



INTERCOM / E-NEWS

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Volume 17, Issue 9

“W

hen you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen,

but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains” (Mark 13:7,8).

At times we all feel it: turmoil in our lives. Sometimes it is the feeling that life itself is out of control, sometimes that so much is just going wrong, at other times that the day is just too short for all we must do, or that we don't know what to do or where to turn. Turmoil often seems to be a part of life.

Turmoil is a part of this world. Just look around and see what is happening: a nation divided with riots and looting, attacks against law enforcement, destroying of property and committing murder; loss of life and destruction wrought by nature; more than 690 million people without food; people around the world are dealing with the pandemic and its implications; countries are building nuclear weapons; and terrorists are attacking. There certainly is a lot of uncertainty and many people are living in fear. Jesus says: **“These are the beginning of birth pains.”** There is no true peace in this world of turmoil, no real comfort or assurance that things will change, no lasting hope for those without Jesus.

But for those who believe in Christ, we know and live in the promise that God works all things out for the good of those who love Him. We know what the future will bring, and that the future is secure in Jesus. Signs of the last times, though frightening in their nature, remind us that Jesus will return to judge the world and that we will soon be in the presence of our God forever and ever. The more we see turmoil in the world, the more we know that we are going to experience the perfect peace of His presence.

As we see signs of the last times, as we experience some of the trouble and difficulties that accompany them, let us turn to the Word of God for guidance and strength. Let us trust in the promises Jesus gives us of His grace and help in time of need. He *is* coming soon. Expect Him at any time. **“Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophesy written in this scroll.”** (Revelation 22:7). May the assurance of His Word bring us true peace and comfort as well as strengthen us to live each day for Him, serving Him according to His will and showing forth the wonderful deeds of the One who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. We are safe in His arms. Everything is going to be alright.

President Fondow

*O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way
In fear and tribulation*

*O hear and grant our fervent plea:
Come, mighty judge, and set us free
From death and ev'ry evil.*

In this issue...

- 1- Message from Rev. Donald Fondow, District President
- 2- Ordinations & Installations
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ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS



Rev. David Tilney was Installed at St. Luke, Wood Lake, MN on Sunday, August 30, 2020.

Pictured are: Rev. Robert Friedrich; Rev. Dean Rager, Canby & Boyd; Rev. Kent Borglum, Montevideo; Rev. Jonathan Varns, Granite Falls; Rev. David Tilney; Rev. Matthew Canion, Willmar; Rev. Don Fondow, MN North District President and Rev.



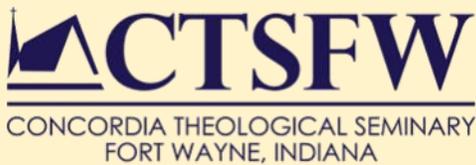
Rev. Joshua Reber was Ordained and Installed at Faith, St. Cloud, MN and Trinity, Clear Lake, MN on Sunday, September 6, 2020.

Pictured are: Rev. Timothy Magill, Villard & Grove Lake; Rev. Joseph McCalley, Columbia, MO; Rev. Tysen Bibb, St. Cloud; Rev. Bruce Timm, St. Cloud; Rev. Don Fondow, MN North District President; Rev. Joshua Reber; Rev. Mark Loder, Howard Lake; Rev. Brady Finnern, Sartell and Rev. Don Kirsch.



Rev. Noel A. Herr was Installed at St. John's, Madison, MN, on Sunday, September 6, 2020, at 4 p.m.

Pictured are: Rev Kent Borglum, Montevideo; Rev Matthew Canion, Willmar; Rev David Tilney, Woodlake, Rev Noel Herr, Madison; Rev Kirk Lee, MN North District Second Vice-President; Rev Dean Rager, Canby & Boyd; Rev Keith Brustuen, Montevideo and Rev Robert Friedrich.



Concordia Theological Seminary's Christ Academy: Timothy and Phoebe School program took place this summer from July 26 -August 2, 2020. Christ Academy consists of three important elements: confessional catechesis, liturgical worship and a fun life

together. This tradition of learning, worship, and fun provides an incredible experience for young men and women in high school, especially for those considering a future in church work.

