



INTERCOM/E-NEWS

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Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:4 (ESV)

Dear Friends in Christ,

When I was growing up, there was this braggadocio guy named Cassius Clay who claimed to be the greatest. He “floated like a butterfly and stung like a bee.” That’s right – Muhammed Ali. He was a world heavy weight boxing champion. He was young and strong, but in later years developed Parkinson’s disease and he became frail and his power diminished. In 1996, Muhammed Ali carried the Olympic torch into the stadium in Atlanta Georgia to light the Olympic flame. On June 3, 2016, he passed away.



Christians never argue over who is the greatest – right? Yeah, right. GUILTY! One Easter Sunday, we had the opportunity to sit down to an Easter dinner with my two brother-in-laws who were pastors of congregations, we all lived within about 35 miles of each other. As we sat there, someone asked, “How many did you have in church today?” I don’t recall the exact numbers, but lets say, I said we had 250 people in worship. One of my brother-in-laws said he had 400 in worship and the other chimed in, he had 700 in church on Easter morning. I don’t like to finish at the bottom of the pack – that morning, we had Chad Kollander attend church with us – Chad played basketball for the Minnesota Gophers. A celebrity like that has to be worth at least a couple hundred extra, right? Now – who is the greatest in the kingdom

It is human nature. The disciples on the road were talking and they ask Jesus, “who is the greatest in the Kingdom?” Jesus took a child to himself and said, “Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” Do you think for one moment that this child in Jesus’ arms considered himself to be the greatest? He didn’t argue the point either. As soon as we take on the humility of a child so that we can become the greatest, we have already been pushed back by our own sinful hubris.

Jesus is GOD! Yet He did not consider “equality with God as something to be grasped, but made Himself of NO REPUTATION, taking the form of a bondservant (a slave) ... He came in the form of man, became obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross.” (Philippians 2) Ponder the profound meaning of that – God becomes slave to all and dies, the humiliating death on the cross under the penalty of the law. But He is without sin, but He became sin for us. The ONE greatest, born of a woman, the Son of God, obediently goes to the cross to lay down His life for the sins of the world so we could be clothed in His righteousness as the sons and daughters of the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

(continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

Jesus tells us to pick up our cross and follow Him. Humbled in His presence, convicted of our sinful nature, there is no way we could ever claim to be the greatest in the Kingdom. Jesus wants us to humbly serve in His name to His honor and to His glory. We don't serve to earn merit badges or rack up divine brownie points. We serve because He first served us and we serve people in their need.

As I write this letter, Hurricane Harvey has already done great damage in Texas with flooding, Hurricane Irma is headed through the Caribbean on its way to the Florida coast. In the aftermath of Harvey, we got to see selfless people working to render aid to neighbors. They didn't do it to make headlines or pat themselves on the back. They knew the great need of people in trouble and made the effort to serve their neighbors. We live in a world where many of our neighbors are in great need, they don't know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Facing God without Jesus by their side, they are doomed to something much more terrifying than storm victims that may have lost earthly possessions. What would Jesus have us do? The same thing He did – take on the very nature of the bondservant and serve in ways that will make Jesus known. I pray, people will meet Jesus and be rescued from eternal destruction. May God fill us with that passion to share Jesus.

In His Service,
Rev. Jeffrey A. Lee
Mission & Ministry Facilitator

Teacher Mark Meyer Installed at Our Savior's, Crookston

Mark Meyer was installed on Sunday, September 10th, as 5th & 6th grade teacher at Our Savior's Lutheran Church & School, Crookston. Mark joins Our Savior's Lutheran School staff pictured below:

L-R: Lisa Bohler (1st/2nd grade), Rev. Steve Bohler, Mark Meyer, Sandra Trittin (Principal & 3rd/4th grade), and Emily Luckow (PS/K)





**Rev. Jason Wolter Installed at St. Mark Lutheran Church, Benson
on August 27, 2017**



Participating in the Installation service at St. Mark Lutheran Church, Benson, were the following:

(pictured l-r): Rev. Thaine Kister, Rev. John Ramsbacher, Rev. Jason Wolter, Rev. Don Fondow—
District President, Rev. Don Klatt and Rev. Roger Lange

MOBILIZING FOR MISSION

ONE DAY Church Planting Introduction

October 2 at Minnesota North District Office

October 3 at Good Shepherd Lutheran in Alexandria

Church Planting is the result of carrying out the Great Commission as new disciples are brought into a community of faith, having been taught all that Christ has commanded them. This **one-day "Church Planting Introduction"** focuses on the urgency and need for church multiplication, as well as basic principles of new church reproduction.

To learn more about the *Mobilizing the Mission* seminar sponsored by the Center for United States Missions please email Peter Meier at peter.meier@cui.edu.

