



INTERCOM / E-NEWS

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Volume 17, Issue 2

I've always wondered: Why do so many of our congregations in the MN North District seem to be in survival mode? I choose to look at our situation as a prime opportunity to bring the best news of all, forgiveness and salvation in Jesus Christ, to a world who doesn't know Him. We are in a mission field, right here in the MN North District. Most of the members of your community either don't attend church or don't know Jesus as Savior at all. Imagine what we can do when we stop treating our churches like they are in hospice waiting to die and start focusing our efforts on those who need Jesus Christ as Savior. Let's see where God leads us!

The forgiveness of sins we have in Jesus Christ is a life-changer. All we need to do is get the message out. The worst thing they can say to us is "No thanks", and I promise you will survive. Here are some helpful hints to connect with your community and get the message out:

- Pastors: don't stifle your congregation's desire to reach out into the community. Let them be creative. Look for ways for your church to GO OUT instead of trying to draw people in. People in your community may not be at ease going to your church, but they might be happy to see and talk with you. Work from there and look for opportunities to share God's love and forgiveness with them in meaningful ways.
- Congregational members: encourage your pastor and leaders to be a part of the community. Attend the local high school events, show up for community fund raisers, find the place where everybody has coffee... invite your pastor along with you to these events and introduce him to your friends and neighbors.
- Pray for opportunity to talk to someone about Jesus. You will be amazed at the opportunities God will give you. (Matthew 7:7-8).

"The forgiveness of sins we have in Jesus Christ is a life-changer. All we need to do is get the message out."

Jesus said, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8).

This is still true for us today. Our God is great. Jesus is our Savior. The Holy Spirit works through His Word to bring people to faith. The fields are ripe for harvest.

We aren't done yet!!

In Christ,

Rev. Monte Meyer

Parish Life and Nurture (PLaN) Facilitator

In this issue...

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DISTRICT HAPPENINGS



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and Preschool in Cloquet hosts a *Bedtime Story* event three times during the school year.

Preschoolers from the church and school bring their families and friends for a fun evening in the church fellowship hall. Everyone



wears jammies and enjoys crafts, stories, devotions and snacks. The February event welcomed Anna, Elsa and Olaf to join the fun!



Share what's happening in your congregation! Send stories and photos to Diana at mnndist@mnnlcms.org

When visiting churches we have taught at before, we always ask whether people have tried any ideas we taught before, and if they have seen any improvement. In Mpando we had positive responses on management of food and money, and the folks said they were doing better. They told about following Jacques Bremen's advice about fertilizer placement and use of organic fertilizers mixed with urea fertilizer. Members and leaders thanked us and our LCMS for helping with building a church building for them during closing remarks.

At several locations including two church services I, Delano, have been able to talk about Christian marriage based upon Ephesians 5.

Sunday we traveled almost three hours to southern Malawi dropping in elevation from 4500 feet to 180 feet. As we dropped from the cool 70's in Blantyre, we were met by 95 degree heat at Mgoni, Nsanje District.



Delano teaching in Mikate about legumes used to prevent corn borer and army worm while adding nitrogen and preventing soil erosion.

Dear Friends in the Minnesota North District,

Greetings from Blantyre, Malawi in southeastern Africa. Ralph von Qualen, Linda and I arrived here safely on January 22nd. We were guided for the first 5 days here by volunteer coordinator, Krista Young.

Rev. Wowa is the head of the Confessional Lutheran Church of Malawi and has set up our schedule. The plan is for us to teach in ten locations including a three day intensive training session with 30 TEE (Theological Education by Extension) students who will be traveling into Blantyre from surrounding areas. From our hotel in Blantyre we travel between one and three hours in a rented vehicle getting to the churches.

This is the rainy season, and we have encountered some very muddy roads. Where there is plenty of moisture and fertility the crops look lush. The field across from the Mtetemera church had nine foot high corn setting large ears with beans, pigeon pea and pumpkin intercropped. Some areas have lacked abundant rainfall or have not had adequate fertilizer applied.



Linda & Rev. James teaching about money management at Mtetemera

Of the 7 villages where we have trained so far, 5 were new locations and 2 were repeat visits. In new locations Ralph, Linda and I started by teaching about "Management of the Harvest", marketing, and "Life of the Soil" while always putting an emphasis on Jesus Christ being the answer to making God-pleasing decisions in life.

