



INTERCOM / E-NEWS

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Volume 18, Issue 10

The state of Nebraska has an odd tourism tagline: “Nebraska, it isn’t for everyone”. I hear that it started as just a tongue in cheek comment that took off. In the movie *Unforgiven*, there is a line: “I thought I was dead till I found out it was just that I was in Nebraska.” Hubert Humphrey once said that Minneapolis would just be a cold Omaha without a major league sports team. Don’t get me wrong, I resided in Nebraska for 7 years and found many wonderful people, but I have to agree – Nebraska is not for everyone!

What in the world happened that Nebraska had become such a place that even their department of tourism says that it “Isn’t for everyone”? Honestly, I have been in some churches that it seems that could be their tagline as well. “St. John Lutheran Church – it isn’t for everyone.”

Can you imagine changing John 3:16 to read: “For God so loved SOME people that He gave His one and only Son.”? Or how about: “Go and Make disciples of a select group of nations”? Or I have heard, from time to time in congregations that I have served, that we really needed to make a special effort to bring “THAT family” into the church. Or when you stand up for the faith and people leave, you may hear the comment that we lost some “really good givers” as if we should change our position to bring in the dollars.

The truth is: God sent His Son to pay the price for the sins of the whole world. But the whole world has not accepted that gift of life and salvation from GOD. The Church exists to boldly and faithfully proclaim the truth that Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life and that NO one comes to the Father apart from Jesus. There is no other name under heaven by which we are saved. That doesn’t mean we become selective in who we share that message of salvation with so that only the “beautiful people” are saved.

We share that Good News with everyone, but we also recognize that there are people who will reject that Good News. People will fashion a god in their own image rather than to celebrate Christ in them. Our nation is becoming hostile to the truth of Holy Scriptures, but we can’t take the attitude that “Christ isn’t for everyone”. We don’t discover the truth by turning inward and getting in touch with our feelings. We need to spend more time looking to the Author and Perfector of our faith. We need to fix our eyes on Jesus. We need to spend more time in the Bible reading it and learning it. We are brought to the waters of Baptism and received into this Holy Nation as a people whose citizenship is in heaven yet residing here in this place and time to share the Hope that we have in the sacrificial gift of God’s Son that covers the guilt of all of our sins. We come to the Altar and confess with the saints there gathered that this IS His Body and His Blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of our sins. As brothers and sisters in the Church, we support and encourage each other as well as admonish and correct each other so that we all grow up into Christ who is our Head. There is no place for the arrogant conclusion that the “Church isn’t for everyone”. In all humility, I have to confess that I don’t deserve to be a part of the body of Christ or a member of his Holy Christian Church. The Holy Spirit called me by the Gospel and brought me into this fellowship. That Holy Spirit continues to call, gather and enlighten the whole Christian Church and keeps it in the one true faith. In this church He daily and richly forgives me all of my sins and the sins of all believers. On the last day, He will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE.

In His Service,

Rev. Jeffrey A. Lee

In this issue...

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DISTRICT NEWS

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INSTALLED AT LIC

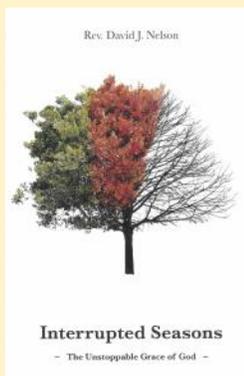
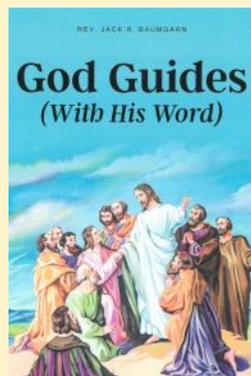
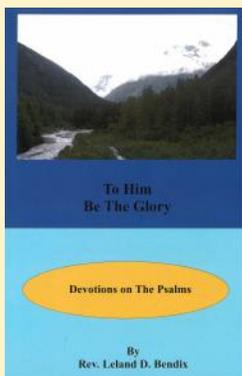
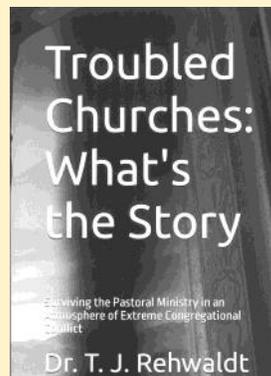
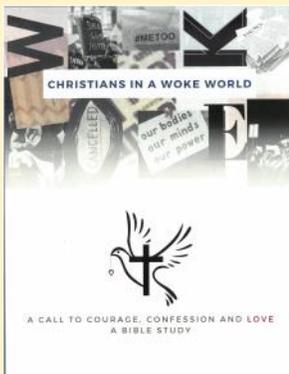
Stacy Lung was installed as the new Executive Director at Lutheran Island Camp on Monday, September 20, 2021 during the MN North District Fall Pastors' Conference. Stacy has already dedicated several years of service to LIC and Christ Serve Ranch. She is an educator, having taught in a variety of venues from high school science classrooms to online settings with both Kepler and classical Christian education. She currently serves as adjunct faculty for Trinity International University. Stacy and her family live in Perham, MN and attend St. Paul's Lutheran Church. She loves the outdoors, a testimony and witness to God's creative hand. Our District gives thanks to Kenneth Erlandson for his many years of service to LIC and is grateful to welcome Stacy to provide continued leadership and direction. To stay on top of Camp News, visit their [Facebook Page](#) or contact the LIC office to be added to the email distribution list.



