

LCMS After 1981, Part 9

1980, Oct 24 J.A.O. Preus announced Walter A. Maier's faulty theology of "objective justification"

1981, January 30 – Walter A. Maier II, statement to the Board of Control of CTS

1981-1992 Ralph A. Bohlmann (one of the faithful five back in 1974)

1980 Contemporary Christian Music (CCM) movement began. (1975 Dave and Barb Anderson begin their music careers.)

1982, Nov 1982 "Justification by Grace through Faith" by Walter A. Maier, II (overstatements...OJ)

1980-1988 LCMS Great Commission Convocations (empowering laymen with missions, evangelism, contemporary worship, etc.) "**Contemporary worship** is a form of Christian worship that emerged within Western evangelical Protestantism in the 20th century. It was originally confined to the charismatic movement, but is now found in a wide range of churches, including many which do not subscribe to a charismatic theology" (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contemporary_worship)

1985 CTCR report "Women in the Church" -1 Tim 2:12 "a women is not to have authority over a man" applies only to the exercise of the Pastoral Office. other humanly established offices.

1986 – present - National Youth Gatherings 1986 "on Wings Like Eagles"

1987 Renewal in Missouri (RIM) -Charismatic association within LCMS begins

1989 July 7-14 Wichita Resolution 3-05B established licensed lay deacons ("lay ministers")

1989 July 27 Fort Wayne Seminary terminated their President Dr. Robert Preus (began 1974)

1989 Mission Blueprint for the Nineties (Codified the philosophy of the Mission Dept)

1991 Dec 3 Commission on Appeals dismissed the charges and revered his "honorable retirement"

1992 Pittsburgh replaced a true adjudication process (determining truth and justice) with a Dispute Resolution Process(DRP) that was based on a binding arbitration model.

1992-1993 Dr. Robert Preus returns as CTS President

1992-Mar 23, 2001 A.L. Barry

1994 Real Life Worship Conferences

1995 Lutherans Alive published Forward

1998 - Pastoral Leadership Institute (PLI) "provide advanced leadership training for pastors whose hearts burn with passion for the gospel and who have exhibited potential for leadership excellence,"

1998 Commission on Worship in its Convention Workbook report, "Reflections on Contemporary/ Alternative Worship" warns against its incompatibility with doctrine.

1998 "Jesus First" – a liberal association within the LCMS (supporter Ralph Bohlmann)

1999 "Daystar" – a pan Lutheran liberal association begins

1994-2004 – Matthew Becker (MDiv 1988 CSL, 1986 Eden Seminary-UCC, 1989-90, 92-93 Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago), Professor at Concordia University, Portland, speaks out concerning evolution, and later women's ordination, as well as in support of homosexuality.

2000 Oct. Bohlmann speaks at Daystar Free Conference

2000 "Authority Vested" Mary Todd, Prof. Concordia River Forest (argues for the ordination of women)

2001 Mar 23 Dr. Barry dies suddenly – Aug 2001 Robert T. Kuhn

2001-2010 Gerald B. Kieschnick

2001, July 15-19 - LCMS Convention elects Rev. Dr. Gerald Kieschnick with 50.8% vote.

--Res. 3-07A, "To commend 'The Lutheran Understanding of Church Fellowship' and the CTCR Report on the Synodical Discussions"

--Res. 3-16 "To Encourage Use of Fruit of the Vine in the Lord's Supper"
 --Plans to rescind the 1989 Lay Deacon was changed to "continue the practice" (3-05B)
 --Plans to deal with Charismatic movement (RIM) but didn't happen
 --Res 3-21 "To Express Concerns Regarding ELCA" "...we cannot consider them [the ELCA] be to an orthodox Lutheran church body."
 --Committee 5 honored the prior BHE decision which earlier denied RSO status to PLI.
 2001 Higher Things – a conservative alternative to the LCMS National Youth Gathering
 2001, Sep 19 President Kieschnick and District President Benke participate in two joint unionistic services with ELCA; Sep 23, 2001 **D.P. Benke participates in the syncretistic "A Prayer for America" at Yankee Stadium**
 2002, Jan 30 2nd Vice President Wallace Schultz agrees to hear the case against Benke.
 2002, Jun 25 Schultz found Benke guilty of all charges and placed him on suspended status.
 2002, July 8-9 Benke appealed the charges.
 2002, Sep 18 - Lutheran Hour Ministries official terminate Schultz
 2003, Apr. Kieschnick unveils "Ablaze"
 2003, Mar 1 - **Southern Illinois District in Convention** call upon 2004 Synodical Convention to investigate President Kieschnick and to overturn CCM opinions.
 2003 May 12 The Benke Matter was officially closed when Wallace Schultz refused to appeal the lifting of Benke's suspension by the Dispute Resolution Panel.
 "I strongly disagree with the Panel's decision to lift the suspension of Dr. David Benke, but I will not appeal the decision. Our Synod has been through enough of this process. Our Synod has also become deeply divided over this issue. Past experience shows that one party repeatedly has violated the prohibition against publicity in this case. Therefore, any meaningful appeal process would be useless, if not impossible, since these violations would surely continue." The Schultz Report is made public.
 2003 May 29, The case closed re: evolution by Dr. Becker at Concordia University Portland.
 2004 Daystar Mission Conference -

2004, July 11-15 LCMS Convention (St. Louis, MO)

Pres. Kieschnick is re-elected by 53% majority. 88 new circuits(176 new voting delegates) were allowed by exception(not having at least 7 congregations and 1500 confirmed members) amounting to 14.2% of the vote.