The church service at Mgoni was centered on teaching about baptism, and Rev. Wowa preached on original sin and the need for Baptism. 121 children were baptized at that 5 hour service. It was truly heartwarming and inspiring to see the children brought forward to be baptized.

Thank you for your support in sending us to East Africa. We have only 11 days remaining here in Malawi before going to serve in the Mount Kenya areas of Kenya with Gwen Zagore.

Thank you for your partnership in the LCMS Agricultural Consultancy in East Africa project. Please pray for good health and safety as we travel. Pray that God will guide us in teaching so that people will be encouraged in their faith in Jesus and follow his will in their work and caring for their family.

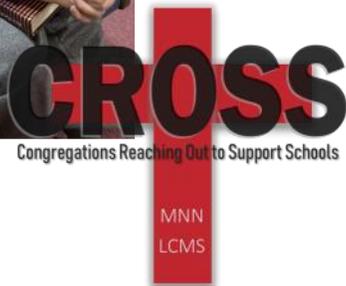
In Jesus Christ our Lord,
Delano and Linda Meyer



"The Word of God is alive and active!"

Hebrews 4:12

Hello from Immanuel Lutheran School in Walker, MN.



One way that our Lutheran Schools share their Biblical knowledge, and in-turn learn from one-another, is through our annual Lutheran School Bible Bowl. We have the honor at Immanuel of hosting the Bible Bowl where students, families and teachers gather together around God's Word for a friendly competition. Students in 4th – 8th grade answer 6 rounds of questions. The judges in each grade level expand and give background information on various questions and answers, making it a learning experience for students and adults alike. Teaching our children to search God's Word for the answers to everyday life is an important skill.

and generous gifts. We rejoice and give thanks for the money received through the CROSS appeal. It is truly a blessing to our ministry.

May God continue to bless you in your ministry.

For more information about Immanuel Lutheran School, visit our website at www.immannuellutheranwalker.com.

(If you are able to financially give a gift to the CROSS Appeal Initiative, you can write a check made out to CROSS Appeal and send it to the following address: Minnesota North District- LCMS, PO Box 604, Brainerd, MN 56401. Be sure to earmark it as CROSS.)

We just finished celebrating National Lutheran Schools Week with nearly 2,000 Lutheran Schools nationwide. We rejoice that we can daily proclaim the Gospel message of Jesus to children, families and communities throughout the Minnesota North District and beyond. We do this through Bible study, devotions, chapel, religion class and more. God's Word is woven into our curriculums, committed to memory, and raised up in voices through song and prayer.

Thank you for your partnership in the mission and ministry of Christian education and equipping the next generation of Christian servants. We are thankful for your prayers, words of encouragement,

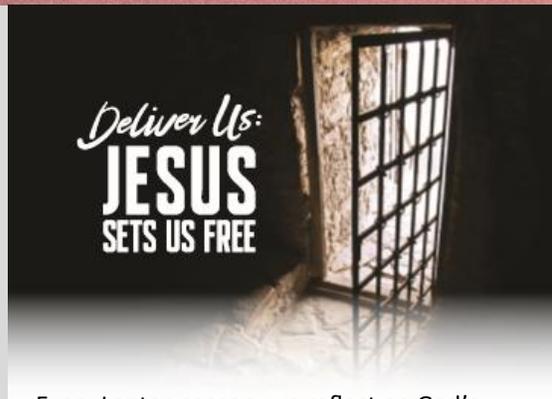


BRING MICHELLE'S WORKSHOP TO YOUR CONGREGATION!

Do you feel you are a reluctant witness? Don't we all feel that way? Lutheran Hour Ministries has gathered some exciting research on the state of Christianity in America. Let's journey together by hearing the research, understanding non-Christians in contemporary culture and learn practical ways to reach them through spiritual conversations.

This course is an interactive course with vignettes, opportunities for conversation, practice and time for questions related to personal experiences. Participants will walk away from this course with practical skills and resources in their hands to start this journey of having spiritual conversations with any unchurched friends in their lives. They will be surprised at how easy spiritual conversations can be!

The course is presented by Michelle Gillard, Director of Christian Outreach, M.A. Christian Outreach. She can be reached at MichelleGillard@gmail.com



Every Lenten season, we reflect on God's work on our behalf through the telling of Christ's Passion. In ***Deliver Us: Jesus Sets Us Free***, we remember our Savior's triumphal act of redemption in Israel's exodus from captivity in Egypt.