DID YOU KNOW?

Several Pastors in the Minnesota North District have published books! These devotion, bible study and resource books are sure to enhance your library. Click the links below to purchase on Amazon:

- [God Guides, Baumgarn](#)
- [Christians in a Woke World, Dare](#)
- [Interrupted Seasons, Nelson](#)
- [Troubled Churches: What's the Story, Rehwaldt](#)
- To Him Be the Glory, Bendix (no longer in print)



TRAVEL TO GERMANY OPPORTUNITY

Next summer, Pastor Jason Wolter (St. Mark's, Benson) will be hosting a theologically-themed trip to Germany. The itinerary includes trips to Luther's monastery in Erfurt, Eisenach, Wittenberg and Wartburg Castle. There will also be a visit to the Buchenwald concentration camp and a day in either Munich or Berlin. The Oberammergau Passion Play (*which has been presented once every 10 years since 1634*) is also included. The cost (*before any discounts*) is \$4,350. For more information, contact Rev. Wolter (jwolter78@hotmail.com) or go to: www.purposefuljourneys.org.

LUTHERAN MISSION ASSOCIATION

Lutheran Mission Association is an organization which began in International Falls, MN in 2001. The purpose of the group is to assist in the spreading of the Gospel in Haiti. Rev. Eliona Bernard is the District President of the North District of Haiti and head of Haiti's Lutheran (ELCH) Seminary. He is also President of ELCH's Synod, which is in altar and pulpit fellowship with LCMS. Through him, LMA has helped with schools and churches in Haiti and a few folks of LMA go to Cap Haitien every year. Recently, an ELCH church / school in DonDon was damaged by a small earthquake, and it needs to be rebuilt with a more earthquake resistant foundation at a cost of \$140,000.

99 percent of the money raised by LMA is spent on the North District of ELCH--the LMA's visitors even pay for their own trips. You can find out more about LMA at their website lmamnn.org or call the president of LMA, Mrs. Lori Salvhus, at 218-261-0937 or the treasurer, Mrs. Lil Spilde at 218-760-6129. Either of those two people would be happy to come to your congregation and give a presentation on LMA's work in Haiti.



in all things

JULY 9-13, 2022 | HOUSTON, TX

We greatly appreciate your patience as we have worked diligently to provide a Gathering Registration program. We hope the program will serve Adult Leaders well.

We are excited to announce online data entry for Gathering participants is now OPEN!

As a reminder, this is for online data entry only. Do not mail your registration materials to the Gathering Office until November 1. Materials postmarked before November 1 will be returned to congregations and registration will be delayed.

Before beginning your online data entry, please refer to the Gathering Registration Book found on the website.

[REGISTRATION BOOK >>](#)

There are a number of resources available online to aid in your registration process. Please read each resource carefully before entering in data or sending in registration materials.

[REGISTRATION RESOURCES >>](#)

If you still have questions regarding your group's registration, please email or call the Gathering Registration Office at nygregistration@lcms.org or 314-996-1155.



This year's Lutheran schools' theme, "In All Things", is based on Colossians 1:15-20 "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. "

"And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."

