



FROM THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

"...so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." Ephesians 4:14-16

"All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

These are the verses that will guide our coming District Convention and the triennium that follows. Since our last Convention in 2018, we have continued the theme "Reconciled in Christ, For the World," based on 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 which calls for us to be reconciled to God and one another, and to serve as reconcilers to those around us. In some ways, that theme of unity continues in Ephesians 4. Paul speaks of the bond of peace, one body, one spirit, one hope, one Lord, one baptism, one God and Father. All of this is God's gift of unity as the Body of Christ.

Your unity with Christ is a gift. Your unity in the Body of Christ with fellow believers is a gift. Not being tossed by every wind of doctrine is a gift. Growing up into Him is a gift.

In both 2 Corinthians 5 and in Ephesians 4, God is working in you and God is working through you. I need each one of you, just as you need me. We need one another. The Body of Christ is critical for our faith, life, and eternal life. People need pastors. Pastors need people. People need people. We need one another.

Paul takes up this theme again in 1 Corinthians 12. "The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I don't need you.'" Too often the Church reflects the independence idolized in our culture by saying, "I don't need you. I don't have to listen to you." And the Church reflects the rejection predominating in our society and world by demanding, "If you don't agree with me, you are not welcome here."

God's Word reminds us of the opposite. We need people to challenge our self-talk. We need others as we wrestle with God's Word. It is too easy to get caught up only listening to voices that think like we do. I was listening to an author the other day who said, "If everyone is thinking the same thing, chances are, no one is doing much thinking."

Paul holds all of this in tension in Ephesians 4. Unity, leadership, false voices, deceitful schemes, speaking the truth in love, our need for the whole Body of Christ working together—each part equipped, each part working properly—the Body growing, building itself up in love.

Yes, there are false voices clamoring for our attention and for our hearts. We need each other to sound out the truth and hold us fast from false winds and waves. Yes, we get caught listening to our own false thoughts. We need each other to help keep God's truth, love, and grace clear.

Our Convention theme focuses then on these three words: *Growing + Building + Reaching*.

God grows us in His Word. God grows us in maturity of faith. God builds us as His body to strengthen one another, to equip one another, to lead each part of the body in its individual work, and to grow in our work together as we build one another up in love. And God works in us to reach out to those who do not yet know Jesus.

Hopefully GBR can take on a meaning beyond Go Big Red. In Christ, we are growing, building, and reaching as His body, the Church.

In Christ,
Rev. Richard Snow
Nebraska District LCMS District President



ABOUT US

Nebraska District LCMS
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Contact us at
1-888-643-2961
or info@ndlcms.org

News items, congregational
anniversaries, and ministry stories
for the *Reporter* are always
welcome. Please submit items to
Kim Myers at
reporter@ndlcms.org or by mail.

Visit our website at ndlcms.org for
more information and resources.



2022 Nebraska District LCMS Convention • June 24-25, Kearney

"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." Ephesians 4:15-16

OFFERING GATHERED AT DISTRICT CONVENTION WILL SUPPORT CAMPUS MINISTRY

The offering taken at the opening worship service of Convention will be designated to provide support for Nebraska District campus ministry. Campus ministry can help keep students connected to the Body of Christ through regular worship opportunities, Bible studies, relationships with mature Christians, and fellowship in a Christian atmosphere. Campus ministries give students a place to connect with ministry leaders and other Lutherans while growing in their personal relationship with Christ during their time away at college. There are four active campus ministries in the Nebraska District: Holy Cross Campus Ministry in Kearney, University Lutheran Chapel in Lincoln, Echo Campus Ministry in Omaha, and Cup of Grace Campus Ministry in Wayne.

Gifts collected will help to support these campus ministries both in coordinating the ministries and focusing on church worker recruitment. Congregations are encouraged to take door offerings or participate in a way that is appropriate for them and send their gifts with their delegates to Convention.