Just as Moses led Israel to the Promised Land, Jesus won victory for us through His life, death, and resurrection. In both events, God saves His people. But, through Jesus, God saves completely.

All the details can be found in order to customize, download and print 2020 Lenten Devotions from LHM by going to <https://www.lhm.org/lent/>.

Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne Prayerfully Consider Visit

April 2–4, 2020

The Prayerfully Consider Visit invites men and women of all ages to explore the pastoral and diaconal training happening at Concordia Theological Seminary and gives a time for contemplation on the vocations of pastor and deaconess, offering an occasion for prospective students to envision themselves stepping into the formation happening at Concordia Theological Seminary. Learn more [HERE](#).

ORGANIST WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 18, 2020

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Barnum, MN

Featuring: Kantor Richard
Resch

For more information or to register
for the workshop, email JACKIE or
call the church:

218-389-6849



\$20
Lunch &
Refreshments
will be served



Concordia University,
St. Paul

April 4th, 2020

This year's topic:
The Book of Judges

To learn more, visit the website:
mnbiblebowl.org

OR

Contact Pastor Breitbarth:
s.breitbarth@mchsi.com

DISASTER RESPONSE AND LERT TRAINING

Saturday, February 29, 9:00am to 3:00pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

2163 Mayhew Lake Road NE, Sauk Rapids MN 56379

Check in & coffee begins at 8:30am.

If you missed the February 10 deadline, late registrations can be done online. Fill out the online registration at LERT Training Attendance Sheet <<https://form.jotform.com/81215292634959>>. Please use class code 0068.

In the online registration process, you will be asked to take a picture of yourself using your device. This photo (driver's license style) will be used for the badges after the class. If you are unable to take a picture we can make arrangements on the day of the training but it may delay the processing time.

The cost is \$15 per person (materials and lunch). Pay at the door. Make checks payable: "Trinity Lutheran Church—DR Training". Congregations may send one check for their group.

Any questions, contact one of the MNN District Disaster Response Co-ordinators:

Rev. John Beck
john6beck@gmail.com
(320) 249-4012

Rev. Steve Breitbarth
s.breitbarth@mchsi.com
(218) 929-1110

To learn more about LCMS Disaster Response, go to:
<https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/disaster-response/resources>



SATURDAY, APRIL 25th 9am - 3pm

Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church, Rice, MN

REGISTER HERE

- ◇ CHURCH WEBSITES AND SOCIAL MEDIA ◇ ONLINE GIVING
- ◇ WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY ◇ PLUS... BUILDING SECURITY,
TREASURER WORKSHOP, AND MORE!
- ◇ CHURCH MANAGEMENT TOOLS

\$10 Registration Fee | Lunch will be served

Disaster Response in Rural and Small-Town Areas

Greetings! My name is Pastor Jim Daub, and I serve St. Paul Lutheran Church in Havelock, North Carolina. I have had the joy of being the pastor here for almost 18 years. On Sept. 13, 2018, our city was hit with the major brunt of Hurricane Florence. It was absolutely amazing to see the power that is in a hurricane. We sustained almost 36 hours of downpouring rain, and steady wind speeds of about 50–60 miles per hour, with gusts upwards of 100 miles per hour. Our community has about 20,000 residents, and a major air station for the United States Marine Corps. However, we are the only LCMS church within an hour in either direction.

We truly became an island unto ourselves. Many of the roads were either washed out, flooded, or had power lines and trees across them. It was a great challenge for people to get basic necessities, as well as items to help clean and muck out their homes. Many people did not think to have these supplies on hand because Hurricane Florence had been downgraded from a Category 5 storm

to a Category 1. The problem for many was that they did not heed the warning and became complacent in the days leading up to the storm. That complacency ended up hurting many people.

We were very blessed to become an

others. We didn't have major resources to begin with, being such a small parish, but the Lord was able to use us in a very mighty way.

I look forward to the opportunity to share with you more of my experiences of being in

“We didn't have major resources to begin with, being such a small parish, but the Lord was able to use us in a very mighty way.”

unofficial distribution center for supplies for our community at that time. It began with a load of 1/3 of the supplies from an Orphan Gran Train truck that was being loaded in St. Louis while we were in the midst of the storm. In addition to distributing the supplies from Orphan Grain Trian, I had the opportunity to work very closely with a county commissioner who called me each day to say what items he had available and to see how much of it our church family would be willing to accept to hand out to

the parsonage during the storm, how we were able to share the love of Jesus with others, and what things we learned to do and not to do in the event of another storm that might hit our coastal area. I invite you to join the webinar live on Feb. 13, or listen to the archive recording.