As we near the end of our first quarter of the school year at Our



Savior's Lutheran School in Crookston, we recognize that everything that we do is possible because He is **in all things**. The cheerful students that enter our doors each day share the joy that is in them. The loving guidance and patience that the teachers and staff have for the students is evidence that Christ is in all things. Though we encounter frustrations and difficulties, we remember daily that we have a loving and forgiving Lord who is with us at all times.

We are so grateful for the support of our congregation, community, and MN North District. The prayers, gifts, and kind words that are sent our way do so much to help the ministry of our school.



Concordia Seminary
ST. LOUIS

Doctor of Ministry Program debuts updated curriculum

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis recently converted its Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) Program to an online format and updated the program's curriculum to better serve pastors who are currently serving in ministry.

The online format allows pastors who are currently serving in ministry to gain new knowledge and tools while they continue to serve.

"The advancement of technology has provided us with more innovative ways to deliver the academic experience," said Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program Dr. Mark Rockenbach. "I believe that pastors who participate in the Doctor of Ministry Program at Concordia Seminary will be reinvigorated by the experience, and it will deepen their ability to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ within the context they have been called to serve."

The D.Min. Program equips men in parish ministry with a higher level of competence in the practice of pastoral ministry. Students gain the skills to apply rigorous scholarship and theology to contemporary issues within their ministry context and to become well-respected scholar-practitioners in their ministry field.

All application materials must be received, in their entirety, by Feb. 28 (Nov. 30 for international students) each year in order for an applicant to be considered for admission. Courses begin the following summer after enrollment. The applicant ordinarily will have a M.Div. degree and three years of experience in the parish or related ministry.

For more information, visit our website or contact the admissions team at 800-822-9545 or gradschooladm@csl.edu.



A MESSAGE FROM THE MN NORTH DISTRICT LIFE COORDINATOR

Rev. Jason Wolter, Benson, MN

One of the things that continually surprises me... is how little information people have about abortion. We know that we oppose it; but- often times- we don't really understand what it is or how it happens. With that in mind, this month's message will consist of two parts: 1) giving the facts about what happens when a child is aborted; and, 2) giving the Biblical / doctrinal reasons for opposing it. Some of this information may be unpleasant to hear, but it's stuff we need to know if we're going to be able to have constructive conversations with those who are open to changing their mind on the subject.

When it comes to ending the life of an unborn child, there are multiple ways to do it (depending on how old the child is). In the first trimester, the most common ways of ending the child's life are the Suction Method, the D & C Method and RU-486 ("the morning after pill"). The Suction Method uses a flexible tube, with sharp blades on the end of it, to dissect the child and vacuum her out of the womb. The D & C Method uses a sharp, curved knife to scrape the child off of the uterine wall and out of the woman. Both are dangerous to the mother because there is a high risk of bleeding. RU-486 is safer, but (as you know if you saw, "Unplanned") it also has various risks associated with it.

As for the child: during the first trimester, their nervous system begins developing at 14 days. Their heart begins beating at 18-25 days. And they can begin moving on their own at 8-10 weeks. During the later stages of the child's first three months of life, their brain will begin functioning, they will be able to respond to stimuli and can feel pain. Oh, and they also begin sucking their thumb.

In the second trimester, the main method of killing the unborn child is the D & E Method. The "E" stands for "extraction", because the child is dismembered in the womb (using a pliers-type tool that grabs and rips the baby's limbs from her torso) and then extract-

ed from the womb. After that, the abortionist has to re-assemble the dead child, to make sure that no parts were left inside (because that could lead to serious complications for the mother).

During this time of the child's development, we already know that she can feel the pain of being dismembered. We know that, because an abortion doctor testified to that fact in a Congressional inquiry. In the 2nd Trimester, the child can smile (or cry) and is capable of grasping things with her hands. By the end of the 2nd Trimester, the child will have an 85% survival rate.

In the third trimester, the D & E Method may be used; but often the mother will let the child grow to full term... and then kill the child with a procedure known as "Partial Birth Abortion" (PBA). Using this method to kill the child requires the child to actually be "born" (out of the womb), EXCEPT for the head. With the head still inside the mother, the child's head is punctured... and then her brains are sucked out. After that, the rest of the (now) dead child is delivered. As barbaric as this method is, it is preferred by many mothers because it is the safest form of abortion. I don't think I need to describe the child's development at this point in their life, because we all know what a newborn child is capable of. I'll never understand why a mother wouldn't just deliver the child alive and then put her up for adoption. Some women have said that they don't want to put their child up for adoption, because they couldn't live with the thought that the children they see each day could be their own son or daughter.