CONVENTION WORKBOOK AVAILABLE

The Convention *Workbook* is available electronically via the District website. All are invited to view the information now on our website. The *Workbook* sections include information on nominations, a basic agenda, and reports from officers and ministries. <https://ndlcms.org/convention-workbook/>

Delegates will be allowed to use laptops, tablets, and smart phones on the Convention floor to allow access to the electronic *Workbook*, but no electricity will be available. All sound-producing features of these devices must be turned off, and they are not to be used to communicate any part of Convention business on the Convention floor. It is the responsibility of each delegate to bring a copy of needed sections of the *Workbook* with them to Convention.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 24-25, Nebraska District Convention, Younes Conference Center South, Kearney

July 9-13, LCMS Youth Gathering, Houston, Texas

July 22-23, LWML Nebraska District North Convention, Ramada Inn, Columbus

September 16-17, LWML Nebraska District South Convention, Younes Conference Center South, Kearney

Learn about upcoming events on our website at:
<https://ndlcms.org/upcoming-events/>

ABOUT THE CONVENTION THEME AND LOGO

Our theme for the coming triennium is *Growing + Building + Reaching*, with the theme verses, "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." Ephesians 4:15-16

In the logo, we have chosen gears to indicate the working together of various parts and the impact and movement that we have upon one another. The hands are the nail-marked hands of Jesus who makes our movement and impact possible. These same hands encircle the gears as they work together, indicating His

protective love. He is growing us individually, building us in our connection with one another, and reaching through us in love and compassion to share the saving message of His grace.



Logo designed by visual artist Samuel Sisco.

FLOOR COMMITTEE OPEN HEARING

The floor committee will review all input it receives when it meets on Thursday, June 23, at 6:30 p.m. Open hearings will be held Friday morning, June 24, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. All delegates and guests are invited to attend the open hearings and share their input with the committee should they so desire. The proposed resolutions will be discussed in order, and delegates may come and go as needed.

CONVENTION RESOURCES FOR CONGREGATIONS

Congregations are invited to use the resources available on our website to keep their congregations informed about the upcoming Convention, including information on the offering to be taken during the opening worship service in support of campus ministry. Resources include a bulletin insert or text to paste into your bulletins, a slide about the offering, a slide about the candidates for District President, and a full slate of candidates. Find those resources at <https://ndlcms.org/convention-news/>.

SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES TO JOIN US

Rev. Nabil Nour, Fourth Vice-President of the LCMS, will preach during the opening worship service on Friday and will attend all of Convention. LCMS President, Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, will join the Convention on Saturday afternoon for the "State of the Synod" report and a question and answer session.

DISTRICT PRESIDENT CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

Question #1: What, in your opinion, are the most pressing mission issues facing the Nebraska District today? How would you, as district president, address them?



**Rev.
Brent
Kuhlman**

*Currently serving
Trinity, Murdock*

This question has to do with the Church and her task. First, the Church is to be passive. To be given to by the Lord Jesus as He bestows His Good Friday forgiveness through Word and Sacrament in the Divine Service. There He speaks. We listen. He gives. We receive. This is primary. After all, His words and gifts have their way with us. They enliven us for love in the various vocations in which the Lord has put us. Such love shares the Gospel quite naturally to those who need to hear it. Let us pray that the Lord of the Church will continue to have good use of the Church in passively receiving and then actively responding with prayer, praise, thanksgiving, and telling everyone that in Christ God has reconciled the world to Himself, not counting our trespasses against us.



**Rev.
Robert
Schilling**

*Currently serving
St. John, Pender*

In my opinion, the most pressing mission issue facing us today is the lack of common doctrinal teaching and practice. We need to address this issue and make sure that all pastors and congregations are teaching and practicing the same things. The mission of the Church is to proclaim the Gospel and administer the Sacraments according to Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions as they are drawn from the Scripture. When this is done, the Holy Spirit will work His will and the Church will grow and remain strong.