Contributed by:

Rev. Jim Daub, pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Havelock, N.C.

DIAL A PRAYER MINISTRY

“Dial A Prayer” (DAP), a daily message of Scripture with words of exhortations and prayer, is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Share your prayer requests with Pastor Nour [HERE](#). Hear the daily message by dialing:

605-724-2444

Rev. Nabil S. Nour is pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Armour SD and serves as the Great Plains Region Fifth Vice-President of the LCMS.



ATTENTION PARISH NURSES!

Be sure to mark your calendars :

MAY 20-21, 2020 - Parish Nurse Conference at Concordia University Wisconsin. “Filled to Overflow: Serving, Sharing and Telling” Learn more [HERE](#).

JUNE 8, 2020 - MN North District Parish Nurse Conference at Trinity Lutheran Church, New York Mills, MN. 9:00am - 3:00pm. More information and registration coming soon.

18th Annual Early Childhood Educators' Conference

March 6 & 7, 2020



Teaching Heart & Mind

Sponsored in conjunction with



Concordia
UNIVERSITY - SAINT PAUL



**LEARN
MORE HERE**



A MESSAGE FROM THE MN NORTH DISTRICT LIFE COORDINATOR

Rev. Jason Wolter, Benson, MN

When I look out the window, I am reminded of the Hundred Year Winter that took place in the magical land of Narnia. In his famous children's book, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (which is a wonderful read for adults, too), C.S. Lewis described the curse that had been cast over the land: it was "always winter, but never Christmas." C. S. Lewis never claimed to be a theologian. But he wrote extensively about theological things. He is considered (by most) to be the greatest apologist (defender / explainer of the Christian faith) of the 20th century. When Lewis wrote about the curse of Narnia's long winter, there was a reason why it "**was always winter but never Christmas**". Lewis, as an expert in literature and history, was building on the ancient concept of "**winter as death**".

Winter caused the leaves to die and fall. Winter buried the earth (at least the parts of the earth in a northern climate) in a tomb of white. Birds fled from it... and other animals hibernated in a death-like sleep. Almost nothing grows in the winter... and rarely is there seen anything that is green. (That's why Evergreen trees were used in ancient winter celebrations: as a reminder- and promise- that winter was not the end of all

life. Just as the Evergreen endured the grip of wintry "death", so also did the hope: that "life" would return when spring appeared.)

For Lewis, Winter represented death. And since God is the author and source of life, the Hundred-Year Winter represented the absence of God in the lives of God's people. But when Aslan, Narnia's King (in the book, a lion named "Aslan" represented Jesus Christ) finally returned to Narnia, so did Spring. The Winter gave way to an explosion of green grass, colorful flora and warm weather. Or, to put it another way: death gave way to life! Lewis' point was clear: Where God is... there is life. And if you have life in Him, death no longer has any power over you.

Each human life that is created by God bears His image... and was redeemed by His Son's death and resurrection. That's the reason why we (as Christians) love all of our neighbors... and pray for those who persecute us... and bless those who hate us: because each one of them is the handiwork of God. Whether or not they know God, He knows them: because He is the author, creator and redeemer of their lives. When we march... or stand... or pray... for Life: we are proclaiming that blessed truth: that each person- at every

stage of their life- is precious, because each life is the product of God's love. God is not only love... He is life.

Unlike the land of Narnia, our winters DO have a Christmas. And at that time, we celebrate the "Immanuel": the glorious, fulfilled promise that God is with us- and, with Him, is light and life. Although now, for a little while longer, we may still look out our windows and see snow all around us... we can still take heart: because we know that "Aslan is on the move!" (In other words, Jesus is with us now... and He is coming again.) When Spring finally arrives (probably sometime in May or June), it will not only signal the end of winter; it will also serve as a foreshadowing of the final Easter day to come: when death will be banished forever.

Therefore, as you wait for the sun of Spring to finally dawn on our land, may you not be dismayed by the winter that may- at times- seem like it will never end. Instead, may you remember that God is Life; and wherever He is, Life will prevail. He has consecrated each human life, giving it immeasurable worth. That is why we march... and stand... and pray. The Lord of Life has come... and He's coming again! Amen. Come Lord Jesus. Come.