Obviously, there are all kinds of scientific, moral, ethical and philosophical reasons to oppose abortion. But what does the Bible say? "**Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you**" (Jer. 1:5)... "**You formed my inward parts; You knitted me together in my mother's womb... My frame was not hidden from You, when I was being made in secret... Your eyes saw my unformed sub-**

stance; in Your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them." (Ps. 139:13-16)...

"The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother He named my name" (Is. 49:1)... "**Did not He who made me in the womb make him? And did not One fashion us in the womb?**" (Job 31:15).

It is also worth noting that- in Ex. 21- one of the additional commandments that God gave was this: that if a man harms the pregnant woman (and her child) and the child dies in the womb, that man's life is forfeited. In other words, God gave the death penalty for an unintentional "abortion". And the Hebrew word that was used for the unborn child in that text ("ye-led") is also the same word that is used- throughout the OT- for children that are already born. In other words: in God's eyes, a child is a child, no matter where they are (in or out of the womb).

One other doctrinal point to consider is the Doctrine of Incarnation. Our Lord took humanity into His divine nature at His conception. As we confess: that's when He became true man, along with being true God. Well, since His humanity was like our own, except that He was without sin, that means that we, also, are fully human at the moment of our conceptions. And this doctrine is no small matter. Because His Incarnation was so important for our salvation, it is mentioned in both Creeds: He "**was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man**" (Nicene Creed). He "**was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary**" (Apostles' Creed). The conception of Jesus was the beginning of His humanity, just as it is for the rest of us. Therefore, as Bible-believing Christians, we should have no trouble taking a firm, confident stance: that life- *at all stages, even in the womb*- is precious to God... and a fully human person. Now that you know all this, please be active in promoting and protecting life!

WEBINAR SERIES

9 NOV, 2021 1030 EST /0930 CST



With Special Guest

CHAPLAIN (COL) Michael Shellman

Military District of Washington Senior Chaplain

JOIN US FOR A LIVE WEBINAR AS
CH SHELLMAN SHARES HIS CHAPLAIN CORPS STORY AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE GOD AND
COUNTRY IN THE US ARMY AND US ARMY RESERVE

Register at NCCRTEAM@gmail.com



LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission

Victorious in Christ

This issue of Reaching Rural America for Christ, the newsletter from LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission, provides encouragement to withstand the pressures of life and reminds us that we are always victorious in Christ.

[READ THE NEWSLETTER >>](#)

Webinars

“David’s Harp and the Parish Based Music Conservatory” — [1 to 2 p.m. Central time, Thursday, Oct. 7](#). Presenter: Rev. Nathan Sherrill, executive director of David’s Harp: A Center for Musical Development.

“Stewardship” — [1 to 2 p.m. Central time, Thursday, Nov. 4](#). Presenter: Rev. Heath Curtis, coordinator for LCMS Stewardship Ministry.

[VIEW WEBINAR SCHEDULE](#)

[VIEW WEBINAR ARCHIVES](#)



DEAR FRIEND IN CHRIST

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PRAYERS FOR PROJECT 24 AND CHRIST'S CARE FOR CHILDREN. THEY ARE LOVING REMINDERS THAT WE ARE PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST. GOD'S BLESSINGS AS YOU LOVE HIM AND SERVE OTHERS.

"I GIVE THANKS TO MY GOD ALWAYS FOR YOU BECAUSE OF THE GRACE OF GOD THAT WAS GIVEN YOU IN CHRIST JESUS." 1CORINTHIANS 1:4



StewardCAST

The Parable of the Good Samaritan provides an example of faithful stewardship.

In the September 2021 issue of StewardCAST, LCMS Stewardship Ministry encourages stewards to imitate the Good Samaritan and remove the focus from the individual steward.

[DOWNLOAD THE NEWSLETTER >>](#)



34th Annual Minnesota Lutheran Free Conference

(At a free conference the speakers are free, free to speak as individuals, not as representatives of a church body.)

Saturday, October 30, 2021

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Redeemer Lutheran Church
2719 Third Street North
St. Cloud, Minnesota

Hosted by Minnesota North Confessional Lutherans and Other Friends and Supporters

“Waking to Woke”

Understanding & Responding to a Woke Culture

SPEAKERS:

Rev. Paul Dare, Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Alexandria, MN.