-Pres. Kieschnick's first report states, "In the past few decades, **numerous congregations of the LCMS have introduced 'contemporary' worship forms and music in addition to and, in some instances, even in place of traditional liturgies and hymnody.**"

-2004 Resolution 2-04 directed the Commission on Worship to "initiate a process toward the development of diverse worship resources for use in The LCMS."

-Resolution 2-08A To Commend Preaching and Teaching Creation

-2004 Resolution 5-09, "To Affirm District Programs that Equip Laity for Ministry."

-8-01A widespread changes in the "**Ecclesiastical Supervision and Dispute Resolution,**" process removed a congregation's and pastor's right to initiate formal proceedings so that each member is held to the Word of God. Now, according to 8-01A, "The action to commence expulsion of a congregation or individual from membership in the Synod is the sole responsibility of the District President who has ecclesiastical supervision for such member."

-Trinity Lutheran Church (and SID) submit overtures, which are ignored

2004, July 18 Salem Lutheran Church (Malone, Texas) leaves LCMS

2004, October 21-23 Chicago Free Conference “Confession and Christ’s Mission.” 500 People in attendance. Published a one-page front and back “A Summary of Issues and Concerns.” Plans to have a “Call to Repentance” document drawn up and submitted to the attendees in a year. Have complete papers drawn up concerning the points of dissent.

2005, January 9 - Trinity Lutheran Church enters into a State of Confession.

2005, Feb 25 - LCMS enews “CTCR considers revising policy on response to dissents”

2005, April 15 CTCR issues statement, “*In Statu Confessionis: A Response to Questions from the Praesidium of the Synod*” with minority report coming out later.

2005, September 9 CTCR issues minority report to statement, “*In Statu Confessionis: A Response to Questions from the Praesidium of the Synod*”

2005, September 18 Trinity Lutheran Church...

1. ...passes 9 overtures asking the Southern Illinois District to memorialize the LCMS Convention in 2007 to address our six points of false LCMS teaching and practice.
2. ...passes 1 overture disagreeing with the CTCR statement, “*In Statu Confessionis: A Response to Questions from the Praesidium of the Synod*” (April 15, 2005).
3. ...in keeping with bylaw 1.8.1-2, Trinity Lutheran Church **officially passes CTCR Dissent Letter, in order to complete step 2 of the three step process for dissent.**

2005, September - Renewal in Missouri(RIM) disbands; Charismatic group of 18 years

2005, October - There was NO Chicago Free Conference (see October 2004)

2006, June 4-8 - Pastors meets in Texas to form ELDoNA.

2007, July 14-19 - **LCMS 2007 Convention** (Houston, Texas)
-Trinity submitted 11 overtures, which were ignored.

2007, August 19 - Trinity Lutheran Church leaves the LCMS

2008 Doxology, RSO “provide pastors with a unique study and renewal experience, rooted in the classic art of spiritual care and informed by the insights of contemporary Christian psychology,”

2009 Higher Things gets RSO status

2010- present Matthew C. Harrison

2010, July 10-17 LCMS 2010 Convention (Houston, Texas)

2010 Association of Confessing Evangelical Lutheran Congregations (ACELC) See https://www.acelc.net/teaching_outlines_for_errors

2010 Matthew Becker Article “The Scandal of the LCMS Mind” (Daystar Journal)

2013 Matthew Becker, "An Argument for Women Pastors and Theologians," Daystar Journal

2015 Matthew Becker a professor at Valaraiso (who dissented against the Synod’s stance on women’s ordination and evolution) was exonerated by a DRP of the Northwest District.

2015 June Pres. Linnemann agreed to suspend Dr. Matthew Becker after DP Terry Forke of Montana said he spent 27 months trying to bring Becker to repentance.

2015 July 15 Matthew Becker did not appeal and was removed from the LCMS pastor roster (He joined the ECLA in 2018)

2016 Res 13-02A To Regularize Status of Licensed Lay Deacons Involved in Word and Sacrament Ministry (by Jan 1 2018)

2017, Congregations Matter

2022 Dec 12 Pacific Southwest District, CNH District, Northwest District says that their The Licensed Lay Deacon Program was not discontinued per the 2016 Synodical Convention. It was just tweaked a bit, “to assist their pastors *for general varieties of service in the church that do not include public preaching and administration of the sacraments.*”