Registration can be done by contacting the District Office at jeffrey.lee@mnnlcms.org, or by calling (218) 829-1781 and speaking with Rev. Jeffrey Lee. For more information go to <http://www.centerforusmissions.com/mobilizing-the-mission>.



Attention Treasurers:

Elementary, Secondary and Early Childhood and Child-care Centers Required form 5578 – Certification of Racial Nondiscrimination

Attention Treasurers:

Be sure you are filing a [Form 5578 Certification of Racial Nondiscrimination](#) for all elementary, secondary, early childhood and child-care centers. The information below is from the Treasurer's manual that we provide to you each year. If you do not have a copy of the CD, you can go to

<http://www.luthed.org/form-5578/> for the form and instructions for how to complete it.

9.305: Certification of Racial Nondiscrimination

Certification of racial nondiscrimination must be made annually by all schools (elementary, secondary, early childhood and child-care centers). **Form 5578, must be filed annually** by congregations that operate schools to comply with federal tax law. Schools include early childhood, elementary, secondary and child-care agencies. You can download and print this form free from the IRS at www.irs.gov. In addition to the certification, there are publication and record-keeping requirements. Each church operating a school or each separately incorporated school must satisfy the requirements annually in order to preserve its tax-exempt status. The deadline is May 15 for schools, which have a fiscal year that follows the calendar year (Jan. 1—Dec. 31). A school that has a different fiscal year must submit Form 5578 by the 15th day in the fifth month following the end of the fiscal year. For example, the deadline is November 15 for a school that uses a fiscal year end of June 30.

Please be sure and read the entire section 9.300 in your Treasurer's Manual to insure you are in compliance.

2018 LCMS Youth Ministry Symposium

The **2018 LCMS Youth Ministry Symposium** is scheduled for **January 28-30 at the Hilton St. Louis Airport Hotel**. The Symposium's focus is ministry to and with young adults, with a special focus on the recent research conducted by LCMS Youth Ministry. The research conducted includes the direct feedback from LCMS congregations and the survey highlighted above. The research data will be presented with facilitated discussions on current positive ministry taking place among LCMS young adults and the need for future ministry resources, engagement, and study.

The registration rate is \$100, which includes two meals and program materials. Registration and additional information is available here: <https://calendar.lcms.org/event/2018-youth-ministry-symposium/>



7 THINGS TO GET RID OF ... RIGHT NOW!

Carey Nieuwhof, Outreach Magazine, September/October 2017

1. INTENTION WITHOUT ACTION

No one will remember your intentions. The people who count on you only ever see your actions. That likely means no one is going to stand next to your casket and say, "He wished he were nicer," or "He had always hoped to be more strategic." Legacies never got built on intentions. Get over your intentions and start acting.

2. WORDS THAT START WITH SOME

If you want go get nothing meaningful done, use words that start with "some" a lot: somebody, someday, sometime, something. These words end up sounding like this: Somebody should do something about that sometime someday. Guaranteed, zero action happens.

3. UNNECESSARY MEETINGS

Once you get beyond the creative process, the value of meetings – to nail down a few executional details or to sync up the team is pretty low. For the most part, meetings are the enemy of work. Do your work instead.

4. FEAR

Fear is the thief of hope. It kills leadership. It murders courage. If you're going to be afraid, you should fear never accomplishing your mission. That will give you courage, or at least determination.

5. DESIRE TO BE LIKED

Leadership requires you to take people to destinations they would not go without you. When you focus on being liked, you will instinctively try to please the people you are leading. When you do that, you will become confused, because no one agrees. You will be bending over backward to make everyone happy, which of course means that in the end, you will end up making no one happy.

6. SELFISHNESS

Ambition can be a good thing, but selfish ambition is a different creature; it kills servants of God and turns them into servants of themselves.

7. BLAMING OTHERS

It is so easy to blame everyone and everything else for your lack of progress as a leader. If you want to keep not making progress, keep blaming others. The opposite of blame is responsibility. If you think about leaders you admire most, they're probably the most responsible leaders you know. Great leaders never assign blame, they take responsibility.

I think Carey makes some excellent points in compiling this list of things to get rid of. There is always the danger of taking something to the extreme. For instance, the advice to get rid of meetings. Meetings for the sake of meetings should be dispensed with. But I have also found that meetings provide accountability and deadlines. And sometimes it is important to use the words that start with "some", but I get the point. Words that begin with "some" can be empty and unproductive. It is important for us to figure out what the "some" is. Who is the somebody and what is the something and when should sometime be defined?

Rev. Jeff Lee, Mission & Ministry Facilitator



A New Day in Christ – How to Calm Stress and Anxiety

Saturday, October 14, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Check-in and refreshments begin at 9:30 a.m.)

This workshop is designed for all adults, parents, and/or high school youth.