The title of his presentation is: “Christians in a Woke World.” Pastor Dare has spoken on this topic on a number of Issues Etc. broadcasts. Questions he will address include: Have you ever wondered why the world is more divided along the lines of race, gender, religion, & income? Have you noticed that trust in institutions such as churches, government, marriage, and family is failing? Have you ever wondered why so many Christian youth go to college and seem to lose their Christian faith? Answers to these questions, Pastor Dare will assert, depend on Christians understanding the new Marxism, often called “Cultural Marxism.”

Rev. Fred Hinz, Emeritus, Gaylord, MN, is the Public Policy Advocate for the MN North & MN South Districts.

His presentation is titled: “Preaching the Gospel to a Radically Distorted World.” The world in which we live and in which we preach and teach the Gospel, Pastor Hinz concludes, has been intentionally and malevolently distorted with many long-lasting, potentially eternal consequences. He will document the current Federal and State-level legislative and judicial means by which this distortion has been and is being perpetrated. He will also suggest preaching and teaching strategies to cut through the fog and help reground people in the beautiful, real world our gracious God has created for us.

Cost: \$25/person; \$10/high school or college student (includes coffee, rolls, & lunch). Though the fee is not due until you attend the conference, please RSVP to Redeemer on or before Monday, October 25th, for meal and refreshment planning. (320)-252-8171 or office@redeemerstcloud.org.

Though Redeemer is the host congregation, it does not plan this conference. A committee of pastors from both the MNS and MNN Districts of the LCMS is responsible. Therefore, questions about this conference are not to be directed to Redeemer or her pastor, but to committee member Rev. John Grein (320) 583-7788 or johngrein84@gmail.com

2021 MINNESOTA LUTHERAN EDUCATION CONFERENCE | OCTOBER 21



The [2021 Minnesota Lutheran Education Conference](#) is Thursday, October

21, at Mayer Lutheran High School with the conference theme of Deeper Understanding, based off of Romans 11:33, “Oh the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!”

[View the full registration packet](#) | [Register online](#)



THE CHANGELESS WORD IN A CHANGING WORLD: POST-PANDEMIC MINISTRY

OCTOBER 25

A conference exploring what opportunities the Church has in technology, mental and emotional wellness, and our ever-changing culture. This single-day conference, funded by The Lutheran Foundation and hosted on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne, will explore ministry opportunities in the following areas: technology and ministry, mental and emotional wellness, and cultural challenges. [Click here to learn more and register](#)

BEST PRACTICES FOR MINISTRY CONFERENCE FEB 17-19, 2022



It has been some time since the last [Best Practices for Ministry Conference](#)

was held! Ministry remains, but many congregations have discovered that best practices in their settings have changed following a global pandemic and time of lockdown.



THE WORD BECAME FLESH: A SERMON SERIES ON JOHN 1:1-18

Offered on CSP campus or via Zoom, your \$25 fee for this one-stop resource includes: **Five Sermons and Orders of Worship, Interrelated Bible Studies, Liturgical Resources, PowerPoint, Recording of the Seminar.**

Plan now to lead people into 18 verses that contain some of the most important words written—ever.

Click [here](#) to register. For questions, contact [Jane Wilke](#), Director of Church Relations.



The Rock in Shifting Sands

Making Disciples for Life 

What does it take to be a faithful church amid a turbulent culture? This is the central question that will be discussed at the *Making Disciples for Life (MDFL)* conference, rescheduled for Jan. 10-12, 2022. The conference, which will be held in St. Louis and online, will have the theme of "The Rock in Shifting Sands."

The conference will feature three tracks focusing on:

- Church and state, Christian citizenship, religious liberty
- Critical theory, its manifestations and how the church should respond
- Discipleship, Christian education, lifelong catechesis

[Click here for more information](#)



...Making Disciples for Life

MN NORTH DISTRICT CONVENTION MAY 9-11, 2022 | MADDEN'S, BRAINERD

Congregations can expect a mailing outlining the Delegate selection and Nomination process for the 2022 Convention in October. Watch your mailbox and be sure to submit your forms before the Convention deadlines.



Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

"Now Thank We All Our God"
-LSB 895 st. 1

We at Lutheran Church Extension Fund are thankful
for our investors and partners in ministry.