**Rev.
Richard
Snow**

*Currently serving as
Nebraska District President*

God has called us to live out His mission as the Body of Christ, reconciled in Christ to reconcile His sin-broken creation. Those fractures in our world are seen also within our Church. First, we need to be intentional in speaking the truth in love to one another. "As I have loved you, so also you must love one another." (John 13) Second, with that same compassion we touch our communities amidst growing opposition to the Word. God places people in your life so that you would proclaim the healing balm of His Word to broken situations. We need eyes and ears open to see opportunities to engage our communities' needs with the love of Christ. Third, in Christ we must strengthen marriages and families in the task of shaping faith of both young and old. Finally, we need to be intentional in discipling the next group of leaders. All of this is dependent upon the Word of God and the work of the Holy Spirit. He engages you to actively use your gifts to serve others;

therefore, the focus must be on the local congregation and individual members. Visitation to congregations, circuits, and homes; using conferences, conventions, and gatherings to equip and encourage pastors and leaders; and maximizing electronic communication and resources are all tools used to strengthen the body of Christ in its mission. As with most ministry, it is all about developing relationships, nurturing others, growing leaders, caring for the hurting, reaching out to the lost, encouraging the broken, and standing on the truth.

Question #2: As a District, we struggle at times to be reconciled and to walk together in unity. What specific things would you seek to do to create unity in Christ and to foster reconciliation with our communities, lay people, pastors, and district leaders?

**Rev.
Brent
Kuhlman**

To quote Emanuel ... (Rahm Emanuel), let's not let a crisis go to waste. Life in the church militant provides us with the wonderful opportunity to provide high pastoral care: repentance, faith, and holy living. Consequently, the proper way to address whatever needs addressing is the proper distinction between the Law and the Gospel so that the old Adam in us should, by daily contrition and repentance, be drowned with all sins and evil desires and that a new man should daily emerge and live before God in righteousness and purity forever as St. Paul teaches in Romans 6:4. In addition, I would teach and teach God's Word. Dr. Luther put it this way: "I simply taught, preached and wrote God's Word; otherwise I did nothing. And while I slept, or drank Wittenberg beer with my friends Philip and Amsdorf, the Word so greatly weakened the papacy that no prince or emperor ever inflicted such losses upon it. I did nothing; the Word did everything... I did nothing; I let the Word do its work... that no one shall be dragged from them or to them by the hair, but that we must let the Word of God alone do the work," (AE 51:77-78, 88, emphasis added). Let's trust God to do His work in His Word.

**Rev.
Robert
Schilling**

I would stress the need for all of us to be in the Word at all times. We need to hear regularly how God in Christ has forgiven us all our sins, and as He has forgiven us all of our sins, so we must forgive others. (Col. 3:16) By visitations of congregations and pastors by the vice-presidents and circuit visitors we can stress the command of our Lord: "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." We need to remind one another that we are to be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us. (Eph. 5:1-2) All this we have been given from God, "who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation." If we walk together in these words of God as the one body of Christ, we will have more unity and less strife within our church.

**Rev.
Richard
Snow**

Build connections for personal conversations. We can't walk together if we don't talk together, and we can't talk together if we don't meet together. Visitation is a high priority as I go to circuit pastor conferences and congregations. Encourage pastors to be faithful in meeting together. Encourage people to talk to their pastors, workers, or one another as we seek transparency, vulnerability, and reconciliation.



Announcement is being made of the candidates for various elections at the District Convention to be held June 24-25, 2022, in Kearney.

For president, vice-president, and board of directors, those names underlined are currently scheduled to appear on the ballot. Ties in number of nominations have resulted in more than the required number on some of the ballots. (* Indicates an incumbent)

FOR DISTRICT PRESIDENT (Three-year term)

"Candidates for the office of District President shall be at least the five (5) ordained ministers who receive the greatest number of nominations and agree to serve, if elected." (2018 District Bylaws, II.D.3.a)(2))

Rev. Richard Snow*, Nebraska District LCMS, Seward (70); Rev. Brent Kuhlman, Trinity, Murdock (1); Rev. Robert Schilling, St. John, Pender (1); Rev. Kenton Birtell, Mt. Calvary, Holdrege (1), declined; Rev. James DeLoach, Zion Kearney (3), declined; Rev. Dan Feusse, Concordia, Clearwater (2), declined; Rev. Micah Gaunt, Peace, Hastings (1), declined; Rev. Mark Hannemann, Divine Shepherd, Omaha (1), declined; Rev. Craig Niemeier, Zion (Worms), St. Libory (3), declined; Rev. Clint Poppe, Good Shepherd, Lincoln (1), declined; Rev. Michael Reiners, Peace, Grand Island (1), declined.