Answering Their Questions

APOLOGETICS EVENT FOR PARENTS

MARCH 28, 2020, 9:00AM - 3:00PM

\$25/PERSON INCLUDES LUNCH, CALL 218/583-2905 TO REGISTER

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT EVOLUTION, THE TRUSTWORTHINESS OF THE BIBLE AND MORE

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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 available on a one account per investor basis only to new investors 18 and older who have not had an LCEF investment in the past 24 months. ConnectPLUS is not available to investors in Ohio and Pennsylvania. The State of Washington has adopted a regulatory position that currently prohibits residents of Washington State from opening a new investment unless they are already an LCEF investor and 18 years or older. Rates as of Oct. 2019. Balance restrictions apply. Rates subject to change. Visit lcef.org for details. 1019N058

MISSIONARY MINUTES



PUERTO RICO Missionaries in Puerto Rico are currently in disaster response mode after a series of earthquakes have affected many communities. Physical needs are being met, but the immediate need is for pastors and Christian counselors who speak Spanish. If you have those skills, and would like to volunteer your services for a week or two, [email Erin](#). If you would like to contribute financially to the ongoing efforts, there are two ways to do so. Contributions to LCMS Disaster Response (Puerto Rico) will aid some of the short term costs. Learn more [HERE](#). Contributions to the [FORO](#) will help with longer term efforts, including support for our alliance missionaries and for a much-needed local administrative staff person. Missionaries Rev. James and Christel (Ponce) are sharing regular updates on their [Facebook Page](#) and newsletter [HERE](#). See Pastor DiLiberto's (Mayaguez) newsletter [HERE](#)

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH AND SCHOOL, COTTON TREE LIBERIA Rev. James NS Kollie serves Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and School in Cotton Tree, Liberia. Here, students are enjoying lunch during a busy semester exam day. Pastor Kollie is pursuing a Doctorate Degree at CTS, Fort Wayne, IN, with hopes of then teaching pastors in Liberia. Jamesetta Kollie, a 2019 CSP grad is teaching at Pacific Lutheran School in Gardena, CA. Gifty Kollie (deaconess student at CUC) and Diane (in high school at Concordia Academy, Roseville, MN) are also studying in the US with plans to return to Liberia to use their education. Funds collected and disbursed to date for the School: \$134,807; for Pastor Kollie's education: \$51,695; for Jamesetta's education: \$10,031; and for Gifty's education: \$15,066. Donations can be sent to: MN North District, PO Box 604, Brainerd, MN 56401.



DAN & JOAN JASTRAM Pastor Jastram serves as a manager for theological education in Asia, based in Tokyo, Japan. Pastor Jastram shares: "I am tremendously excited in my work with the nine LCMS missionary colleagues serving on the Asia theological education team. It is time to plan this next cycle of theological education projects in our region. More than seventy projects have been submitted to me for consideration! — find it [HERE](#). Become a partner [HERE](#).

PROJECT 24 & CHRIST'S CARE FOR CHILDREN - KENYA Project 24 is an initiative of the LCMS Office of International Mission and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya. It provides boarding facilities in Kenya that give vulnerable children the opportunity to successfully complete primary or secondary school while living at a site, a home away from home. Missionary Britt Odemba states: "There's something different about Christ's Care for Children: Kenya compared with similar programs. I've seen how well the children are taught and what God is doing in their lives. It's exciting for me to be part of this program and to link people together across the world." Total Number of Students at the P24 sites: 190 children; Number of Students Sponsored as to date: 140. Find project newsletters [HERE](#) and [HERE](#). District support for Project 24 to date is \$111,934. Support for CCC: Kenya date is \$17,366.



Dr. Jim and Susan Kaiser are excited to extend the partnership between Lutheran Bible Translators and the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY). In the early 1980's, Susan helped establish a literacy program for the Loko people of Sierra Leone. Together with Jim they helped to translate the New Testament for the Kono people of Sierra Leone, and later the New Testament for the Chaldean people of Iraq. Jim now consults with six different translation projects and Susan provides care to other missionaries. Susan is a former member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Willmar. Learn more [HERE](#).