We were delighted to have two students from your district attend Christ Academy this summer! These two students were **Alex and Matthew Ulschmid who are members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Evergreen, in Frazee, MN.**



"Christ Academy was very wonderful. I had a great time and made many friends." -Alex Ulschmid



"Christ Academy is an amazing retreat filled with very knowledgeable professors, many Christian friends and lots of inspirational services. I am so thankful to the entire staff for all of their efforts in making such a great retreat possible." -Mathew Ulschmid

FALL 2020 VIRTUAL LLL EVENT



WHEN & WHERE

SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

St. Mark Lutheran Church

414 15th St N
Benson, MN 56215

Open doors begins at 8:15 a.m.
Event concludes at 2:00 p.m.

Due to circumstances created by COVID-19, all registered participants will receive a link to attend the conference via Livestream from their own homes. Options for attending from home or in-person at the venue are available when registering.

AGENDA



OPENING DEVOTION
Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Speaker of The Lutheran Hour®



MINISTRY MESSAGE
Kurt Buchholz
LHM President & CEO



**MINISTRY UPDATE
& RESOURCES**
Rev. Dr. Tony Cook
Vice President, LHM Global Ministries



TRAINING AND Q&A
Rev. Dr. Jason Broge
LHM Director, Design & Development



HOST AND MC
Jennifer Prophete
*Manager, Community Development,
LHM Global Ministries*

Register at [LHM.ORG/LLL2020](https://lhm.org/LLL2020)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Presentation: "Spiritual Conversations" by Rev. Dr. Jason Broge.
Lunch will be served followed by a short business meeting.
For more information contact Glenn Borchers at (218-287-8049) or gacrbor@hotmail.com.
Online registration is open through September 21, 2020.

HOSTED BY: Minnesota North LLL District

TECH+

2nd Annual MN North District Technology Workshop... PLUS

This year's event has been **CANCELLED** due to continued limitations on gatherings because of COVID-19.
All registration fees will be refunded.

INTERESTED IN INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTRY?

Intentional Interim Ministry Training

Pastors are being offered training as transitional pastors for Intentional Interim Ministry beginning in October with 12, live, online, weekly sessions and considerable independent and small group work in connection with those sessions. *Deo volente*, they will meet face-to-face for a week-long, second half of the training at one of the following:

April 12--16, 2021, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis MO

April 19--23, 2021, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Stow, Ohio

April 26--30, 2021, Mt. Olivet Retreat Center, Farmington, Minnesota

May 10--14, 2021, PSD Office, Irvine, California

See details at [LuTMA.ORG](https://luta.org)

Available IIP's:

Need an interim pastor for a limited season for intentional goals? Check out the new and improved LCMS Clearinghouse.

The Clearinghouse is the place on the IMC-LCMS website where trained intentional pastors indicate their availability and mobility. [LINK TO CLEARINGHOUSE](#)

All DP's and Admin Assistants and requesting staff members were given accounts on the Clearinghouse at one time. If you need a new account or password, please let me know. Logon is at the bottom of page with your email as username.

Concordia Plan Services for Interims

You may know that Concordia Plans has provided a special group within the plans for Intentional Interims who change employers frequently. For follow up on this program click [HERE](#). This should be of encouragement to those who want to serve in transitional ministry but are worried about gaps in coverage.



A MESSAGE FROM THE MN NORTH DISTRICT LIFE COORDINATOR

Rev. Jason Wolter, Benson, MN

Have you ever heard of the “Right to Try”? I hadn’t... until I heard it mentioned during one of the recent political conventions. In essence, it makes it easier for patients to try experimental remedies for their terminal conditions. For a variety of reasons, some patients (in the past) have not been able to “try” alternative- or experimental- treatments. Now, apparently, they can.

I had not heard about this new “right” until just a few weeks ago; but I *have* heard about a number of different situations where parents were forbidden to get help for their children. In this article, I want to share their stories with you: in the hopes that you will see how “parental rights” are becoming one of the biggest “life” issues of our time.

Charlie Gard and Alfie Evans were both very young children. Living in England, they were subject to the regulations of the British health ministry and the High Court of that land. Both boys were afflicted with terrible diseases that were thought to be untreatable. But the parents wanted to keep trying. So, they reached out to the international health community. Dr. Hirano, an American specialist, offered to fly to England to examine Charlie. The British government wouldn’t allow it. Eventually, the British government relented and allowed Dr. Hirano to come. But it was too late. After examining Charlie, he said that- whatever chance Charlie might have had- it was gone now.