FOR REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS (Three-year term)

"Candidates for regional Vice-President shall be at least the four (4) ordained ministers in each region who receive the greatest number of nominations and agree to serve, if elected." (2018 District Bylaws, II.D.3.b)(2))

Region A: Rev. Robert Kuefner, Jr., Trinity, Lexington (2); Rev. James Moshier, Trinity, Arapahoe (4); Rev. Luke Biggs, Peace, Grand Island (1), declined; Rev. Kenton Birtell, Mt. Calvary, Holdrege (1), declined; Rev. James DeLoach, Zion, Kearney (2), declined; Rev. Doug Gaunt, Zion, Kearney (1), declined; Rev. Craig Niemeier*, Zion (Worms), St. Libory (10), declined; Rev. Michael Reiners, Peace, Grand Island (1), declined.

Region B: Rev. Scott Bruick*, St. John, Seward (7); Rev. Lonnie Jacobsen, Calvary, Lincoln (3); Rev. Adam Moline, Good Shepherd, Lincoln (1); Rev. David Ohlman, Immanuel, Polk (7), declined; Rev. Mark Rosenau, Calvary, Lincoln (1), declined.

Region C: Rev. Michael Awe*, Hope, South Sioux City (11); Rev. Jared Hartman, St. Paul, Wisner (4); Rev. John Nelson, Jr., Christ, O'Neill, Immanuel, Spencer, and Christ, Lynch (1); Rev. Robert Schilling, St. John, Pender (2); Rev. Christopher Asbury, Grace, Norfolk (2), declined; Rev. Jerome Leckband, Trinity, Foster, and Golgotha, Wausa (2), declined; Rev. Jeff Warner, Immanuel, Laurel (2), declined.

Region D: Rev. Andrew Gerike, Mt. Calvary, Omaha (1); Rev. Greg Griffith, King of Kings, Omaha (1); Rev. James Rasmussen, Divine Shepherd, Omaha (3); Rev. Mark Hannemann, Divine Shepherd, Omaha (2), declined; Rev. David Linkugel, Lord of Life, Elkhorn (4), declined; Rev. Karl Ziegler*, First, Papillion (8), declined.

FOR COMMISSIONED MINISTERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Six-year term)

"Candidates for commissioned minister on the Board of Directors shall be at least the three (3) commissioned ministers in the electing area who receive the greatest number of nominations and agree to serve, if elected." (2018 District Bylaws, II.D.3.c)(2))

Area I (Regions A and B): Linda Ahrens, Trinity, Grand Island (2); Karl Bergdolt, Grace, Grand Island (1); Cassie Boeka, Trinity, Arapahoe (1); Matthew Stueber, Messiah, Lincoln (1); Angela Becker, Trinity, Auburn (1), declined; Jean Carnoali, Zion, Hampton (1), declined; Wendy Heider, Trinity, Grand Island (1), declined; Lisa Lenz, St. Paul, Central City (1), declined; Andrew Rohwer*, Holy Cross, Kearney (5), declined; Tony Splittgerber, Zion, Kearney (2), declined; Nancy Thyparambil, Trinity, Blue Hill (1), declined.