Support for any of these missionaries can be sent to: Minnesota North District—LCMS, PO Box 604, Brainerd, MN 56401 —earmarked for the [specific](#) mission or missionary.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 16-17, 2020	MN North District Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
February 25, 2020	Ministerial Health Commission Meeting, District Office
February 29, 2020	Disaster Response Training, Trinity, Sauk Rapids
March 14, 2020	MN North District Schools Knowledge Bowl, St. John, Thief River Falls
March 13-15, 2020	FORO—Puerto Rico
March 28, 2020	Apologetics for Parents, Lutheran Island Camp
April 4, 2019	State Bible Bowl, Concordia St. Paul
April 10 & 13, 2020	Easter Break, District Office Closed
April 17, 2020	Organist Workshop, Emmanuel, Barnum
April 25, 2020	MN North District Technology Workshop, Shepherd of the Pines, Rice
April 26, 2020	Brainerd Circuit Convocation, Prince of Peace, Baxter
May 3-4, 2020	MN North District Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
May 11-13, 2020	MN State Pastors Conference, Madden's in Brainerd
May 15, 2020	MN North District Schools Track Meet, St. Paul's, Perham
June 6, 2020	Parish Nurse Conference, Trinity, New York Mills
June 22-24, 2020	MN North District LWML Convention, Grand Rapids
July 14, 2020	LWML Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
August 19-20, 2020	New Workers Orientation, District Office
August 20, 2020	Retired Workers Luncheon, Brainerd
Aug 31– Sept 1, 2020	Circuit Visitors Conference, District Office
September 13-15, 2020	Fall Pastors Conference, Lutheran Island Camp
September 20-21, 2020	MN North District Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
October 13, 2020	LWML Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
November 20-22, 2020	MN North District Youth Gathering, St. Cloud

CHURCHES CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES

August 15-16, 2020	75 years	Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Cloud
October 11, 2020	100 years	Trinity Lutheran Church, Isle

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

IN OUR PRAYERS

The Family of Rev. Scott Muehlberg (Gethsemane, Snellman & St. John, Height of Land) who passed away after a battle with cancer on February 3, 2020.

The Family of Paul Berg (Emeritus DCE and CPH Ambassador) who passed away on February 3, 2020.

Cory and LeAnn Gregoire (deaconess student at CTSFW), Isle, at the loss of their unborn child.

Rev. Blake Rickbeil (St. Paul, Bertha) at the passing of his mother in January.

Rev. Don Wagner (Trinity, Deer Creek), having hip replacement surgery on February 28th.

Rev. Larry Cain (em. Cromwell) dealing with health issues.

John Kutter, Brother of Rev. Fred Kutter (Immanuel, Albany) continuing to deal with health issues.

Rev. Henry Koopman (em. Waite Park) recovering after heart surgery.

Mrs. Sheila Brustuen, wife of Rev. Keith Brustuen (St. Paul, Montevideo) recovering after hip surgery.

Rev. Mark Hesse (Grace, Sebeka & Nimrod, Nimrod) recovering after surgery.

Mrs. Mary Weber, wife of Rev. Dr. Karl Weber (St. John, Ottertail & St. Paul, Richville), diagnosed with cancer.

Mrs. Charlotte Kollie, wife of Rev. James Kollie (Good Shepherd, Cotton Tree, Liberia), dealing with health issues

Rev. Dean Stolz (Zion, Crosby & Immanuel, Iron Hub) dealing with health issues.

Rev. Fred Kutter (Immanuel, Albany), dealing with continued health issues.

Gary Bach (DCE at Trinity, New York Mills), undergoing cancer treatment.

George Miller, dealing with severe back pain.

Rev. Jim Meyer (cand. Thief River Falls), dealing with health issues.

Rev. David & Jenny Schoessow (Christ, Superior, WI), both dealing with health issues.

Rev. Ron Tibbets (em. Aitkin), dealing with health issues.

Rev. David Milz (St. John, Kimball), dealing with heart issues.

Rev. Victor Dorn, (em., St. Cloud), dealing with health issues.

Mrs. Jolene Wagner (St. Paul's Lutheran School, Perham), dealing with a blood disorder.

Rev. Paul Dare's (Zion, Alexandria) father, diagnosed with cancer.

The mother of Rev. Dennis McManus, facing a number of health issues.

Mrs. Martha Buchholz (wife of sainted pastor Rev. Henry Buchholz), Richville, who is having health issues.

Rev. Gunard Heikkila (em., New York Mills), who is recovering after surgery.

Mary Langemo Hughes (daughter of Rev. Martin & Carol Langemo, Princeton), who is suffering from hyperacusis.

Mrs. Melissa Martini-Tischer, wife of Rev. Steven Tischer (Zion, Princeton), diagnosed with sarcoidosis.

Rev. Robert and Mrs. Phyllis Volkert (em., Palisade), both dealing with health issues.