Come and discover:

- How stress is inevitable but anxiety is optional (it depends on what we do with our daily stress)
- The healing effect of associations and how the body can stay calm in the midst of stress
- Lessons from your family of origin and (most especially) your Origin of family (God)
- That identity is far more important than personality
- More Christian truths to calm stress and anxiety

Presenter/Leader: Jim Otremba



- *Child of God*
- *Husband*
- *Stay-at-home dad (part-time) since 1999.*
- *Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker in Minnesota*
- *Trained Christian coach.*
- *Small business owner.*
- *Lecturer and public speaker*

Jim Otremba has been married to his best friend Maureen since 1995, and has been a part-time stay-at-home dad since 1999. He is a frequent presenter of retreats and workshops around the U.S. He holds a Master of Divinity from St. John's, and a Master of Applied Psychology from St. Cloud State University, and he is currently finishing his Doctorate in Psychology. He is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker in Minnesota, and owns a state licensed mental health clinic in St. Cloud: www.healinginchrist.com With his best friend and wife, they bring their personal and professional teachings to thousands of Christians each year throughout the U.S. through workshops, workbooks, and retreats. He is a dynamic speaker who uses high energy and humor and has presented at the national, state, and local levels.

PRE-Registration is \$15 by October 9

(This includes materials, refreshments, and lunch! - Scholarships available).

Walk-in registration is \$25 the morning of the workshop.

TO PRE-REGISTER - Please call 218-385-2450 or email dcegaryb@nymtrinity.org with your name, address, and phone.

Please indicate if you need on-site childcare. Make checks payable to the church send payment to:

Trinity Lutheran Church PO Box J (424 E. Gilman St.), New York Mills, MN 56567.

This workshop is being planned through the Trinity Health & Wellness Committee and supported with Thrivent Action Team Grants. Trinity is excited about hosting this workshop and welcomes all in the community and in congregations near and far. Please extend this invitation and encourage others to attend! We welcome your prayers and financial support to help cover workshop costs and bringing in our fine presenter. Please contact DCE Gary Bach at Trinity to offer your support (see contact information above).



Reformation Events in the Minnesota North District



St. Cloud Circuit Forum—You are Invited!

The St. Cloud Circuit is hosting a special Circuit Forum, **Sunday, September 17, 2017**, from 2:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 2555 Clearwater Rd. St Cloud. The theme for this Convocation is **“It’s Still About Jesus!”** Gary Theis from Mission Central in Mapleton, Iowa, will be the keynote speaker. This Circuit Forum is open to all Congregations of the District at no cost. Coffee fellowship will follow this event.

Congregational leaders are also invited to attend a special event on Saturday, September 16th, at 2:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 3000 Co Rd 8, St. Cloud. Pastors and lay leaders are encouraged to attend.

* * * *



You are invited to Trinity Lutheran Church, 1150 W Cavour Ave, Fergus Falls, MN on **Sunday, October 8th** at 2:00 pm for a **“Reformation Hymn Sing: Singing our Lutheran Heritage on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation”** event. Come to learn about and sing Luther’s hymns.

Acclaimed Lutheran musician and theologian, Rev. Richard C. Resch, will lead the hymn sing and provide commentary about Lutheran’s rich hymnody. Resch is Professor and Kantor Emeritus of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne Ind., where he served for 37 years. Light refreshments will follow the 75-minute event. The Reformation Hymn Sing is open to the public and there is no cost to attend.

* * * *

Reformation Mission Festival Service at Grand Forks

On Sunday, **October 29, 2017** at 4 pm in honor of the 500th Anniversary of the posting of the 95 Theses on the church door of Wittenberg the Crookston Circuit of MN North and the NE Circuit of ND are hosting a dual district **Reformation Mission Festival Service** to be held in the Grand Forks community. The date and time are set. We hope to have a mass choir, possibly some instrumental groups playing sacred music, and food all at no cost to attendees. The Rev. Doug Thompson, missionary pastor to Sierra Leone Africa, will be our guest preacher. A free-will offering will be received to support his work overseas. The remainder of the details are in the works and will be shared when they are finalized. Please mark your calendars, set up a carpool to attend and plan on joining us. If you have any questions please feel free to contact David Laue. Email works best.

dlegfmn@gmail.com

Brainerd Circuit Bus

Zion Lutheran Church, Brainerd has reserved two coach buses to transport a group to Concordia St. Paul for the Reformation 500 Festival Worship Service on **Sunday, October 29, 2017**. The cost is \$28.00 per person and includes a box breakfast. The buses will depart from Zion Lutheran, Brainerd at 11:00 a.m. on October 29th and return after the Worship Service. There is a possibility of stopping for supper (cost on your own) on the return trip.

To reserve your spot please contact Dean Mustonen at 218/764-2649 or drmst@brainerd.net.



Celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation at Concordia St. Paul

Join us in celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, **Oct. 28-29, 2017**. The focal event for Reformation 500 is a festival worship service in the Gangelhoff Center on **Sunday, Oct. 29**, featuring LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, drama, music, and dance. Other exciting weekend events include the Tony-award winning play *Luther*, a juried art show, a display of Reformation archives, and the opportunity for students and families to visit campus.

This 500th anniversary celebration is co-sponsored by the Minnesota North and South Districts of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and Concordia University, St. Paul.



Go to

<https://www.csp.edu/reformation500/>

for more information

Mayo Clinic Chaplaincy

Those hospitalized or receiving care at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, are now being cared for by the pastoral staff of Trinity Lutheran Church of Rochester.

If you have a member in need of pastoral care please contact the Trinity Staff by calling 507-722-0407 (leave a message) or by sending an email to chaplain@trinitylutheranchurch.org. Since chaplains no longer have access to Mayo patient lists, your phone calls and emails inform the Trinity staff of LCMS patients to visit.



Bible Bowl 2018

The 2018 MN North and MN South District Bible Bowl will be held on April 14, 2018 at Concordia University, St. Paul. The topic will be The Book of Genesis

Bible Bowl instructions can be found on the [district website](#)—News and Announcements

2017 Shepherds Canyon Retreat Schedule www.ShepherdsCanyonRetreat.org

Shepherd's Canyon Retreat offers seven carefully designed days of individual, couple, and group Christian counseling for no more than four couples (singles are welcome). Our emphasis is upon Christian professional church workers including, but not limited to, pastors, missionaries, rostered teachers, directors of Christian education, deaconesses, and their spouses.

The retreat begins with dinner on Tuesday evening and ends with breakfast on the next Tuesday morning. During this week a retreat participant will experience about 25 hours of counseling in group, couple, and individual settings.

Retreat participants who arrive in Arizona by air, should plan flights which arrive between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM and depart during the same time-frame. Transportation from the Phoenix or Mesa airports is provided by SCR staff or volunteers.

All Shepherd's Canyon Retreats are held at Standing Stones Retreat Center located 15 miles west of Arizona's "cowboy town", Wickenburg, Arizona...90 minutes from the Phoenix airport. The name of the place--Standing Stones--comes from Old Testament references to Samuel, Joshua, Jacob, and Moses who erected rock monuments to commemorate a great work of God's grace and mercy. www.StandingStonesAZ.org.

Retreat costs remain the same: \$3,500 for a couple; \$2,500 for a single person. Partial scholarship funds are available from the Synod and we are thankful for that.

Schedule

October 17-24, 2017

November 7-13, 2017

November 28-December 5, 2017



2017 National Rural & Small Town Mission Conference

November 9-11, 2017

Hilton Kansas City Airport, 8801 NW 112th St., Kansas City, MO

To register and for more information go to the [LCMS Rural and Small Town website](#)



Main Street Living North Broadcasts

OCTOBER UPDATE

Meet the Main Street Living Production Team! This month we introduce Jay Schaefer. Jay serves as Technical Director of our recording sessions. Briefly, this includes collecting the pastor's worship services, preparing them for the Teleprompter, setting up the recording equipment, directing the recording sessions, and organizing the video by air date before passing it along to the Editor. Jay is also responsible for uploading the program to KVRR each week to be aired. Recordings are held every second month - normally in the sanctuary of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Fargo - however occasionally we take the recording on the road to accommodate for the longer driving distances of the pastors.

Jay and wife ReNae and their two sons Jacob and Adam live in Moorhead, MN. Jay works as the music teacher at Grace Lutheran School in Fargo and as chaplain at the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch treatment facilities in Fargo. He also uses his technical and musical skills to operate Propellant Studios, a local recording studio that records and releases music for local artists. He and his family are members of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Fargo. Thank you Jay for all you do!

As you read this keep in mind that as members of an LCMS congregation your ongoing involvement is needed in two ways: 1) to help purchase the TV broadcasting air time, and 2) to help spread the word to your extended family and friends! In addition to viewing the program at 10:00am each Sunday morning (on the FOX TV and/or cable station in their area), please let them know that they can watch all of the archived programs on line at www.mainstreetlivingnorth.com.

To add your much needed financial support, checks may be sent to "Main Street Living North", 821-5th Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by Credit Card or your PayPal account at: www.mainstreetlivingnorth.com. Thank you and God's blessing in Christ!

Information is available on the [District website](#).

If you have any questions please feel free to contact either Ken Koehler at 701-429-3092 or dcekkkoehler@ideaone.net or your District Office. Thank you very much.





INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE

YOUR LCMS CHURCH. YOUR LCEF FINANCES.

3.000%*

ConnectPLUS

Based upon a balance of \$500 to \$5,000

ConnectPLUS introduces new LCEF investors to the reward of supporting LCMS ministries—without sacrificing competitive rates. Open to new investors 18 and older who have not had an LCEF investment in the past 24 months. One account per investor.