Charlie’s parents were first denied the treatments they sought on Jan. 16th, 2017. Over the next 6 months, Charlie’s parents fought this case, at every level of the British judiciary. On July 17th, Dr. Hirano was finally allowed to examine Charlie. After getting the bad news, Charlie’s parents gave up the fight on July 24th. On July 27th, Charlie’s ventilator was turned off. He died the next day. He was 11 months old.

The story of Alfie Evans is a similar one. He was a toddler who had a condition that appeared to leave him in a vegetative state. Therefore, his doctors advised the parents to turn off the machines that were keeping him alive. The parents refused. They wanted to take him to Italy, where a doctor there said that he had a procedure that could help Alfie. In fact, the Italian government even made Alfie a legal citizen of Italy, to make the process easier. But the British hospital (*and the British government*) refused to allow the fam-

ily to leave the country. After months of fighting- and losing- the family was forced to remove Alfie from life support. After Alfie refused to die, the parents renewed their pleas to allow them to get Alfie some help. And, again, they were refused. After 5 days, Alfie finally succumbed to his fate.

These are terrible and tragic situations. The deaths of these children are heartbreaking. But the misery of their parents was made even more awful: when they realized that they didn’t have the power to help their children. Their rights, as parents, were superseded by the British government. And that same situation is beginning to unfold here. Simply put: there are forces- gaining strength in our country- that believe “children belong to the State.” The government, including some schools, is now considered (by many) to be better guardians of a child’s health and well-being... than their own parents. Here are some examples of that:

Aug. 10, 2020: a Philadelphia public school teacher worried about ‘conservative’ parents listening in on virtual classes. He said conservative parents are his chief concern, when teachers are engaging “in the messy work of destabilizing a kid’s racism or homophobia or transphobia.”

Aug. 12, 2020: “a Dallas judge took away Jeffrey Younger’s say in his son James’ medical, psychological, and psychiatric care, giving that power to James’ mother, who wants to “transition” him into a “girl.”... his mother “will now be able to enroll the eight-year-old in school as a “girl” named “Luna” and subject him to transgender medical procedures... Judge Brown’s ruling came without the hearing that was scheduled to take place. There was no explanation why Judge Brown issued her order without the proper hearing.” As of now, the father’s ability to see his son may be contingent on whether or not he’s willing to “support” his son’s “transition” (*which the son has said- repeatedly- that he doesn’t want to do*), including being willing to pay the \$5,000 per month cost for “trans-counseling”.

May 26, 2017: “A mother’s lawsuit against a Minnesota school system for secretly helping her 15-year-old son “transition” to “female” was dismissed by a federal judge... her son’s school was secretly giving him female hormone treatments with funding from the government. She sued the school district, the county health board, and a local health care entity for violating her rights as

a parent... The judge went so far in downplaying parental rights as to rule that a parent’s access to their child’s medical and education records is a question to be solved.”

Speaking of Minnesota, we are one of the states that does not require parental consent for their daughters to receive birth control (**and abortion is considered “birth control”!**). The only requirement is that parents are notified that their daughter is getting it. But, if minors can get a “judicial bypass”, then parents don’t have to be notified that their daughter had an abortion.

Aug. 2, 2012: “The author of a California bill (that would forbid minors from seeking therapy to overcome unwanted feelings of same-sex attraction) has admitted his intention was to undermine parental rights. ‘**The attack on parental rights is exactly the whole point of the bill**, because we don’t want to let parents harm their children,’ said State Senator Ted Lieu, D-Torrance.” That bill passed. And in August of this year, the California legislature passed a bill that lowered the penalties for sexually abusing same-sex minors. Now, if a judge decides that it’s OK, an adult can have sex with a minor- and it won’t be a crime.

If you want to see where we’re headed, just look to Europe, from which most of our bad social experiments come from. In 2012, the High Court of Sweden took an 8-year old boy away from his parents. Why? Because they were homeschooling him. The government used his missed (mandatory) vaccinations as the justification for removing him from his home and terminating their parental rights. After that, his parents weren’t even allowed to see him. So, for the past 8 years, he has grown up as a ward of the State.

As the 4th Commandment makes clear, children are the God-given responsibility of their parents. But if we’re not careful- and vigilant- the government will continue to claim that responsibility for themselves. As you look ahead to the November elections, I urge you to consider this issue as one of the factors that you use to make your decision. By law, children in the womb are already considered property. But, unless our current trajectory changes, that will- soon- apply to children of all ages. May God have mercy... and work to prevent that from happening!

