
IS THE MISSOURI SYNOD

Better Off Since 2001?



Is the Synod Better Off?

Baptized Membership

- * From 1999 to 2007, Baptized Membership decreased from 2,582,440 to 2,383,084.

- * A decrease of 199,356.

- * A decrease of 7.7%.

- * Ablaze Efforts Have Generated No Increase in Baptized Membership.

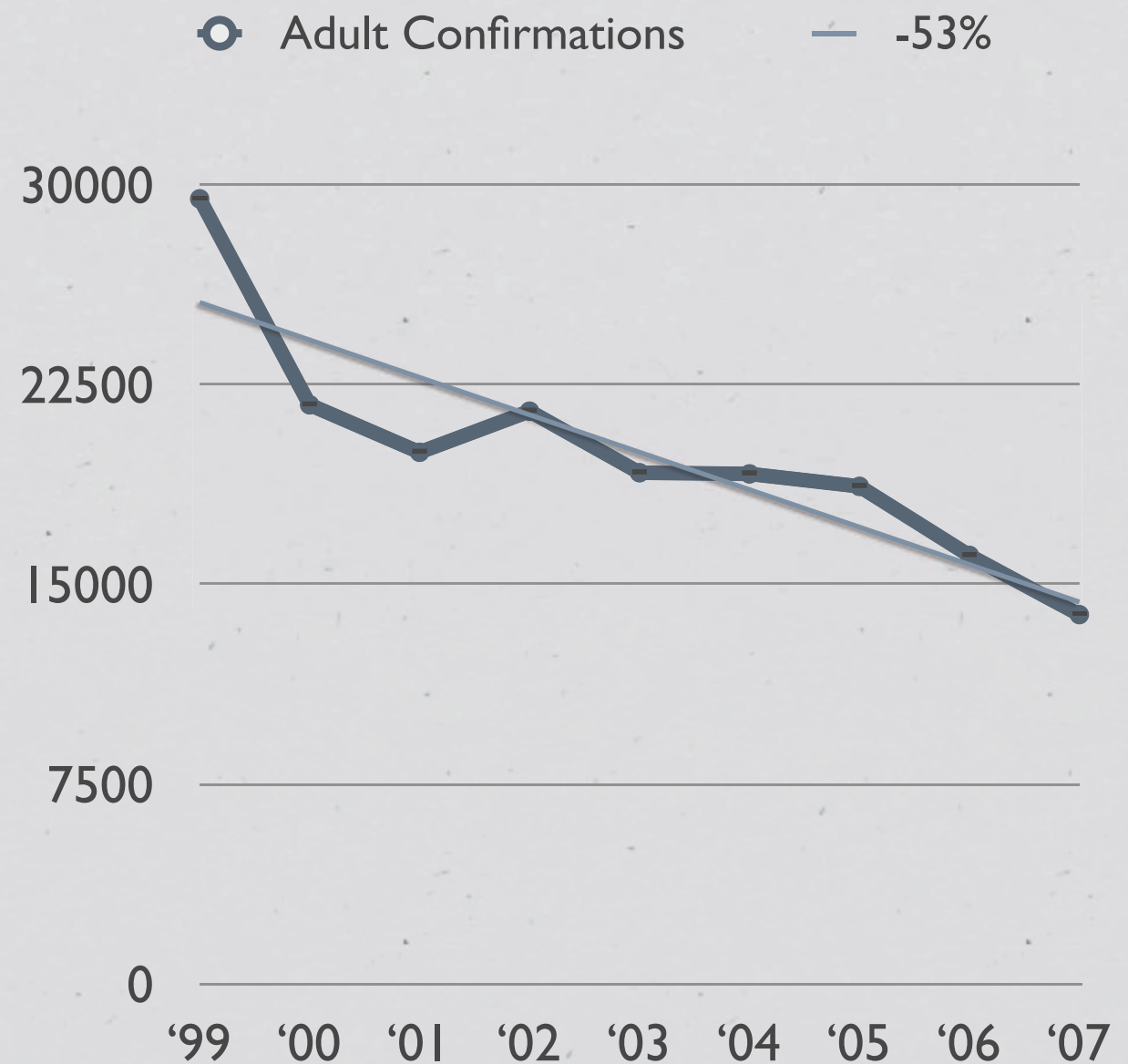
- * Data from *Lutheran Annual 2001-2009*.



Is the Synod Better Off?

Adult Confirmations

- * From 1999 to 2007, Adult Confirmations decreased from 29,479 to 13,869.
- * A decrease of 15,610.
- * A decrease of 53%.
- * Ablaze Efforts Have Generated No Increase In Adult Confirmands.
- * Data from *Lutheran Annual 2001-2009*.