David Rickbeil (brother of Rev. Blake Rickbeil, St. Paul, Bertha), who has been missing for several months.

MN North District Seminary Students:

LeAnn Gregoire, Isle, Deaconess student at CTSFW

Gino Marchetti II, Elk River, student at CTSFW

Joshua Mork, Moorhead, student at CSL

Josef Muench, Duluth, on vicarage in Capistrano Beach, CA

Carl Seim, Elk River, SMP student at CSL

Stafford Thompson, Brainerd, on vicarage in Howard Lake, MN

Stephanie Wilde, Parkers Prairie, Deaconess student on internship in Puerto Rico

Those serving in the military & chaplaincy and part of our District family:

Rev. Noah Rogness, serving a Special Assignment in Washington DC, US Army Reserve

LT Geoffrey Gronewold, Active Duty Chaplain, US Army—North Carolina

Chaplain Captain Vincent Bain—Active Duty Chaplain, Fort Campbell, KY

Chaplain Lt. Aaron Bell, son-in-law of Pastor Tom and Mary Brinkley (St. Matthew, Esko) – Active Duty Chaplain—US Navy Camp Pendleton

Chaplain LCDR John Thomson – Active Duty Chaplain—US Navy Guam

Rev. Steve Breitbarth (em., Hibbing), LCMS endorsed Emergency Response Chaplain and Disaster Response Chaplain

Joshua Bonk, son of Rev. John Bonk and Linda Bonk —US Army

MSgt Jonathan Fondow, son of Pres. Don & Connie Fondow, Park Rapids—US Army

Ens. Michaela Biegner, granddaughter of Rev. Paul (em. Brainerd) and Joan Biegner, Pensacola, FL Flight School

Ensign Emily Geddes, granddaughter of Virginia Anson—US Navy Dennis Gerold, husband of DCO Abby Dawkins Gerold, US Air Force

Timothy Milo, son of Rev. Frank & Sue Milo, —MN National Guard

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

Missionaries 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)

Missionaries Dr. Jim and Susan Kaiser, serving with Lutheran Bible Translators in Ethiopia.



CALL UPDATE

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

CALLS ACCEPTED

FISHER/EUCLID, Trinity/St. Paul - Rev. Doug Thompson, Sierra Leone, West Africa accepted the Call. Installation 3/1/2020

SILVER BAY, Faith - Rev. Troy Peperkorn, Reinbeck, IA accepted the Call. Installation 3/1/2020

WOOD LAKE, St. Luke's - Rev. David Tilney, Cloquet, MN accepted the Call. Installation 4/5/2020

CALLING CONGREGATIONS

BARNESVILLE, St. John's

BELLINGHAM/CORRELL/ODESSA, Trinity/Grace/Trinity

BROWNS VALLEY/CLAIRE CITY, SD, Zion/Zion (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Larry Johnson) Calling a 2020 Seminary Candidate.

CROWN, Zion (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Don Polege) - Calling a 2020 Seminary Graduate

ELY/BABBITT, First/Good Shepherd (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Steve Breitbarth)

FERGUS FALLS/FRIBERG, Faith/Immanuel - Calling a 2020 Seminary Candidate

GRAND RAPIDS, First

MOORHEAD, Our Redeemer (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. George Krueger & Rev. Adam Harvala)

PEQUOT LAKES, Gloria Dei (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Mark Johnson)

ST. CLOUD/CLEAR LAKE, Faith/Trinity - Calling a 2020 Seminary Candidate

ST. CLOUD, Holy Cross (Senior Pastor) - Called Rev. Steve Schulz, Fargo, ND

ST. CLOUD, Redeemer (Associate Pastor) Calling a 2020 Seminary Candidate

VILLARD/GROVE LAKE, St. John/Trinity - Calling a 2020 Seminary Candidate.

OTHER CALLS AND CHANGES

Rev. Matthew Kohl to St. Paul, Lexington, IL. He declined the Call.

Rev. Tysen Bibb to St. Paul, Winside, NE/St. Paul, Carroll, NE. He declined the Call.

Rev. Mark Hesse to Zion, Eland, WI/St. Paul, Bowler, WI. He Accepted the Call.

Rev. John Bumgardner to Zion/St. Paul/St. John/Trinity, Neshkoro, WI. He accepted the Call.

Rev. George Morris to St. Paul's, Watertown, MN.