FOR LAY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Six-year term)

"Candidates for the lay members on the Board of Directors shall be at least the two (2) lay members in the electing area who receive the greatest number of nominations and agree to serve, if elected." (2018 District Bylaws, II.D.3.d)(2))

Region A: James Conner*, St. Paul, Holstein (2); Ron Haase, Faith, Hastings (1); Byron Hansen, Holy Cross, Kearney (1); Charles Boettcher, Beautiful Savior, North Platte (1), declined; Dennis Kamprath, Trinity, Grand Island (1), declined; Melanie Standiford, St. John, Curtis (1), declined.

James Conner, St. Paul, Holstein, has completed his first term and is eligible to serve a second six-year term. Dr. Paul Burger, Zion, Kearney, has three years remaining on his first term.

Region B: Janice Beck, Messiah, Lincoln (1); Paul Schudel, Christ, Lincoln (2).

David Knorr, Faith, Humboldt, has served two terms and is not eligible for re-election. James Kovac, St. Paul, Utica, has three years remaining on his second term.*

Region C: Josh Moenning, Grace, Norfolk (2); Michael Onnen, Our Savior, Norfolk (2); Rick Stewart, Trinity, Martinsburg (1), declined; Doug Sunderman, Our Savior, Norfolk (1), declined; Renee Sunderman, Our Savior, Norfolk (1), declined; Steve Wageman, St. John, Pender (3), declined; Kent Warneke, Christ, Norfolk (1), declined.

Virginia Von Seggern, St. Paul, Venus, has served two terms and is not eligible for re-election. Deborah Sunderman, St. John, Battle Creek, has three years remaining on her first term.*

Region D: Ellen Lund, Trinity, Fremont (5); Steve Trusty*, King of Kings, Omaha (3); Dan Buman, St. Mark, Omaha (2), declined; Lee Handke, Beautiful Savior, LaVista (1), declined; Matt Reiser, GraceHill, Omaha (1), declined; Gary Wanamaker, GraceHill, Omaha (1), declined.

Steve Trusty, King of Kings, Omaha, has completed his first term and is eligible to serve a second six-year term. Kevin Warneke, Pacific Hills, Omaha, has three years remaining on his first term.

FOR DISTRICT OFFICER AND COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Selected by the Nominations Committee after reviewing nominations submitted by individuals and congregations throughout the District were:

District Secretary – Rev. Bart Fouts*, St. John, Battle Creek; Rev. Caleb Kruse, Lord of Life, Elkhorn.

Rev. Bart Fouts has completed a partial first term and is eligible for re-election to a second term.

Nominations Committee – Ordained Minister (three to be elected): Rev. Kenton Birtell, Mt. Calvary, Holdrege; Rev. Jeff Bloom*, Immanuel, Lincoln; Rev. Scott Bruick*, St. John, Seward; Rev. Anthony Gerber, Trinity, Fremont; Rev. Ben Kaiser, Emmanuel, York; Rev. Robert Kuefner*, Jr., Trinity, Lexington.

Nominations Committee – Commissioned Minister (one to be elected): Harlan Anson, Our Redeemer, Staplehurst; Matthew Stueber, Messiah, Lincoln.

Sandy Armstrong, Trinity, Grand Island, declined the nomination.*

Nominations Committee – Lay Members (three to be elected): Kim Cornett*, St. Paul, Wisner; Linda Reiser, Peace, Grand Island; Glenn Van Velson*, Beautiful Savior, North Platte; Virginia Von Seggern, St. Paul, Venus; Kent Warneke*, Christ, Norfolk.

Constitution Committee – Ordained Minister (two to be elected): Rev. Bart Fouts*, St. John, Battle Creek; Rev. Andrew Gerike, Mt. Calvary, Omaha; Rev. Caleb Kruse, Lord of Life, Elkhorn; Rev. Robert Mayes*, Immanuel, Beemer, and Zion St. John, Wisner.

Constitution Committee – Commissioned Minister (one to be elected): Linda Ahrens, Trinity, Grand Island; Matthew Stueber, Messiah, Lincoln.

Scott Ernstmeyer, Messiah, Lincoln, declined the nomination.*

Constitution Committee – Lay Member (one to be elected): Kurth Brashear*, St. John, Seward; Larry Scherer, Word of Life, Lincoln.