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Career Missionary Units

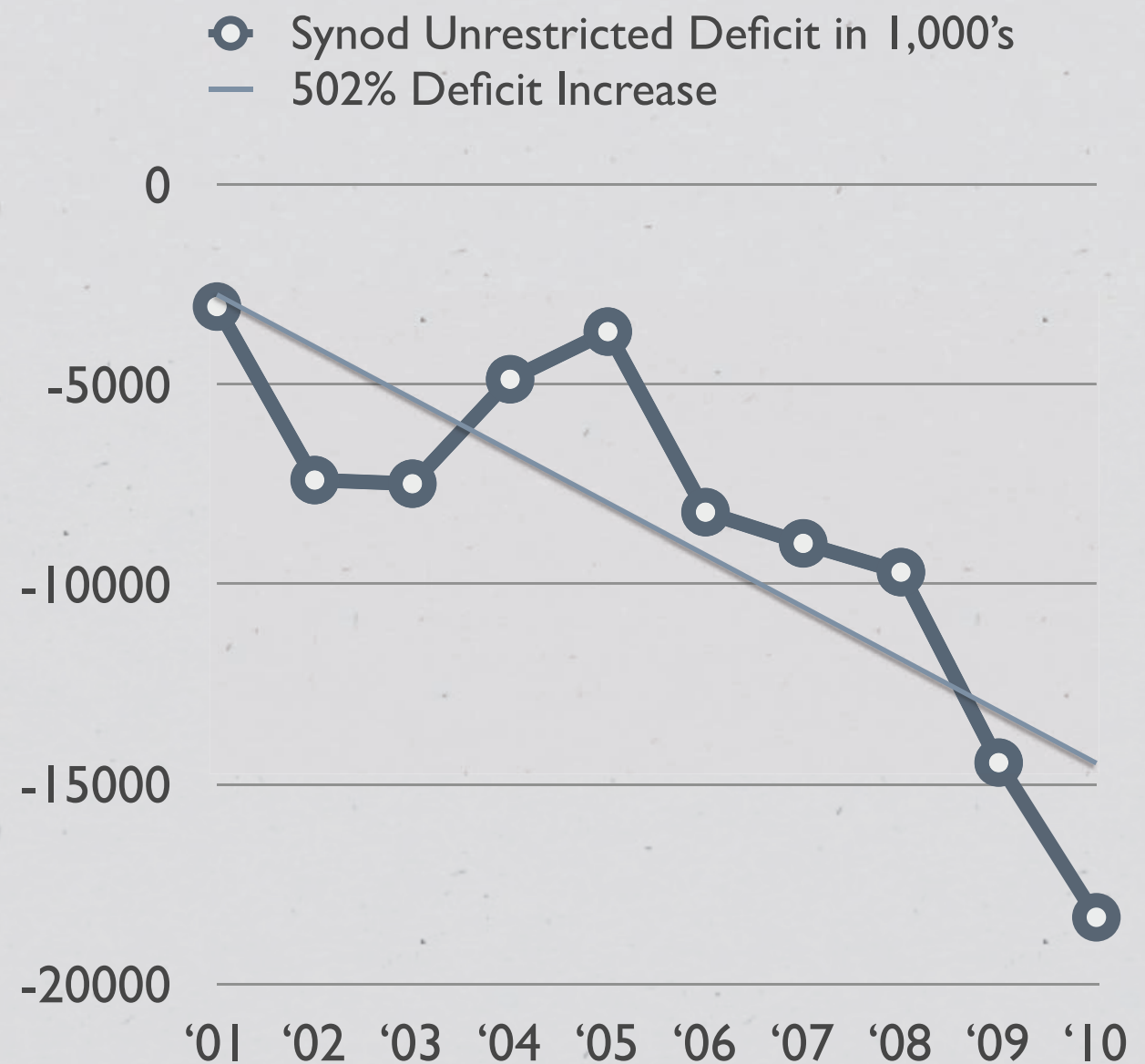
- * A Missionary Unit is a paid missionary, married or single.
- * From 1990 to 2009, Missionary Units went from 180 to 77.
- * A decrease of 103.
- * A decrease of 57%.
- * Data from the Mission Phoenix
<http://www.themissionphoenix.com>



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Unrestricted Dollars Deficit (Funds Borrowed Against Restricted Funds)