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CHANGES

CHURCH WORKER WELLNESS RESOURCES

In Our District:

CHURCH WORKER CARE

COORDINATOR: Rev. Paul Cloeter is available to provide a listening ear, sound advice and even professional referrals. He can be reached at (320) 333-6319 or paul.cloeter@mnnlcms.org

HEALTHY CHURCH WORKERS:

HealthyChurchWorkers.com exists to help ministers and their spouses to live the abundant life Jesus promised in John 10:10.

From the Synod:

CHURCH WORKER WELLNESS

ONLINE: Whether you are a church worker or spouse — or someone who loves those who are called to serve — the LCMS prays that these resources are helpful. Learn more [HERE](#).

Recognized Service Organizations:

DOXOLOGY: DOXOLOGY offers an innovative program of advanced study retreats to strengthen pastors for the task of faithfully shepherding the souls entrusted to their care. Doxology.us

GRACE PLACE WELLNESS:

Grace Place Wellness is a preventive wellness ministry that seeks to positively impact the ministry of Christian congregations. www.graceplacewellness.org

SHEPHERD'S CANYON

RETREAT: Shepherd's Canyon Retreat offers seven carefully designed days of individual, couple and group Christian counseling for church professionals and their spouses. shepherdscanyonretreat.org

FEBRUARY PRAYER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Rev. Dennis Schultz, Emeritus, Granite Falls	3 Rev. Dennis Schutte, Emeritus, Lutsen	4 Rev. William Stock- man, Emeritus, Maple Grove	5 Rev. David Strohschein, Emeri- tus, Sauk Rapids	6 Rev. Ronald Tibbetts, Emeritus, Aitkin	7
8	9 Rev. Robert Trinklein, Emeritus, St. Joseph	10 Rev. Loren Vogler, Emeritus, Kerrick	11 Rev. Robert Volkert, Emeritus, Palisade	12 Rev. Thomas Von Hagel, Emeritus, Maple	13 Rev. Daniel Wagner, Emeritus, St. Cloud	14
15	16 Rev. James Walburg, Emeritus, Alexandria	17 Rev. Arthur Weidner, Emeritus, Fargo	18 Rev. Donald Wilke, Emeritus, Alexandria	19 Rev. David Winter, Emeritus, Parkers Prairie	20 Rev. Fred Wippich, Jr., Emeritus, Detroit Lakes	21
22	23 St. John's, Ada - Rev. Ron Hobbie	24 Zion, Ada - Rev. Ron Hobbie	25 St. John, Aitkin - Rev. David Becker	26 Immanuel, Iron Hub, Rev. Dean Stolz	27 St. John, Akeley, Rev. Harvey Kietzman	28
29	30 Immanuel, Farming Twp. - Rev. Fred Kutter	31 Ebenezer, Leaf Valley - Vicar Scott Brown				

CONTACT US

Rev. Don Fondow, District President
Diana Ruopp, Admin. Ass't

don.fondow@mnnlcms.org
diana.ruopp@mnnlcms.org

Mission & Ministry Facilitators:

Rev. Jeffrey Lee [MaCO]
Rev. Monte Meyer [PLaN]

jeffrey.lee@mnnlcms.org
monte.meyer@mnnlcms.org

George Miller, LCEF/Office Manager
Bookkeeper - Angie Ringstrom
LCEF

george.miller@mnnlcms.org
angie.ringstrom@mnnlcms.org
lcef@mnnlcms.org

Church Worker Care Coordinator:

Rev. Paul Cloeter
paul.cloeter@mnnlcms.org

Congregational Care Counselor:

Rev. Dr. Larry Harvala
congregationalcare@mnnlcms.org

Lutheran Witness Editor

Rev. Philip Hoppe (320) 233-6138
the.lutheran.witness@mnnlcms.org

Gift Planning Counselor:

Mr. David Priebe
david.priebe@mnnlcms.org

District Secretary:

Rev. Marty Mably, Elk River
pastormarty@lordofglorylutheran.org

District Treasurer:

Mr. Mike Uran
treasurer@mnnlcms.org

Committee on Constitutions & District Memberships:

Rev. Ron Carnicom, Chairman (218/675-6532) constitution@mnnlcms.org



Minnesota North District
THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

Mail: PO Box 604, Brainerd, MN 56401-0604

Phone: 218/829-1781 800/482-5022

e-mail: mnndist@mnnlcms.org

Fax: 218/829-0037

website: www.mnnlcms.org