Board of Regents, Seward – Ordained Minister (one to be elected): Rev. John Deang, Hope, Omaha; Rev. Jon Dunbar, St. Paul, Utica; Rev. Justin Hannemann, St. John, Seward; Rev. Caleb Kruse, Lord of Life, Elkhorn; Rev. Robert Kuefner, Jr., Trinity, Lexington; Rev. Luke Schnake, Christ, Lincoln.

Rev. Eugene Gierke, St. John, Seward, has served the maximum number of terms and is not eligible for re-election.*

Board of Regents, Seward – Commissioned Minister (one to be elected): Krista Barnhouse*, Faith, Lincoln; Scott Ernstmeyer, Messiah, Lincoln; Colleen Simpson, Grace, Wayne; Preston Sunderman, St. John, Battle Creek.

Board of Regents, Seward – Lay Member (two to be elected): Dan Buman, Trinity, Auburn; Ryan Burger*, Christ, Lincoln; Dick Helms*, Trinity, Arapahoe; Glenn Van Velson, Beautiful Savior, North Platte.

Synod Committee for Convention Nominations (one to be elected and an alternate also to be selected): Kim Cornett, St. Paul, Wisner; Byron Hansen, Holy Cross, Kearney.



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NOMINATIONS FOR CIRCUIT VISITORS

Circuit forum elections for circuit visitor positions have been completed and the results are as follows:

Ainsworth, No election; **Beatrice**, No election; **Columbus**, Pat Sparling (Immanuel, Columbus); **Deshler**, Brian Francik (St. Peter, Deshler); **Falls City**, Tim Llewellyn (Faith, Humboldt, and Zion, Pawnee City); **Fremont**, Bruce Schut (St. Peter, Scribner); **Grand Island**, Adam Snoberger (Trinity, Grand Island); **Hastings**, Micah Gaunt (Peace, Hastings); **Holdrege**, James Moshier (Trinity, Arapahoe); **Kearney**, Robert Kuefner (Trinity, Lexington); **Lincoln North**, Jeff Scheich (Christ, Lincoln); **Lincoln South**, Lonnie Jacobsen (Calvary, Lincoln); **McCook**, Justin Hildebrand (St. John, McCook); **Norfolk**, Barry Williams (St. John, Madison, and St. Paul, Tilden); **Omaha North**, William Moorhead (Mt. Olive, Omaha); **Omaha South**, Ken Hessel (Our Redeemer, Springfield); **Omaha West**, David Linkugel (Lord of Life, Elkhorn); **Plainview**, Ryan Janke (St. Peter, Orchard, and St. Paul, Venus); **Seward**, David Palomaki (Redeemer, David City and Immanuel, Rising City); **Wayne**, Jeff Warner (Immanuel, Laurel); **West Point**, No election; **Western Sandhills**, Robert Deardoff (Beautiful Savior, North Platte); **York**, Michael Neidow (Emmanuel, York)

All registrations are due to the District office by May 16.

If you are a pastoral or lay voting delegate and you have not yet registered, please contact Candi Menze at 888-643-2961, extension 1010.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All rostered church workers and voting lay delegates should have received their Convention registration materials in the mail by mid-April. A registration form is required from everyone planning to attend. Voting delegates who were certified by their congregation to vote are NOT automatically registered for the Convention, and they are required to return a completed registration form as well. Questions about registration should be directed to Candi Menze at the District office at 888-643-2961, extension 1010, or candim@ndlcms.org. All Convention meals and hotel lodging are provided for delegates, and reservations will be made through the District office based on this registration process. **Delegates are asked to complete and return their registration forms no later than May 16.** If you are a pastoral or lay voting delegate and you have not yet registered, please contact Candi Menze at 888-643-2961, extension 1010.

