curriculum design that engages the best practices of educational design and pedagogy, including much of the current course materials already proven and in use; and

WHEREAS, The process of conversation and collaboration over the past six years has brought together representatives of the needs of the field with the entities of the Synod to whom leadership for pastoral education and certification is entrusted, and in so doing provided a helpful model for continuing such collaborative work; and

WHEREAS, Both seminaries have provided leadership in this process and worked together on written documents affirming the need for a new category within the one office of the pastoral ministry and in affirming an educational process that will lead to certification and ordination for such pastoral ministry, utilizing both traditional residential components along with new distance education models; and

WHEREAS, The DELTO Oversight Committee in seeking to fulfill its further task has

- a. worked closely with both seminaries in honing a proposal for a category of specific ministry pastor, and an education and formation program that will lead to certification and ordination for such pastoral ministry; and has
- b. worked closely also with many other constituencies throughout the church in developing this proposal, including the Board for Pastoral Education, the Council of Presidents, district and Synod mission leaders, and pastors in the field;

and

WHEREAS, The great strengths of this proposal bring together several issues that have concerned our Synod for many years as it seeks to

- a. find a way to meet the existing and expanding needs for pastoral ministry, especially in the variety of contexts of mission and ministry in today's church;
- b. respect our commitment to the doctrine of church and ministry, especially in



- 1 light of AC XIV;  
2 c. honor our commitment to responsible theological education that provides the  
3 church with well-educated pastors, who as missional leaders are faithful to  
4 Lutheran theology and practice;  
5 d. retain our commitment to the importance, need, and great strengths of  
6 residential pastoral education at both the certificate and M.Div. level, along  
7 with a commitment to the continuing education of all clergy;  
8 e. restore our past creativity in recognizing the importance, need, and great  
9 strengths of alternative models of pastoral education leading to ordination,  
10 including a commitment to continuing education;  
11 f. utilize the advances in educational technology that allow for responsible  
12 pastoral education and formation through distance-education models; and  
13 g. develop a more coherent and comprehensive model for pastoral education by  
14 which various routes leading to certification, call, and ordination are  
15 coordinated and potentially interrelated, so that, for example, a student in a  
16 nonresidential certificate route might be able to engage also in a residential  
17 degree program;

18  
19 and

20  
21 WHEREAS, The Specific Ministry Pastor Program has the support of the Board  
22 for Pastoral Education, the faculties of both seminaries, and the Council of Presidents;  
23 and

24  
25 WHEREAS, The Specific Ministry Pastor Program has been reviewed by the  
26 Commission on Theology and Church Relations, and was found to be consistent with  
27 Scripture and the Confessions; and

28  
29 WHEREAS, As the Commission on Constitutional Matters has issued opinions  
30 07-2499 and 07-2500 that no changes to Synod's Constitution are required should this  
31 resolution be adopted; therefore be it

32  
33 *Resolved*, That the Specific Ministry Pastor Program be adopted in principle and  
34 the seminaries, Board for Pastoral Education, and Council of Presidents be authorized to  
35 implement it; and be it further

36  
37 *Resolved*, That Bylaw sections 2.13 and 2.14 of the *Handbook* of the Synod be  
38 amended accordingly, as follows:

39  
40 PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

41  
42 **(A) Change the title of Bylaw section 2.13 to read as follows:**

43  
44 **2.13 Restricting, Suspending, and Expelling Congregations or Individuals**  
45 **from Membership**

46

1                    **Membership Status and Limitations**

2  
3                    **(B) Incorporate current Bylaws 2.13.1 and 2.13.2 into Bylaw 2.14.1 as follows:**

- 4  
5                    • Current Bylaw 2.13.1 becomes Bylaw 2.14.1  
6                    • Current Bylaw 2.13.2 becomes Bylaw 2.14.1 (a)  
7                    • Current Bylaw 2.14.1 becomes Bylaw 2.14.1 (b)

8  
9                    The early paragraphs of Bylaw section 2.14 therefore read as follows:

10  
11                    **2.14 Expulsion of Congregations or Individuals from Membership in the**  
12                    **Synod**

13  
14                    Preamble

15  
16                    2.13.1

17  
18                    2.14.1

19  
20                    Termination of membership in the Synod is a serious matter involving both the  
21                    doctrine and life of those to whom it has been granted. Such action should only be  
22                    taken as a final step when it is clear that those who are being terminated after  
23                    previous futile admonition have acted contrary to the confession laid down in  
24                    Article II or the conditions of membership laid down in Article VI or have  
25                    persisted in offensive conduct (Constitution, Art. XIII 1). For this reason the  
26                    Synod establishes procedures for such action including the identification of those  
27                    who are responsible for ecclesiastical supervision of its members. Such  
28                    supervision includes not only suspension or termination of membership but also  
29                    advice, counsel, encouragement, and, when necessary, admonition regarding  
30                    teaching and/or practice. Furthermore, the procedures that may lead to termination  
31                    of membership also provide for the protection of members by including  
32                    provisions for challenging the decisions of ecclesiastical supervisors in these  
33                    matters as well as provisions for restoration of membership that has been  
34                    suspended or terminated.