MISSIONARY MINUTES

PROJECT 24 & CHRIST'S CARE FOR CHILDREN - KENYA Project 24 Kenya started between the LCMS Office of International Mission and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya. It provides boarding facilities so vulnerable children have the opportunity to successfully complete primary or secondary school. *Students at Nyambiri are pictured here playing soccer during their free time.* It costs \$90 per month or \$1,080 for the whole year to sponsor a child. And as a sponsor, you receive an initial packet of information on the child, as well as updates



throughout the year on his or her welfare, and spiritual engagement. Total Number of Students at the P24 sites: 190 children; Number of Students Sponsored as to date: 136. **Find Project 24 on Facebook [HERE](#).** 1000 letters have been written between sponsors and children since 2017. Sponsor a child [HERE](#).

REV. DR. DAN & DR. JOAN JASTRAM live in Tokyo where he serves as the Asia Lutheran Resource Coordinator: Making Lutheran resources of theology and worship available in all of Asia. They are excited to be exploring new opportunities for ministry and request prayers for: *Ongoing Lutheran resource projects throughout Asia, numbering well over one hundred, in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, and Taiwan.* Learn more about their work [HERE](#). Become a partner [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.

DR. JIM AND SUSAN KAISER are excited to extend the partnership between Lutheran Bible Translators and the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY). Jim 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](#).



PUERTO RICO FORO The team in Puerto Rico continues to share the Gospel with the people of Mayaquez and Ponce. *During an August fellowship night they celebrated everyone who went back to school this fall! For kids in public school in Ponce, they really hadn't been back since December of 2019. They had a couple weeks in February of 2020 after the earthquakes and right before COVID, but that was it. As a congregation they are blessed to share in life together, including moments of rejoicing. Also, they followed up the Summer classes with another round of in-person ESL classes. It's been such a gift to use the CARD (mercy house) for classes and activities like these, especially as the rain is picking up!* Contribute to the [FORO](#). Read James & Christel Neuendorf's latest newsletter [HERE](#). Follow the teams on Facebook [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) or visit their websites: [Prince of Peace](#) and [Fountain of Life](#).



GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH AND SCHOOL, COTTON TREE LIBERIA The MN North District continues to partner with Good Shepherd in sharing the Gospel with the people of Liberia. **Benettor is pictured here, her single mother is unable to pay tuition for her to attend school. A \$200 sponsorship will allow her to attend GSLS where she'll hear the Good News in Christ Jesus.** Pastor Kollie is pursuing a Doctorate Degree at CTS, Fort Wayne, IN, with hopes of then teaching pastors in Liberia. He visits the US often to study and would be happy to visit your congregation to share news from Liberia! Jamesetta Kollie, a 2019 CSP grad is working towards a Master's Degree. Gifty Kollie (deaconess student at CUC) and Diane (nursing student at CUW) are also studying in the US with plans to return to Liberia to use their education. Donations for the Kollie's education, Good Shepherd Church and School (specifically designate on the memo line) can be sent to: MN North District, PO Box 604, Brainerd, MN 56401.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 5-6, 2021	MN North District BOD Meeting, District Office
January 11, 2021	LWML District BOD Meeting, District Office
Jan 31—Feb 1, 2022	Circuit Visitors Conference, Lutheran Island Camp
Feb 13-14, 2022	MN North District BOD Meeting, District Office
April 2, 2022	Floor Committee Meetings, District Office
April 2, 2022	2022 Bible Bowl at Concordia, St. Paul
May 9-11, 2022	MN North District Convention, Brainerd

ANNIVERSARIES AND CELEBRATIONS

St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton, MN will celebrate it's 125th Anniversary on Sunday, November 21, 2021. 10:30 am Regular Worship Service, 11:30 am Catered Meal (RSVP to stjohn1896@grontier.com) and 2:00 pm Celebration Service followed by cake and ice cream!

Trinity Lutheran Church in Fisher, MN will be hosting a 135th anniversary celebration at our church on Sunday, December 5th at 10 am.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Backus, MN will mark their 100th Anniversary on January 30, 2022 with a special Worship Service. A 100th Anniversary Celebration will be scheduled during the summer months.

CHURCH WORKER APPRECIATION MONTH

October has traditionally been designated as Pastor Appreciation Month — an opportunity for congregations to express, in various ways, their thankfulness to the shepherds who care for them.

Starting this year, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) will be encouraging congregations and school communities to use the month of October to demonstrate appreciation not only for their pastors, but for all workers in the parish and school — pastors, commissioned ministers, business managers, administrative assistants, teacher aides, custodians, cafeteria workers and everyone in between.