Family Emergency StewardAccount®

1.000%*

Based on a minimum balance of \$25

The Family Emergency StewardAccount is designed to prepare you for those moments when you need funds outside of your monthly budget. Your investment builds over time and you can access your funds easily when you need them most.

2.000%*
2 years

PartnerPLUS

2.500%*
4 years

Based on a balance of \$500 to \$25,000

Empower Rostered Church Workers and ministries to continue their Kingdom-building work by investing in LCEF's PartnerPLUS term note. Open to investors 18 and older only. One account per investor. Transfers from other LCEF investments are not accepted.

Y.I. Club

3.500%*

Based on a balance of \$25 to \$1,000

The Young Investors (Y.I.) Club makes saving money fun while teaching children to give thanks for God's blessings. Through newsletters, activities and the online Y.I. Activity Center, your child learns the value of saving, spending and sharing money—while supporting ministries.

GEORGE MILLER, Minnesota North District
218.829.1781 | george.miller@lcef.org

 **Lutheran Church Extension Fund**
> where investments build ministry

* Balance restrictions apply. Rates subject to change. Visit lcef.org for details.

LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments, nor a solicitation to buy. LCEF will offer and sell its securities only in states where authorized. The offer is made solely by LCEF's Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks. ConnectPLUS is not available to investors in Ohio or Pennsylvania. StewardAccount access features are offered through UMB Bank n.a. The StewardAccount is not available to investors in South Carolina. The Family Emergency StewardAccount is known as the Family StewardAccount in Ohio.



Project 24 Update

[Click here](#) for a short video of our children at Project 24: Tumaini singing praises to God. A church in the United States sent funds to purchase a Bible for each child in our 5 children's boarding facilities. John Kissinger was the special deliverer of these Bibles and was able to capture their thanks and songs of praise for this gift. We are so happy that each child now has his/her very own copy of God's word. This coincides with our pledge to care for the children spiritually.



Pastor Marty Mably posing with the girls for a picture.



A Special Need:

Rev. James Cerdenola, former President of The Lutheran Church in the Philippines and now a professor at their Seminary, sent the email below. He was a special guest at our District Convention in 2006. If you, your congregation, school, or organization would be willing to assist the Cerdenolas please send your gift to the Minnesota North District-LCMS and earmarked Cerdenola. Thank you for your kind consideration!

“Regarding your inquiry about my medical expenses. I really need help - we need help.

I have a maintenance of about 6-8 pills everyday of about 2,700 pesos a week which is about 10,700 pesos (\$250.00)a month. My wife needs about 3,000 pesos a week or about 12,000 pesos a month (\$275.00)a month for a total of about \$525.00 MONTHLY. Truth is we are not able to buy this every month...so there are days we don't have pills. My wife needed to have a laboratory test last January which cost about \$500.00 but up to this time she has not undergone...we really don't have the capability pastor... I only receive a monthly salary of about \$300.

Since you asked about it, please, if there is a way you can help us, we are really in dire need of it. Whenever I go visit my doctor she would ask if I am ready for my angiogram and possibly angioplasty. I politely tell her that I am thinking about it. But the truth is, my family and I don't have the capacity for those procedures.

I have gone a little bit long. Again, I appeal to you dear brother and pastor if you could assist us meet these health issues. Thank you.

God bless.”

Pastor James Cerdenola



**Special Mission Projects:
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church & School,
Cotton Tree, Liberia
Rev. James Kollie
Jamesetta Kollie & Gifty Kollie**

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ of the Minnesota North District of the LCMS,

I would ask you to keep my family in your prayers as we mourn the death of my mother. Also, please keep Good Shepherd Lutheran Church & School in your prayers.

This week is our teachers workshop as classes start on Monday. The Deputy Minister of Education came to facilitate the workshop. Thanks to God for good people like her and you.

I hope to be coming to Minnesota soon.

God's Blessings to each and every one of you,

Pastor James NS Kollie



Support for the education funds of Rev. James Kollie, Jamesetta Kollie or Gifty Kollie should be sent to the **Minnesota North District—LCMS**

Earmark your gift(s) specifically and send to:
Minnesota North District, PO Box 604,
Brainerd, MN 56401

**Pastor Kollie
STM Education Fund -
There is a final payment of
\$5,394.85, which is needed to
satisfy the account balance.**

**Gifty Student Aid
Mayer Lutheran High School
Total Received to date 9/14/17
\$10,271.67**

**Jamesetta Student Aid
Concordia University—St. Paul
Total Received to date 9/14/17
\$6,880.03**

**Cotton Tree Church & School
Total Received to date 9/14/2017
\$105,638.00**



Special Projects— Missionaries with Minnesota North Connections

Rev. Eddie & Melissa Hosch III serve the LCMS as career missionaries in Lima, Peru. Pastor Hosch plants new churches and mission centers in Lima. He works with and teaches new believers to develop into self-sustaining congregations of Word and Sacrament ministry that reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pastor Eddie and Melissa have two children—Alexandria and Joseph—who join them on the mission field. (Pastor Hosch formerly served as pastor of Gethsemane, Snellman, MN) To see the Hosch's LCMS Prayer & Giving Information—[Click Here](#) For the Hosch's newsletter for September—[Click here](#). And planning for [Furlough](#) in January-mid-March.