35  
36                    *General*

37  
38                    2.13.2

- 39                    a. Although the Constitution (see Art. VI 3 and Art. XII 7–8) deals with the  
40                    “life” of ordained and commissioned ministers of the Synod and provides for  
41                    dealing with “ungodly life” or ordained and commissioned ministers, this does  
42                    not suggest that the Synod, including any district of the Synod, has the duty or  
43                    even an opportunity to observe the activities in the life of an individual  
44                    member of the Synod or has the means or authority to regulate, restrict, or  
45                    control those activities. The only remedy available to the Synod in response to  
46                    improper activities in the life of such a member of the Synod is, as is true with

1 respect to violations of other conditions of membership or is otherwise  
2 appropriate under the Constitution or these Bylaws, and following the  
3 procedures set forth in these Bylaws, to take such action as may lead to  
4 termination of that membership and the attendant rights and privileges.  
5

6 2.14.1

- 7 b. The action to commence expulsion of a congregation or individual from  
8 membership in the Synod is the sole responsibility of the district president  
9 who has the responsibility for ecclesiastical supervision of such member. This  
10 Bylaw section 2.14, among others, provides the procedures to carry out  
11 Article XIII of the Constitution, “Expulsion from the Synod.” However, it  
12 does not provide the procedure for the expulsion of the district presidents and  
13 the officers of the Synod (Bylaw section 2.15), the President of the Synod  
14 (Bylaw section 2.16), or individual members in cases involving sexual  
15 misconduct or criminal behavior (Bylaw section 2.17).  
16

17 **(C) Add a new section at the beginning of Bylaw section 2.13 to define a “specific**  
18 **ministry pastor” and the limitations on membership privileges and responsibilities**  
19 **that pertain, as follows:**  
20

21 Specific Ministry Pastor Status and Limitations  
22

- 23 2.13.1 A “specific ministry pastor” is a minister of religion—ordained who has  
24 completed the requirements for service as a specific ministry pastor and has been  
25 examined by one of the Synod’s seminaries, has received a regular call and has  
26 been placed by the Council of Presidents into a specific Word and Sacrament  
27 ministry context. He is eligible to serve only in that specific ministry context for  
28 which he has been trained and may not be offered or accept a call for ministry for  
29 which he has not been certified as determined by his district president. He shall  
30 serve under the supervision of his district president and another pastor who is not  
31 a specific ministry pastor.  
32 (a) Because he is under supervision of another pastor and because a specific  
33 ministry pastor’s theological education has been formed in part by and for a  
34 specific ministry context, he may not be placed or called into ecclesiastical roles  
35 that exercise pastoral oversight outside the location of his call.  
36 (b) A specific ministry pastor is not eligible to  
37 (1) serve as a voting delegate to a national convention of the Synod—but may  
38 serve as an advisory delegate to national conventions and as a pastoral delegate to  
39 district conventions;  
40 (2) hold any elected or appointed office on the district or national Synod level that  
41 is assigned by the Bylaws of the Synod to “a pastor” (although specific ministry  
42 pastors may serve in all other capacities, especially representing the ministerial  
43 contexts in which they serve);  
44 (3) supervise vicars; or  
45 (4) serve as a circuit counselor.

1           (c) The ministers of religion—ordained records maintained by district presidents as  
2           well as the official membership roster of the Synod shall distinguish between  
3           specific ministry pastors and other pastors.  
4

5           **(D) Change the titles and bylaw numbering of subsequent paragraphs of Bylaw**  
6           **section 2.13 to accommodate the introduction of the “specific ministry pastor status**  
7           **and limitations” paragraphs, as follows:**  
8

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11  
12           *Restricted Status and Limitations*

13           2.13.3

14           2.13.2 An individual member of the Synod may be placed...

15  
16           *Removal of Restricted Status and Limitations*

17           2.13.4

18           2.13.3 An individual member of the Synod who is placed...

19  
20           *Suspended Status and Limitations*

21           2.13.5

22           2.13.4 When formal proceedings have been commenced...

23  
24           **(E) Change Bylaw 3.1.3.1 to read:**  
25

26           3.1.3.1 Each district shall select one advisory delegate for every 60 advisory ordained  
27           ministers and specific ministry pastors, and one advisory delegate for every 60  
28           commissioned ministers on the roster of the Synod. Fractional groupings shall be  
29           disregarded except that each district shall be entitled to at least one advisory  
30           delegate in each category;

31           and be it further

32  
33  
34           *Resolved*, That the DELTO Oversight Committee be renamed the Specific  
35           Ministry Pastor Committee; and be it further

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37           *Resolved*, That the Specific Ministry Pastor Committee be placed under the  
38           supervision of the Board for Pastoral Education; and be it further

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40           *Resolved*, That the Specific Ministry Pastor Committee develop comprehensive  
41           guidelines that are consistent with the theological foundations, educational expectations,  
42           rostering process, training of mentors and supervising pastors, and membership  
43           limitations intended for this Specific Ministry Pastor Program, and be it finally

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45           *Resolved*, That the Specific Ministry Pastor Committee submit a progress report  
46           to the Synod at least nine months prior to the 2010 convention.