THE LORD'S PRAYER: "Our Father Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever and ever. Amen." (Matthew 6:9-13 NKJV)

(Patterned after Jesus' Prayer) Our awesome, gracious Father, Who is in Heaven, hallowed be Your Name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. As your loved children, we are thankful to come to You in sincere prayer, knowing You delight in us, and will receive and answer our prayer, as You know best and in Your good time because Your will is always best for us. We confess our sinfulness and ask that You please forgive us by Your grace, which is Your undeserved love, through Your Holy Spirit's gift of saving faith in Your Son, JESUS, the sinful world's only Savior. We are so thankful He expressed His divine grace and human love by living a perfect life of love in thought speech, and behavior in our place, to satisfy Your holiness. Then He suffered, bled, and died on the cross to take the punishment of temporal death and eternal death in hell, we deserve, to satisfy Your justice. Then, He miraculously rose again bodily on the third day, as He promised, announcing His Salvation Mission was finished as the Victor over all sinfulness, temporal and eternal death, and all the power of the devil, his evil angels, and his evil human followers. We are so thankful for our full and free salvation that gives us daily comfort, encouragement, hope, and peace as we think about our own deaths, and experience the death of our family members, relatives, and friends. As our compassionate and understanding Shepherd, He also comforts and encourages us concerning the death of our animals and pets.

Striving to follow our Savior's example of faithful Godliness, please enable us to be aware of, and to resist, the devil's temptations to sin. Bless us with growing, maturing faith through our daily use of Your Word, remembering our Baptisms, receiving Holy Communion often, sincere prayer, and fellowshiping with dedicated Christians, including faithful, regular participation in Worship Services, Sunday School, and Bible classes, as we are able. Help us to express our saving faith in love and grace by forgiving ourselves, and those who sin against us, as we have been forgiven. Deliver us from all evil at Jesus' Return for Resurrection and Judgment Day, or at our deaths. Our precious deaths and His Second Coming will not be for our punishment, but Your method of welcoming us to Yourself, into our sinless, glorious, eternal home in

Heaven, that Your Son has prepared for us and all Christians. Please help us by the power of Your indwelling Holy Spirit, guided by Your Word of Truth, and comforted by Jesus' Presence, to try our best to willingly, thankfully, joyfully, peacefully, and faithfully express our growing faith, in our thoughts, speech, singing, behavior, jobs, and all kinds of loving service. We need Your Holy Spirit to recognize, develop, and use Your gifts of various talents, with the opportunities, time and resources You provide, to imitate our Savior's perfect love to You and His amazing grace to us and our neighbors, born and unborn, for Your ultimate honor, praise, and glory.

Your purposes for putting our faith into practice include Jesus' gift and privilege of praying for ourselves, and praying for, loving, encouraging, comforting, and serving fellow believers, and for giving You thanks. Also, to do our part in letting Your Kingdom come, we pray for unbelievers, sharing the Gospel of Christ, and inviting them to repent and believe in Jesus and to live for Him, which includes meaningful, faithful membership in Christian home congregations. Actually, You want us to pray for all people in their particular needs, with special mention made of those in authority.

Please give us this day our daily bread, which includes all Your undeserved, bodily blessings needed for our temporary, earthly lives, that we are to pray for this day and every day. We realize that our daily bread includes Your blessings of the preciousness of life, sight, hearing, feeling, smelling, tasting, food, drink, clothing, physical and mental health, good attitudes, wisdom, common sense, music, singing, patience, character, honesty, discipline, courage, family, relatives, friends, house, transportation, income, good weather, good government, law and order, freedom, justice, honest news, protection, guidance, memories, proper care, including medicine, surgery, and healing from all the painful suffering due to various health, relational, weather issues and, or other difficult life circumstances. Also, daily bread is to remind us that Jesus is the Bread of Life, Who teaches us that we are not to try and live by bread alone, but by every Word that comes from the mouth of God so that we have our spiritual faith nourished and maintained, which is needed for abundant living now and for our glorious, eternal, heavenly lives with You. Since our health and lives are always in Your gracious care and control, we can express our faith by rejoicing and giving You heartfelt thanks because You promise to make everything, good and bad, work together for our good, even when we don't understand. Whatever suffering we experience now is not worth being compared to the glory awaiting us in our



Reaching Rural America for Christ

The Church Shall Stand

This issue of *Reaching Rural America for Christ*, the newsletter from LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission, highlights how churches can move out of "survival mode" and joyfully carry out God's mission despite difficult circumstances.