STANDING RULES FOR ELECTRONICS

While electronic devices such as cell phones, laptops, electronic tablets, etc., are permitted on the Convention floor among the voting and advisory delegates, all sound-producing features of these devices must be turned off when delegates enter the Convention floor. Electronic devices should be turned to the silent or vibrate mode and are not to be used to communicate any part of Convention business on the Convention floor.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO HEAR FROM OUR ADVISORY DELEGATES AT CONVENTION

Advisory delegates will notice new opportunities for participation in this year's Convention. Advisory delegate tables will be intermixed with voting delegate tables, enabling more interaction throughout the Convention. Advisory delegates will be polled before all final resolution votes. This is not a vote, but a poll. Results of the poll indicating the consensus of advisory delegates will be shown on screens prior to the final vote. As always, advisory delegates are invited to share their thoughts at the provided microphones.

CONVENTION AGENDA

Convention will begin with worship starting at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, June 24. The worship service will be held on the Convention floor, as there are no LCMS churches in Kearney large enough to hold all of the delegates and guests. Convention business will begin immediately after lunch, starting at 1:30.

The broad agenda for the Convention has been set. All delegates are asked to register in the Younes Conference Center before the start of the worship service. Registration will open at 8:00 a.m., and early arrival will give delegates time to visit our exhibitors and learn more about mission and ministry in the Nebraska District and throughout the Synod.

Friday, June 24

- 8:00 General Registration
- 9:00 Floor Committee Open Hearings
- 11:00 Convention Opening Worship Service
- 12:00 Lunch (provided on-site)
- 1:30 Convention convenes
- 5:45 Banquet
- 6:45 Convention reconvenes
- 8:45 Reception for Newly Elected and Outgoing Officers

Saturday, June 25

- 8:30 Convention reconvenes
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Advisory Delegate Caucuses
- 1:30 Convention reconvenes
- 2:00 State of the Synod / Q&A Time with President Harrison
- 4:00 Adjournment

TIMELY SHARING OF NEWS AND RESULTS

Those who do not attend Convention will still be able to follow the results of the elections and other Convention news. Visit <https://ndlcms.org/convention-news/> during Convention to see the results as they are confirmed, or follow the District on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaDistrictLCMS/>

CALL ACTIVITY IN THE NEBRASKA DISTRICT

ORDAINED

Calls Accepted

Rev. John Carrier (StL'83) emeritus, Michigan District, to intentional interim, Zion, Plainview

Rev. Dan Gifford (StL'96) Christ/St. Paul's, Falls City, to St. John, Wheaton, and Immanuel, Monson, MN

Rev. Mark Hannemann (StL'84) senior, Divine Shepherd, Omaha, to executive director, Good Friend Ministries, Traverse City, MI

Rev. Lonnie Jacobsen (StL'00) senior, Calvary, Lincoln, to Executive Assistant to the President for Mission & Ministry, Nebraska District LCMS, Seward

Rev. William Steinbauer (StL'91) UNL Chapel, Lincoln, to director of caregiving and outreach, Christ, Lincoln

Calls Declined

Rev. Nathan Abel (StL'17) St. John, Wilcox, to Trinity, Bowie, MD

Rev. Brent Kuhlman (StL'90) Trinity, Murdock, to Redeemer, Fort Worth, TX

Status Changes

Rev. Terell Huber (FtW'82) Christ, Creighton, and Bethlehem, Verdigre, to emeritus status, Nebraska District

Installations & Ordinations

Rev. James Carretto (FtW'81) emeritus, Nebraska District, to assistant, Christ, Norfolk, April 24

Rev. John Carrier (StL'83) as intentional interim, Zion, Plainview, May 1

Rev. Quintin Cundiff (StL'11) Trinity, Amherst, to missionary, Office of International Mission, St. Louis, April 10

COMMISSIONED

Calls Declined

Karen Bahn (WI'88) candidate, to principal, St. John, Columbus

Emily Woodall (S'17) teacher, Valley, Cedar Falls, IA, to teacher, St. Paul, West Point

Other Transactions

Sarah Weishaar (S'19) candidate, California/Nevada/Hawaii District, to candidate, Nebraska District

CALLED TO GLORY

Eugene Brott, commissioned minister—teacher emeritus, departed this life on April 5, 2022. He taught at Concordia University, Nebraska from 1982-1998.