[READ MORE >>](#)

2022 BIBLE BOWL TOPIC AND DATE ARE SET

7th through 12th graders from churches throughout Minnesota North and South Districts participate in one Double Elimination TEAM Tournament. Saturday, April 2, 2022 at Concordia University in St. Paul. Registration from 8:30 - 9:00 A.M. Begin at 9:00 A.M., break for lunch, and end in afternoon. There is also an INDIVIDUAL competition on a 50 question written test. It could be a good time for youth, counselors, families to have an overnighner.

[LEARN MORE >>](#)

Rev. Steve Breitbarth - Youth Bible Bowl Contact Person for MN North District can be reached at s.breitbarth@mchsi.com



MN NORTH RESOURCES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The MN North District Convention has been rescheduled to May 9-11, 2022 at Madden's in Brainerd. Information regarding the continued nomination and registration process will be sent the last week in October.



Protect yourself and your family using the power of the benefits you choose for 2022! Sign up during Open Enrollment **Nov. 1-19**, [using your personalized member portal](#). This year's Open Enrollment introduces a new personal spending account administrator and limited-time opportunity to enroll for **guaranteed-issue supplemental life insurance**.



Main Street Living continues to reach out with televised worship services in the Twin Cities, Fargo and Sioux Falls markets. Visit mainstreetliving.com



MSL Northland is reaching out to a large audience in the Duluth Market every week. Visit mslnorthland.com



As Lutheran Christians, we have a dual citizenship in two kingdoms: 1) spiritual and 2) earthly. As we embrace our neighbors with acts of witness and mercy, we recognize the authority of the governments and rulers that have been set in place. Yet this balance can be tricky. [LEARN MORE >>](#)



The MN North District has partnered with ADF to provide resources for congregations navigating the current cultural climate. Learn how the Church Alliance can benefit your congregation [HERE](#). Use code **MNN20** for 20% off for Churches or **MNNMA20** for 20% off for Schools.



CALL UPDATE

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT—Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

CALLS ACCEPTED

FERGUS FALLS, Trinity - Rev. Christopher Lieske, Monticello, MN accepted the Call. Installation 10/17/21.

HENNING, St. Paul - Rev. Daniel Larsen, Wabasso, MN accepted the Call. Installation 10/24/21.

CALLING CONGREGATIONS

AKELEY, St. John

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

ALEXANDRIA, Good Shepherd (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. James Walburg)

BARNESVILLE, St. John's (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Gary Rehborg) - Called Rev. Paul Doellinger, Cassopolis, MI. He declined the Call.

ESKO, St. Matthews (Associate) - Called Rev. Noah Wehrspann, Long Prairie, MN.

GARRISON, Shepherd of the Lake (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Tom Petersen)

HERMANTOWN, Peace in Christ (Associate) - Called Rev. Tim Heinecke, Hugo, MN. He declined the Call.

LITTLE FALLS, Zion

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

RED LAKE FALLS/PLUMMER, St. John/Redeemer (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Dan Domke)

SUPERIOR, Christ (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Gerald Bernecker)

WHEATON/MONSON, St. John/Immanuel (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. George Sagissor, III)

OTHER CALLS AND CHANGES

Rev. Matthew Kohl (Cloquet), received a Call to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Marshfield, WI.

Rev. Philip Hoppe (Finlayson), received a Call to Trinity Lutheran Church in Colby, KS.

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CHANGES

ALASKA MISSION FOR CHRIST NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for volunteers with a servant heart to work at a 74-year old log cabin Christian Camp outside of Fairbanks. Skilled and non-skilled laborers are welcome. Volunteers are welcome any time between May 15-June 12, 2022. Covid vaccinations will be required. (Please note: The vaccination requirements are only applicable to this particular team.)

To learn more, contact Jan Bruick, Servant Event Coordinator: 402-641-9691 or janbruick@alaskamissionforchrist.org.

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

IN OUR PRAYERS

The family of Lee Meyer, father of Rev. Monte Meyer and Father-in-law of Rev. Jeff Lee, who passed away on October 11, 2021.

The family of Rev. Alvin Jeske (em. Sumner, IA) who passed away on October 11, 2021.

Rev. Kevin and Erin Zellers at the passing of her father on October 4, 2021.

The family of Rev. Roy Hasbargen (em. St. Cloud), who passed away on September 27, 2021.

Rev. Justin and Jessi Hesterman celebrating the birth of twins, Elizabeth and Nathaniel, on September 23, 2021.