The newsletter discusses why it is important to plan now to determine how you can best use the resources God has blessed you with in order to share His Good News.

[Read September 2020 newsletter >>](#)

Webinars

"Thinking Outside the Box: Partnerships" — [1 to 2 p.m. Central time, Thursday, Sept. 24](#). Presenter: Rev. Tom Schlund, senior pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Algona, Iowa.

"Technology and the Church in Rural and Small-Town Areas" — [1 to 2 p.m. Central time, Thursday, Oct. 15](#). Presenter: Matthew Bergholt, coordinator of LCMS School Ministry.

"Deaconesses and the Rural and Small-Town Congregation: Partnership and Ministry Models" — [1 to 2 p.m. Central time, Thursday, Nov. 19](#). Presenter: Deaconess Faith Swenson of Fairbank, Iowa.

[View webinar schedule, archives >>](#)

wonderful, eternal home in heaven.

We especially ask for Your Presence and blessings concerning _____.

Since You, dear heavenly Father, are the only Giver of all good and perfect gifts for this life as well as for the eternal, heavenly life to come, including the prayers of Jesus and the Holy Spirit, and the ministry of Your holy angels, we give You thanks, praise, and honor. Since You are the one, true, living God together with Jesus and the Holy Spirit, without any doubt or question, Yours is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever and ever. Amen.

Prepared by Rev. Dane Werley Compton, EM of Garfield, MN on Thursday, September 3, 2020



Biblical Worldview Conference – Chicago

The Christian Church amid Seismic Shifts

Saturday, Sept. 26, 2020

St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lombard, IL 60148

Crucial & timely presentations by five Christian scholars

Attend in-person or online
For students, faculty,
teachers, ministers

- Dr. Gene Edward Veith** “COVID-19 and Disembodied Humanity”
and “COVID-19, Power Politics & the Death of Education”
- Dr. Paul Wendland** “The Transgenderism Incursion: What to Think, How to Love”
- Dr. A. Andrew Das** “Preparing Our Young People for the University”
- Dr. Ryan MacPherson** “The Distinction between Rendering to Caesar and Resisting Tyranny”
- Missionary Karim Yaghleji** “All Christians Are One Body in Christ”

- 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., CST.
- Cost: **\$30 in-person** (includes box lunch), **\$20 online**. Student online discount: **\$10**.
- Registration & info: www.WorldviewChicago.org. Or call 630-627-2345 (leave contact information if no one answers).
- St. Timothy can host 70 people **in-person** (25% capacity). When 70 have registered to attend in-person, please attend online.
- NOTE: Those registering to attend **in-person** should register by **Sept. 21** to be assured a box lunch.

SCHEDULE

- 8:45 a.m. Welcome
- 9:00 a.m. **Missionary Karim Yaghleji** – “All Christians Are One Body in Christ”
- 10:20 a.m. **Dr. Gene Edward Veith*** – “COVID-19 and Disembodied Humanity”
– “COVID-19, Power Politics, & the Death of Education”
- 11:50 a.m. Lunch Break (50 minutes)
- 12:40 p.m. **Dr. Ryan MacPherson** – “The Biblical Distinction between Rendering to Caesar & Resisting Tyranny”
- 2:00 p.m. **Dr. Paul Wendland*** – “The Transgenderism Incursion: What to Think, How to Love”
- 3:20 p.m. **Dr. A. Andrew Das** – “Preparing Our Young People for the University”
(each presentation will be followed by a break)

*Due to travel complications, Dr. Veith and Dr. Wendland will be presenting remotely.

Registration & info: www.WorldviewChicago.org. Or call 630-627-2345 (leave contact information if no one answers).



About the Gathering Theme

Countless hours of research, prayer and discussions were poured into the In All Things Thematic Development and Talking points. In All Things is a reminder that the Christian story encompasses all things. Nothing, and no one, is left out. In baptism, all things in our lives are brought under the gracious rule and reign of Jesus Christ. The story includes all of each of us. Christ is the single “big idea” in Paul’s letter to the Colossians, and he will be the single big idea at the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering.