Rev. Robert "Bob" Paulson departed this life on April 14, 2022. He served St. Peter, North Bend (1991-1995); Christ, St. Paul (1995-2000); St. Paul, Utica (2004-2005); and St. John, Seward (2005-2012).

Rev. Ernest Smith departed this life on Tuesday, April 5, 2022. He served at Christ, O'Neill, and Immanuel, Atkinson (1954-1956); and Peace, Columbus (1976-1991, and part time until 2013).

SPRING SEMINARY PLACEMENTS

Placed in Nebraska

Spring graduates placed in Nebraska congregations include (if married, wife's name is in parentheses):

Amherst, Trinity—**Nicholas Whitney** (Cassandra), Caldwell, ID; *FtW*

Auburn, Trinity—**Brent Berg** (Tina), Tullahoma, TN; *StL*

Gretna, Good Shepherd (associate)—**Eric Larson** (Judith), Topeka, KS; *StL*

LaVista, Beautiful Savior (SMP associate)—**Joseph Eisenbacher** (Elisabeth), Omaha, NE; *StL*

Vicars in Nebraska

Assigned as vicars in Nebraska for the coming year (if married, wife's name is in parentheses):

Imperial, Zion—**Brandon Sullivan** (Leslie), Bethel, MN; *FtW*

Lincoln, Good Shepherd—**Noah Kerstein**, Fort Walton Beach, FL; *FtW*

Odell, Our Savior—**Michael Winckler** (Abby), Houston, TX; *StL*

Pierce, Zion—**Justin Brockman**, Appleton, WI; *StL*

Nebraskans Placed

Nebraskans completing seminary training this year were placed in April, including:

Adam Baumann, Norfolk, to St. Mark/Zion, Garrison/Shellburg, IA; *FtW*

Michael Duffy, Kenesaw, to St. Paul, Melrose Park, IL; *StL*

Erik Hart, Seward, to St. Luke (assistant), Itasca, IL; *StL*

Jordan Schut, Scribner, to Holy Cross (associate), Rochester, MN; *StL*

Timothy Steele II, Omaha, to Grace, Bakersfield, CA; *FtW*

Nebraskans Assigned as Vicars

The following Nebraskans have been assigned as a vicar for the coming year:

Jonathan Bartels, LaVista, to Immanuel, St. Charles, MO; *StL*

Aaron Ferguson, Hyannis, to Our Savior, Raleigh, NC; *FtW*

Zachary Staehr, Grand Island, to Historic Trinity, Detroit, MI; *FtW*

Christopher Warneke, Hastings, to Trinity, Winfield, KS; *FtW*

Rev. Lonnie Jacobsen to serve Nebraska District as Mission and Ministry Executive

Installation on June 5, 2022



Rev. Jacobsen and his wife, Penny

Rev. Lonnie Jacobsen has been called by the Board of Directors of the Nebraska District to serve as Executive Assistant to the District President for Mission and Ministry. **He will be installed on Sunday, June 5, during the 10:30 a.m. service at Calvary Lutheran Church, Lincoln, NE.**

In this position, Rev. Jacobsen will help pastors assess and encourage personal and congregational health; help congregations, schools, and ministries express their Christian concern, love, and compassion through works of mercy and Gospel witness; assist ministries to collaborate their work in God's kingdom; and provide accountability and oversight for District-owned ministries and grant recipients to carry out the mission opportunities our Lord puts before us.

God has uniquely guided Pastor Jacobsen in his ministry over the years: first, as a church planter in Memphis, TN; then helping revitalize Calvary Lutheran, Lincoln; and most recently in assisting Atonement, Bethany, and St. Paul, Omaha to close and merge as one congregation for stronger ministry and outreach in their community.

We pray God's continued grace upon Lonnie's service. A rite acknowledging his call and installation will be held at the opening worship service of the District Convention.



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