Rev. Dr. Daniel and Dr. Joan Jastram serve as career missionaries through the LCMS in northern Asia, based in Tokyo, Japan. (son of sainted pastor—Rev. Robert Jastram and Mrs. Phyllis Jastram, Underwood). In this role, Rev. Jastram helps develop and implement a strategic mission plan for this area. He coordinates theological education opportunities and also supervises and evaluates theological educators throughout northern Asia. When needed, Pastor Jastram teaches courses at Japan Lutheran Theological Seminary, Tokyo. Before her missionary service in Asia, Dr. Joan Jastram worked as a clinical psychologist and plans to continue in this capacity.



To see the LCMS Prayer and Giving Information—[Click Here](#)
[Click here](#) for the Jastram's latest newsletter.

Rev. Matthew and Heather Ruesch and family serve as LCMS career missionaries in Puerto Rico. (former pastor at Shepherd of the Lake, Garrison, MN.) Pastor Ruesch serves as the pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Mayaguez, Puerto Pico, an existing LCMS church plant. He provides Word and Sacrament ministry to the congregation and directs evangelism and mercy efforts in the Mayaguez community. Pastor Matthew & Heather have three children—Isabella, Paul and Sofia—who are with them in Puerto Rico.



For the Ruesch's LCMS Prayer & Giving Information—[Click Here](#).
[Click here](#) for the Ruesch's latest newsletter and [Click here](#) for Pastor Ruesch's Facebook updates following Hurricane Irma.

Support for any of these missionaries can be sent to: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, PO Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861—with their name/country in the memo line of your check

Or

Send to the Minnesota North District—LCMS, PO Box 604, Brainerd, MN—earmarked for the specific missionary.



PASTORAL CALL UPDATE MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT-LCMS (Listed Alphabetically)

CALLS ACCEPTED

ADA/GREEN MEADOW, Zion/St. John- Rev. Ron Hobbie (St. John, Sparta Twp./Trinity, Havelock) accepted the Call.

DETROIT LAKES, Zion—Rev. Bruce Noennig (Our Redeemer, Moorhead) accepted the Call as Associate Pastor. Installation on September 17th at 3:00 p.m.

RANDALL, St. Peter—Rev. Joseph Crosswhite III (current Vacancy Pastor) accepted the Call. Installation on Oct. 1st at 2:00 p.m.

RICE, Shepherd of the Pines—Rev. David Edge, Katy, TX, accepted the Call. Installation on Sept. 24th at 11:00 a.m.

SAUK RAPIDS, Trinity—Rev. David Hinz, Zion, Alexandria, accepted the Call as Senior Pastor.

CALLING CONGREGATIONS

CHISHOLM, Grace (Vacancy Pastor – Rev. Brad Felix)

ELBOW LAKE/HOFFMAN, Christ/Zion—(Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Bill Aufdenkamp)

EVERGREEN, St. Paul (Frazee) (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Jared Nies)

GRAND MARAIS, Life in Christ (Summer Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Richard Resch)

HINCKLEY, St. Paul (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Vern Dorn)

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT—Mission and Ministry Facilitator (PLaN)

MOORHEAD, Our Redeemer (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Brett Hartwig) - Called Rev. Dr. Bradley Stoltenow, Centennial, CO.

MORRIS, Zion— (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Jack Baumgarn)

PERHAM, St. Paul's (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Ron Jobe) - Called Rev. Jeffrey Walther, St. Matthew, Esko

SILVER BAY, Faith (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Dennis Schutte) - Called Rev. Scott Busacker, Harvel, IL

VERGAS, St. John's (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Del Stohs) - Called Rev. Jacob Wagner, Valley Park, MO

WEBER (North Branch), St. John's (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Paul Anderson)

OTHER CALLS AND CHANGES

Rev. Robin Collins (Trinity, Staples) received a Call to Mt. Calvary, Brady, TX.

Rev. Ron Hobbie (St. John, Sparta Twp./Trinity, Havelock) declined the Call to Our Saviour's, Caruthers, CA.

Rev. Paul Warnier (Zion, Browns Valley) to emeritus and transferred to South Dakota District.