Held every 3 years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God’s people to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus Christ and learn about the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity. [LEARN MORE](#)



CONCORDIA SEMINARY



Second annual Give Green and Gold Day set for Sept. 28 Gifts support student aid; matching gift doubles impact

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 11, 2020—The second annual Give Green and Gold Day, set for Sept. 28, will give friends of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis an opportunity to support the Seminary and its students during one 24-hour period of giving. Thanks to a matching gift, donors will be able to double their gifts on Give Green and Gold Day dollar for dollar up to the first \$10,000 raised.

“We are excited for this year’s Give Green and Gold Day as we get back to school during these most unusual times,” said Vicki Biggs, senior vice president of Seminary Advancement. “Gifts received on this special day of giving are earmarked for student aid and will be used to provide tuition grants to residential ministerial formation students. We are so grateful for the many friends who will rally around our students on this special day and support them in preparing for their future ministry among people in need of the Gospel around the world in a time like no other.”

This year’s Give Green and Gold Day goal is to raise \$25,000. Individuals also can show their support for the Seminary’s Give Green and Gold Day by spreading the word on social media using the hashtag #GiveGreenandGold and by sharing the giving link, grouprev.com/givegreenandgold2020.

“With the success of our inaugural Give Green and Gold Day last year, we know that our donors, new or returning, will make this year even greater,” said Megan Duncan, manager of annual giving and Give Green and Gold Day campaign manager. “Gifts of all sizes that support our students are greater than gold — they are blessings!”

About Concordia Seminary

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis provides Gospel-centered graduate-level theological education for pastors, missionaries, deaconesses, scholars and other leaders in the name of <https://www.lcms.org/>. To learn more, visit csl.edu.



CONNECTED BY CHRIST

A lender who shares your
Lutheran beliefs

Since 1978, Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) has been the financial partner for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). During that time, we've specialized in loans for church workers, congregations and Recognized Service Organizations.

This means we love our borrowers and understand LCMS ministries like no other lender can. That's why when the pandemic hit, we developed numerous unique resources to address our borrowers' specific needs.

DISCOVER HOW LCEF CAN HELP YOU.
**CONTACT YOUR DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT
OR VISIT [LCEF.ORG/REMEDY](https://lcef.org/remedy) TODAY.**

Rev. Jeff Lee

LCEF District Vice President | Minnesota North
218-829-1781 | Jeff.Lee@lcef.org

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. 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. Lutheran Church Extension Fund—Missouri Synod, 10733 Sunset Office Drive, Suite 300, St. Louis, MO 63127-1020. 800-843-5233. lcef.org. NMLS #3444. Illinois Residential Mortgage Licensee (MB.0006057). Loans made or arranged pursuant to a California Law License 6037619. For more information on LCEF's lending license go to lcef.org/state-disclosures/.

MISSIONARY MINUTES



Tropical Storm Isaiás was the biggest storm the team has experienced this year. Neighborhoods that never experienced flooding were flooded during the storm because of the large amount of rain that came in a short period of time. The most damage experience by the storm was seen in Mayaguez Evangelist William Torres' home was flooded. The mission team was able to help clean and clear his home. The team also helped clean mud and cut branches for Principe de Paz church members and their neighbors. The month of August has been spent preparing for hurricanes by buying supplies and counting inventory in order to be prepared for any possible hurricanes. 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. Prince of Peace, Mayaguez facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ilpdp/>. Find the latest newsletter from Ponce [HERE](#). Follow James and Cristel Neuendorf [HERE](#).