Rev. Dennis Dr. Bostrom (em. Silver Bay) and his wife Karen who are both dealing with health issues.

Rev. Keith Weise (Good Shepherd, Sauk Rapids), recovering after knee surgery.

Marci Keyes, wife of DCO Peter Keyes (Zion, Little Falls), undergoing breast cancer treatment.

Rev. Carl Berner (Bethlehem, Herman), diagnosed with cancer.

Rev. David Franzmeier (em. Cambridge), dealing with health issues.

Rev. Larry Harvala (em. Osage), dealing with health issues.

Mrs. Sharon Hendrickson, wife of Rev. Ray Hendrickson (em. Nashuak) recovering after a broken leg.

Rev. Roger Krebs (em. Parkers Prairie), recovering at home.

Rev. Bruce Blocker (Immanuel, McIntosh), recovering after back surgery.

Rev. Martin Langemo (em. Princeton), recovering after a fall.

George Miller, dealing with severe back pain.

Jamesetta Kollie, daughter of Rev. James Kollie (Good Shepherd, Cotton Tree, Liberia), dealing with serious health issues.

Rev. Bob Brueske (em. Alexandria), recovering after surgery.

Katie Hannasch, daughter of Rev. Steve Meltzer (St. John, Wadena), undergoing cancer treatment.

Rev. Robin Collins (Trinity, Staples), recovering after a stroke.

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

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

Rev. Fred Kutter (em. Albany), dealing with diabetes related 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.

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

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

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

Jenny Schoessow, wife of Rev. David Schoessow (em. 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.

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., Hamburg NY), both dealing with health issues.

MN North District Seminary Students:

Paul Anderson, Cambridge, studying at CSL

Jordan DeBoer, Crookston, studying at CTSFW

Joseph Muench, Duluth, STM student at CTSFW

Erik Saunders, Grand Marais, studying at CTSFW

Michael Thomas, Parkers Prairie, studying at CLTS, St. Catharines, Ont.

Carl Seim, Elk River, SMP student at CSL

Bruce Maul, Vergas, SMP student at CSL

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

Pre-seminary student Jacob Franck, son of Rev. Rob & Gayle Franck, completed basic training for the Army Reserves.

LT Geoffrey Gronewold, Active Duty Chaplain, US Army, Fort Leonard Wood, MO

Captain Vincent Bain, Active Duty Chaplain, US Army, Massachusetts

Lt. Aaron Bell, son-in-law of Pastor Tom and Mary Brinkley, 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, US Army

Lt. Michaela Biegner-Wentz, granddaughter of Rev. Paul and Joan Biegner, Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, WA

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, US 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, National Guard

Private Chris Peske, son of Rev. Mark and Sharon Peske, US Army, Ft. Benning, GA

Private Matt Peske, son of Rev. Mark and Sharon Peske, US Army, Ft. Benning, GA

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.

NOVEMBER PRAYER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Rev. Walter Lehenbauer, Emeritus, Cloquet	2 Rev. Dr. Bernie Lutz, Emeritus, Woodbury	3 Rev. Lynn Machula, Emeritus, Sauk Rapids	4 Rev. Randy Maland, Emeritus, Henning	5 Rev. Dennis McManus, Emeritus, New Germany	6
7	8 Rev. James Meichsner, Emeritus, Sauk Rapids	9 Rev. David Meyer, Emeritus, Winter haven, FL	10 Rev. Delbert Meyer, Emeritus, New York Mills	11 Rev. Frank Milo, Emeritus, Pine River	12 Rev. John Moe, Emeritus, Emily	13
14	15 Rev. William Moeller Sr., Emeritus, Alexandria	16 Rev. Henry Mueller, Emeritus, Northfield	17 Rev. Thomas Mueller, Emeritus, Sartell	18 Rev. David Nelson, Emeritus, St. Cloud	19 Rev. Wilbur Neumann, Emeritus, Park Rapids	20
21	22 Rev. Craig Palach, Emeritus, Fergus Falls	23 Rev. Thomas Petersen, Emeritus, Pine River	24 Rev. Donald Polege, Emeritus, Lindstrom	25 Rev. Rolf Preus, Emeritus, Grand Marais	26 Rev. Gary Rehborg, Emeritus, Osage	27
28	29 Rev. Dean Rudloff, Emeritus, Silver Bay	30 Rev. George Sagissor III, Emeritus, Clear Lake				

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