Church Anniversaries



Church
ANNIVERSARY

September 23, 2017 - 125th Anniversary Celebration—Trinity, New York Mills will be celebrated throughout the year and ending with a Special Anniversary Service on Sat., Sept. 23 at 4 p.m. followed by a meal & fellowship

June 30-July 1, **2018**—100th Anniversary—Grace, Hibbing

Contact the District Office if your congregation will be celebrating an Anniversary.



*Minnesota North District - LCMS
Prayer Calendar
October 2017*

“Partners in Mission and in Prayer with...”



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Rev. Bill Neumann, Emeritus – Park Rapids	3 Rev. Michael Nielsen (Trinity, Fisher & St. Paul, Euclid)	4 Rev. Jared Nies (St. John, Corliss Twp.-Perham)	5 Rev. Bruce Noennig (Assoc.-Zion, Detroit Lakes)	6 Rev. Dennis O'Neill (Trinity, Ortonville)	7
8	9 Rev. Craig Palach (Faith, Fergus Falls)	10 Rev. Mark Peske (Our Redeemer, Cohasset)	11 Rev. Tom Petersen (Shepherd of the Lake, Garrison)	12 Rev. David Petrich (Mt. Olive, Bovey & Grace, Marble)	13 Rev. Donald Polege, Emeritus – Lindstrom	14
15	16 Rev. Marty Porter (Zion, Sauk Centre)	17 Rev. Tom Puffe (St. John, Thief River Falls & Zion, Warren)	18 Rev. Jacob Quast (St. Paul, International Falls)	19 Rev. Dean Rager (Nicolai, Canby & Zion, Tyro Twp.-Boyd)	20 Rev. John Ramsbacher (Trinity, Appleton)	21
22	23 Rev. Gary Rehborg, Emeritus – Osage	24 Rev. Dr. Timothy Rehwaldt (St. Paul, Foley & St. John, Popple Creek-Sauk Rapids)	25 Rev. Joshua Reinke (Our Savior, McGregor & St. John, Wright)	26 Rev. Lewis Reinemann, Emeritus – Duluth	27 Rev. Tim Renstrom (St. Stephen, Braham)	28
29	30 Rev. Kevin Richter (Assoc. – Peace in Christ, Hermantown)	31 Rev. Blake Rickbeil (St. Paul, Bertha)				



In Our Prayers. . . .

WE PRAY

for Mrs. Martha Buchholz, Richville, (wife of sainted pastor Rev. Henry Buchholz) who is having health issues.
for Melinda Cloose, wife of Rev. Anthony Cloose (Zion Lutheran Church, Mora) who is undergoing treatment for thyroid cancer.
for Ethan Ellis, father of Mrs. Melody Hobbie (wife of Rev. Ron Hobbie) who has been diagnosed with Stage 4 colon cancer.
for Bonnie Felix, wife of Rev. Bradley Felix (Trinity Lutheran Church, Virginia) who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
for Rev. Geoffrey & Brittany Gronewold (Zion, Alexandria) as they mourn the stillbirth of their child.
for Mary Langemo Hughes, daughter of Rev. Martin & Carol Langemo, Princeton, who is suffering from hyperacusis.
for Laurain Jurchen, Crookston, (former District LWML Pres.) who has had surgery and is hospitalized in Fargo.
for the family of Rev. James Kollie, Cotton Tree, Liberia, upon the death of his mother.
for Mrs. Muriel Meichsner, wife of Rev. Jim Meichsner, Sauk Rapids, who is in failing health.
for Mrs. Melissa Martini-Tischer, wife of Rev. Steven Tischer (Zion, Princeton) who has been diagnosed with lymphoma cancer.
for Elaine Wagner (mother of Rev. Don Wagner, Trinity-Deer Creek) who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
for the safety of those serving in the military & chaplaincy and part of our District family:
Chaplain Captain Vincent Bain—Military Chaplain LCMS, Fort Campbell, KY
Chaplain Lt. Aaron Bell, former Associate Pastor at Holy Cross-St. Cloud and son-in-law of Pastor Tom and Mary Brinkley (St. Matthew, Esko) – Active Duty Navy ([read about Chap. Bell's ministry](#))
Joshua Bonk, son of Rev. John Bonk and Linda Bonk —US Army
Rev. Steve Breitbarth, em., Hibbing, police & fire chaplain
SFC Jonathan Fondow, son of Pres. Don & Connie Fondow, Park Rapids—US Army
Ensign Emily Geddes, granddaughter of Virginia Ansorge—US Navy
Dennis Gerold, husband of DCO Abby Dawkins Gerold, US Air Force
SSG Nathan Gregg, son-in-law of sainted Rev. Peter Holm and Mrs. Marlene Holm, Army Reserve
Timothy Milo, son of Rev. Frank & Sue Milo, Gloria Dei, Pequot Lakes—MN National Guard
Chaplain LCDR John Thomson – Active Duty Chaplain—US Navy Guam
1st Lt. Micah Uhrinak, son of Rev. Les & Susan Uhrinak, Crosslake—Air Force
Sgt. Nathaniel Vrudny, son of Rev. Matthew & Bonnie Vrudny, Walker, with the Army Reserve Engineering unit in Mankato.
Tanner Wagner, son of Rev. Don & Jolene Wagner, Trinity, Deer Creek, National Guard
for the mission work of Rev. Eddie & Melissa Hosch as they serve as LCMS career missionaries in Lima, Peru. (former pastor at Gethsemane, Snellman)
for the mission service of Rev. Dr. Daniel and Dr. Joan Jastram serving as career missionaries through the LCMS in northern Asia, based in Tokyo, Japan. (son of sainted pastor—Rev. Robert Jastram and Mrs. Phyllis Jastram)
for the mission work of Mr. Rob Lutz in Yambio, South Sudan, in the building of the House of Hope Orphanage and as he teaches for the Lutheran Church of Ethiopia.
for the mission work of Rev. Matthew and Heather Ruesch and family as they serve as LCMS career missionaries in Puerto Rico and thank God for their safety during Hurricane Irma. (former pastor at Shepherd of the Lake, Garrison)