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH AND SCHOOL, COTTON TREE LIBERIA Students are back at the school to finish the 2019/2020 school year and complete exams (see photo). Pastor Kollie shares: *"We are struggling for water now since our pump got burned two months ago. Please also continue to pray for our teachers. We have not paid them for the past four months. Thanks for your support."* The photo below shows roof work happening on the new high school building. 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 working towards a Master's Degree. 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: \$136,121; for Pastor Kollie's education: \$51,695; for Jamesetta's education: \$10,161; and for Gifty's education: \$15,323. Donations (specifically designate on the memo line) 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. Besides the deeply embedded cultural and religious barriers that the Christian faith encounters in Asia, your LCMS missionaries are also facing new COVID-related barriers. Presently, access to project funds, including those for translation work that Dan is eager to coordinate, will not be available, if at all, until September at the very earliest. Learn more [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. The Kenyan government has mandated all schools remain closed until January 1, 2021. What does that mean for the students of Project 24? We will continue to support the students as we have been doing since the pandemic began and the students were sent back to their care givers. The students and their families/care takers will continue to receive food/provisions at the beginning of each month and the ELCK leadership teams and or Project 24 site managers are visiting the students a second time as well. During these "wellness visits", they are studying Bible passages, singing songs, praying and offering support to the extended families/care takers of the students. This is the first time that the leaders have had the opportunity to build this type of relationship with the extended families of the students. For some of the extended family members, this is the first time they are getting to know Jesus! Total Number of Students at the P24 sites: 190 children; Number of Students Sponsored as to date: 107. **Project 24 & CCC Kenya have launched a Facebook page!! Keep up with what is happening with these ministries on a day-to-day basis [HERE](#).** District support for Project 24 to date is \$112,034. Support for CCC: Kenya to date is \$17,366.

**PROJECT
24
KENYA**



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.



CALL UPDATE

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

CALLS ACCEPTED

MOORHEAD, Our Redeemer—Rev. David Samuel Pitsch accepted the Call. Installation September 20, 2020

CALLING CONGREGATIONS

ALBANY, Immanuel (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. David Steege)

BARNESVILLE, St. John's (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Gary Rehborg)

BELLINGHAM/CORRELL/ODESSA, Trinity/Grace/Trinity - Called Rev. Ben Siebert, Lincoln, KS. He declined the Call.

CROWN, Zion (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Jake Gillard)

EDEN VALLEY, St. Paul (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Jack Baumgarn)

ELY/BABBITT, First/Good Shepherd (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. John Grohs) Called Rev. Joshua Haller, Fairgrove, MI. He declined the Call.

GRAND RAPIDS, First (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Steve Breitbarth)

HINCKLEY (KROSCHER), St. John

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

RED LAKE FALLS/PLUMMER, St. John/Redeemer

ST. CLOUD, Holy Cross (Senior Pastor) - Called Rev. Daniel Deardoff, Sr., Brandon, SD. He declined the Call.

SEBEKA/NIMROD/N. GERMANY TWP, Grace/Nimrod/Zion (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Dr. Larry Harvala)

SNELLMAN/HEIGHT OF LAND, Gethsemane/St. John

OTHER CALLS AND CHANGES

Rev. Joshua Reinke received a Call to Peace & Christ Lutheran Churches, Great Falls, MT.

Rev. Brady Finnern received a Call to St. Johns, Ludington, MI. He declined the Call.

Rev. Kevin Mann received a Call to Peace, Fort Wayne, IN. He accepted the Call.

Rev. Tysen Bibb received a Call to St. Paul and St. Paul, Winside and Carroll, NE. He declined the Call.

Rev. George Sagissor retired on September 1, 2020.

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CHANGES

Tiffany Hartfield (teacher) accepted a Call to Zion Lutheran Church & School, Alexandria. She was installed on September 13, 2020.

CHURCH WORKER WELLNESS RESOURCES

In Our District:

CHURCH WORKER CARE

COORDINATOR: Rev. Paul Cloeter is available to provide a listening ear, sound advice and 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. There are openings in both the July and August retreats. shepherds canyonretreat.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 21, 2020	Fall Pastors Conference, ONE DAY ONLY
September 27-28, 2020	MN North District Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
October 13, 2020	LWML Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
December 6-7, 2020	MN North District Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
December 10, 2020	District Nominating Committee Meeting
January 25-26, 2021	Circuit Visitors Conference, Lutheran Island Camp
February 14-15, 2021	MN North District Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
March 13, 2021	Floor Committee Meetings at the District Office
April 11, 2021	MN North District Board of Directors Meeting, Madden's
April 12-14, 2021	MN North District Convention—Madden's on Gull Lake
April 17, 2021	MN State Bible Bowl, Concordia University, St. Paul
April 20, 2021	LWML Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
June 7, 2021	MN North District Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
July 13, 2021	LWML Board of Directors Meeting, District Office

CHURCHES CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES

October 11, 2020

100 years

Trinity Lutheran Church, Isle
Celebration will be rescheduled

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

IN OUR PRAYERS

The family of Gunard Heikkila (em. New York Mills), who passed away on August 23, 2020.

Rev. Tom Puffe (St. John, Thief River Falls & Zion, Warren) and family at the birth of a grandson, Hudson Beau Duppong on August 26, 2020.