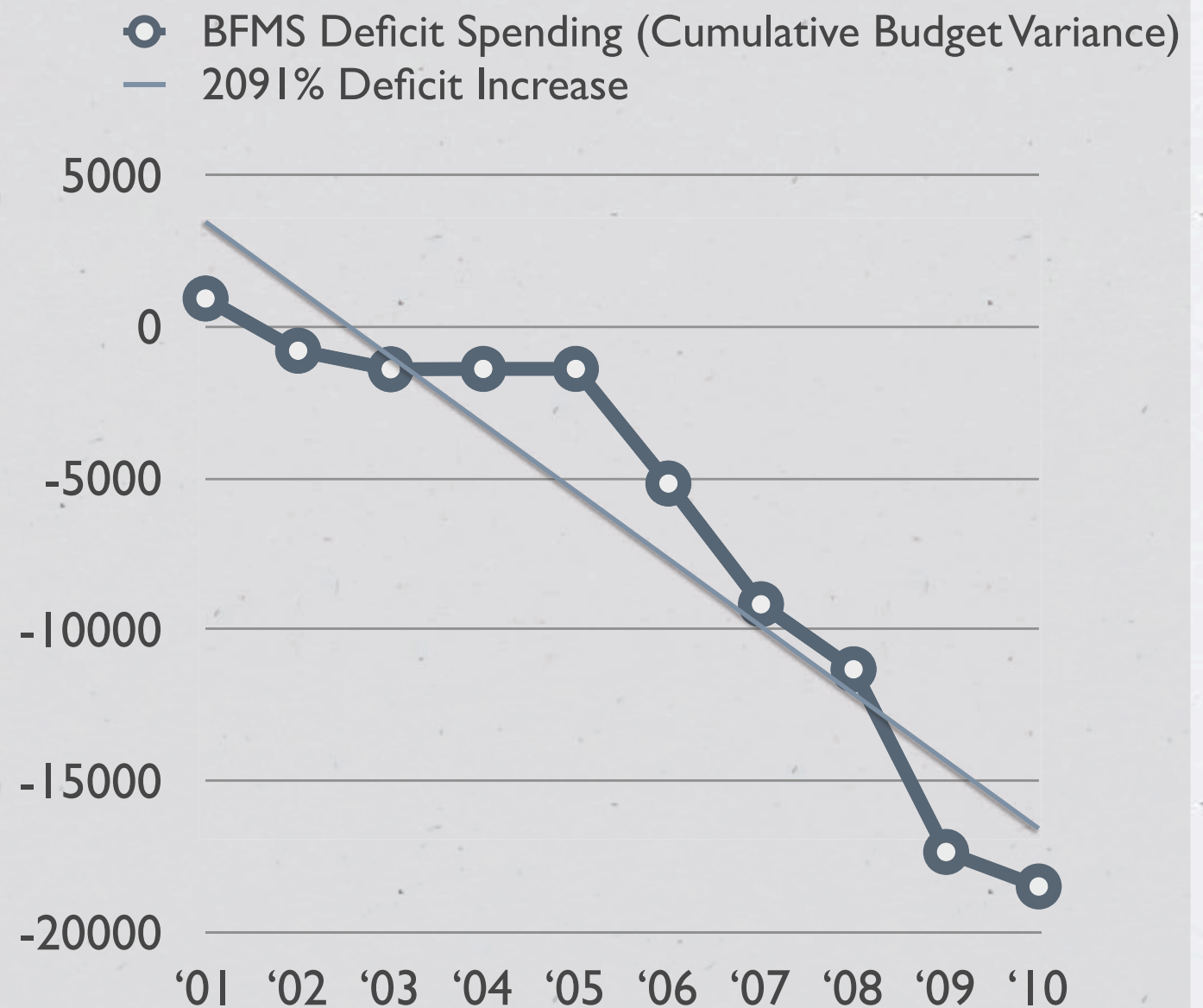
- * The Synod's Unrestricted Deficit (funds borrowed against Restricted funds) went from about \$3,000,000 in 2001 to about \$18,300,000 in Fiscal Year 2010 as of November '09.
- * This is a 502% increase in the deficit.