PRAISE

to God with the congregation of Trinity Lutheran, New York Mills, their pastor, Rev. Kirk Douglas, and DCE, Mr. Gary Bach, as they celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the congregation on Saturday, September 23rd.

AND GIVE THANKS

to God for the relief efforts that are underway because of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma and the fires in Northwestern United States. The devastation is of such a large scale, the need for your support is great. Go to: <https://www.lcms.org/disaster-response> for information on how to donate to LCMS World Relief and Human Care and LCMS Disaster Response efforts.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2017

- September 15-16, 2017—Doxology—Conference on Stewardship at Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo, MN
- September 16-17, 2017—St. Cloud Circuit Leaders Event & Circuit Forum at Faith, St. Cloud & Holy Cross, St. Cloud—[see page 7](#)
- September 21, 2017—Division of Mission & Congregational Outreach [MaCO] meeting at the District Office & Division of Parish Life and Nurture [PLaN] meeting at the District Office
- September 23, 2017—125th Anniversary Celebration at Trinity, New York Mills at 4 p.m.
- September 24-25, 2017—MN North Board of Directors Meeting at Lutheran Island Camp
- September 28-30, 2017—[Church Workers Wives Retreat](#) at Lutheran Island Camp
- October 2, 2017—Church Planting Workshop at the District Office [see page 3](#)
- October 3, 2017—Church Planting Workshop at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Alexandria [see page 3](#)
- October 8, 2017—Trinity Lutheran, Fergus Falls **Reformation Hymn Sing** [see page 7](#)
- October 10, 2017—LWML MN North District Board Meeting at the District Office
- October 14, 2017—Workshop “A New Day in Christ—How to Calm Stress and Anxiety” at Trinity, New York Mills—Presenter: Jim Otremba [see page 6 for registration information](#)
- October 19, 2017—Lutheran Educators’ Conference at Mankato
- October 22, 2017—Reformation for Today at LIC—speaker: Rev. Tom Eckstein. Also: Hymn sing, German dinner followed by special music by Glenn Henriksen (pianist).
- October 23, 2017—Ministerial Health Commission meeting at the District Office
- October 23-24, 2017—Advent and Lenten Workshop—Rev. Tom Eckstein
- October 29, 2017—Joint MNN/MNS/CSP [Reformation Service](#) at CSP with Pres. Matthew Harrison—4:00 p.m. (No pre-registration is required)
- October 29, 2017—Reformation Mission Festival at Grand Forks hosted by MNN Crookston Circuit & ND District NE Circuit—[see page 7](#)
- November 9-11, 2017—[National Rural & Small Town Mission Conference](#) in Kansas City, MO.
- November 17, 2017—Principals’ Meeting at St. Paul’s Lutheran School, Perham
- November 23-24, 2017—District Office Closed—Thanksgiving
- December 3-4, 2017—MN North Board of Directors Meeting at the District Office
- December 25-January 1, 2018—District Office Closed—Christmas through New Years

2018

- January 9, 2018—LWML MN North District Board of Directors Meeting at the District Office
- January 28-30, 2018—[LCMS Youth Ministry Symposium](#)
- January 29-30, 2018—Circuit Visitors’ Conference at Lutheran Island Camp
- February 11-12, 2018—MN North Board of Directors Meeting at the District Office
- April 9-11, 2018—23rd Convention of the Minnesota North District—LCMS at Arrowwood Resort, Alexandria, MN
- April 14, 2018—[2018 Bible Bowl—at CSP](#). Topic: The Book of Genesis
- June 18-20, 2018—LWML Minnesota North District Convention at the Sanford Center, Bemidji, MN



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