Rev. Robin Collins (Trinity, Staples), recovering after a stroke. Follow Pastor Collin's recovery journey on [CaringBridge](#).

Rev. Tim Schiller (Good Shepherd, Alexandria), recovering after illness.

Rev. Jeff Lee (MN North District Office), recovering after knee replacement surgery.

Rev. Steve Breitbarth (em. Hibbing), recovering after surgery.

Mrs. Virginia Ansorge, dealing with health issues.

Mrs. Joan Buchhop, wife of Rev. Dr. Mark Buchhop (em. Detroit Lakes), dealing with health issues.

Lucas Bibb, son of Rev. Tysen Bibb (Holy Cross, St. Cloud), recovering after surgery.

Mrs. Sue Zeige, wife of Rev. Bill Zeige (em., Grand Rapids), recovering after foot surgery.

Mrs. Joanne Wilke, wife of Rev. Don Wilke (em., Alexandria), recovering after surgery.

Mrs. Ann Frederickson, wife of Rev. Bruce Frederickson (em. Brooten), dealing with health issues.

Rev. Michael Breach (St. John, Wheaton), dealing with health issues.

Rev. Jack Baumgarn (em. New London), recovering after back surgery.

Rev. Roy Hasbargen (em. St. Cloud), dealing with health issues.

Rev. Fred Kutter (em. Albany), recovering after surgery.

Rev. Norm Hanan (em. Annandale), dealing with health issues.

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

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

Rev. Henry Koopman (em. Waite Park) dealing with health issues.

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

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

George Miller, dealing with severe back pain.

Rev. Jim and Mrs. Bev Meyer (Thief River Falls), dealing with health issues.

Jenny Schoessow, wife of Rev. David Schoessow (Christ, Superior, WI), who is dealing with health issues.

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

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

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

The mother of Rev. Dennis McManus (em. New Germany), facing a number of health issues.

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

Mary Langemo Hughes, daughter of Rev. Martin Langemo (em. 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:

Jordan DeBoer, Crookston, studying at CTSFW

LeAnn Gregoire, Isle, Deaconess student at CTSFW

Josef Muench, Duluth, studying at CTSFW

Erik Saunders, Grand Marais, studying at CTSFW

Carl Seim, Elk River, SMP student at CSL

Berett Steffen, Spicer, studying at CTSFW

Michael Thomas, Parkers Prairie, studying at Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines, Ontario

Stafford Thompson, Brainerd, studying at CTSFW

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

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

LT Geoffrey Gronewold, Active Duty Chaplain, US Arm, North Carolina

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

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

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

MSG 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 Ansorge—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

Staff Sgt Nathaniel Vrudny, son of Rev. Matthew & Bonnie Vrudny, Walker, with the Army Reserve Engineering unit at Ft. Snelling, MN.

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.

OCTOBER PRAYER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Redeemer, Osakis - Rev. James Walburg, VP	2 St. John, Ottertail - Rev. Dr. Karl Weber	3
4	5 First English, Park Rapids - Rev. Chris Davis	6 St. John's, Park Rapids - Rev. Jim Neubauer & Rev. Joel Newton	7 Immanuel, Parkers Prairie - Rev. Kirk Lee	8 St. James, S. Effington - Rev. Scott Brown	9 St. Paul, Miltona - Rev. Terry Finnern, VP	10
11	12 Zion, North Effington - Rev. Dennis Angland	13 Gloria Dei, Pequot Lakes - Rev. Mark Johnson, VP	14 St. John, Perham (Corliss) - Rev. Jared Nies	15 St. Paul's, Perham - Rev. Andrew Ratcliffe	16 St. John, Pierz - Rev. David Franzmeier	17
18	19 Zion, Pine City - Rev. Glen Kleppe	20 Redeemer, Plummer - vacant	21 Zion, Princeton - Rev. Steven Tischer	22 St. Peter, Randall - Rev. Joseph Crosswhite, III	23 St. John, Red Lake Falls - vacant	24
25	26 Shepherd of the Pines, Rice - Rev. David Edge	27 St. Paul, Richville - Rev. Dr. Karl Weber	28 St. Paul, Royalton - Rev. Greg Tomhave	29 St. John, Rush City - Rev. Tim Renstrom	30 Trinity, Sabin - Rev. Brett Hartwig	31

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