



## SLIDE 1

### LOOMING INCREASE IN PULPIT VACANCIES AND SEMINARY FINANCIAL PLIGHT

#### VACANCY

Main focus: Expand participation by individuals and churches in helping cover seminarians' tuition

#### I. Present Situation

- Now at threshold of increase in Pastor retirement eligibilities.
- Number of seminarians below replacement needs.
- Total new student enrollment down one-third last two years ended 2005-2006.

#### II. Financial Positions

- At urging of Synod, seminaries began full-tuition goal in 1998.
- By 5th year, total new students had increased by 38 percent.
- By then, also, seminaries had exhausted financial reserves.
- At its convention in 2004, Synod stated seminaries in financial crisis.
- In 2004, Synod virtually ceased supporting seminaries' operating costs.
- In year ended June 30, 2005, seminaries' income below expenses.

#### III. The Following presentation will:

- Describe financial challenges to assist in covering tuition.
- Outline intensive efforts within congregations to inform on gravity of challenges and how individuals and churches may become involved in small ways to make major differences.
- If desired, trace trends contributing to present situations

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