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BFMS Deficit Spending Since 2001

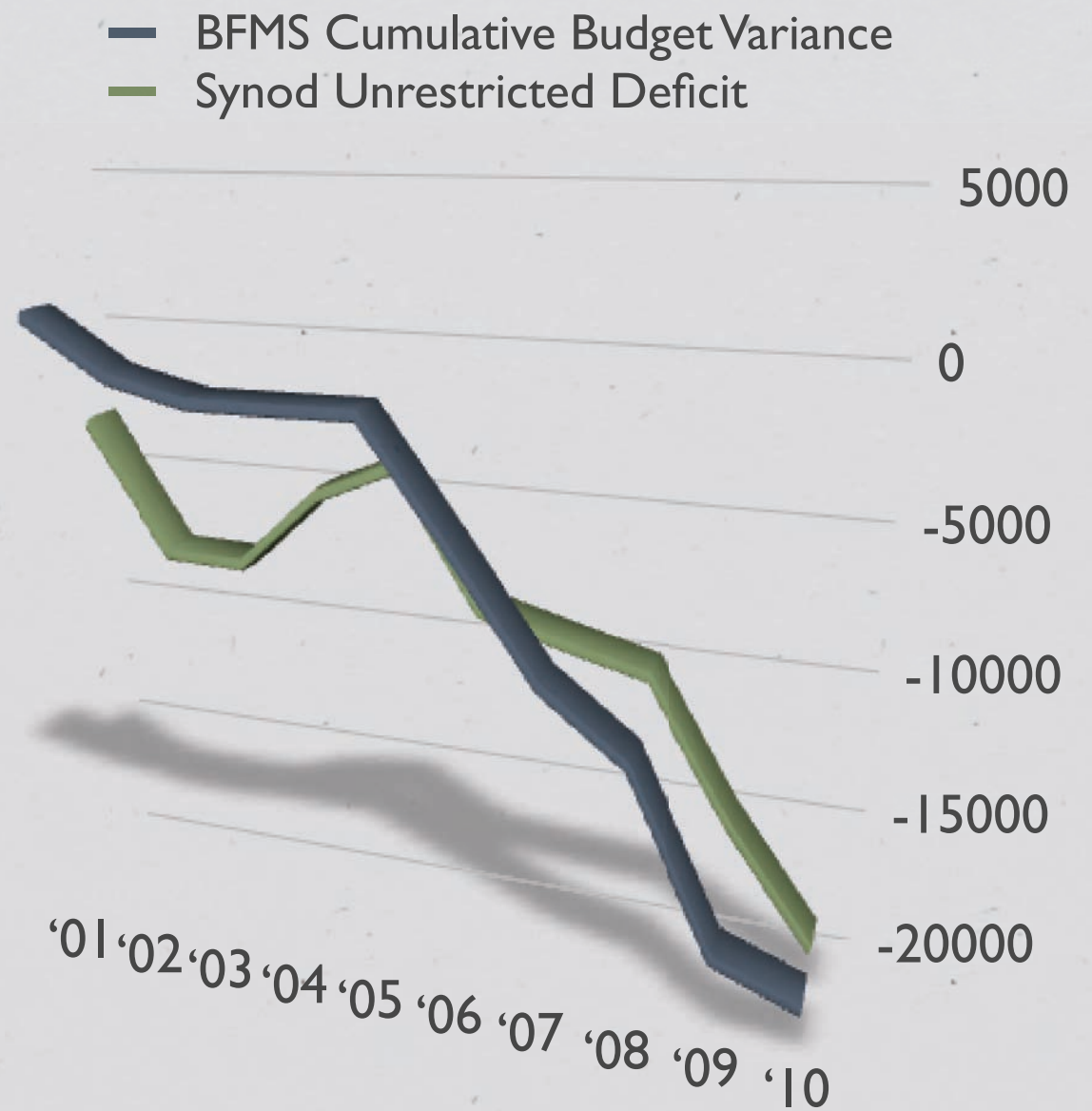
- * In 2001, World Missions had a positive balance of \$928,000.
- * As of Nov 2009, World Missions has accumulated a budget deficit of \$18,485,000 over 10 years.
- * World Missions Deficit increased by 2091%



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BFMS Deficit Spending vs. Synod Unrestricted Deficit

- * The Synod's Unrestricted Deficit is parallel to the BFMS's Deficit Spending.
- * The Synod's Unrestricted Deficit of -\$18,327,000 is driven by the BFMS' Deficit spending of -18,485,000 over a period of 10 years.



Is the Synod Better Off Since 2001? You Decide.

- * Over 10 years, Baptized Membership decreased by 7.7%.
- * Over 10 years, Adult Confirmations have decreased by 53%.
- * Over 20 years, Career Missionaries have decreased by 57%.
- * The Synod's Unrestricted Dollars has a deficit of -\$18,327,000 (a 502% increase over 10 years).
- * Over 10 years, World Missions has reduced missionary staff but accumulated a budget deficit of -\$18,485,000.

"The current recommendations by the BRTFSSG will have an immaterial effect on the financial operations of the Synod."

Tom Kuchta in *The Reporter*, June 2009