



# INTERCOM / E-NEWS

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Volume 18, Issue 6

**“I’ve got to get away!”** Have you ever said that or felt that way? The hectic pace of everyday life often catches up with us. We feel a need to find some solitary place where we may enjoy rest and relaxation. It may be Lutheran Island Camp, a campground, a resort, a trip.

A change of pace works wonders. It relaxes the mind and body. It refreshes. One returns to his or her regular duties with renewed zeal and interest.

We read in the fourteenth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew that Jesus and His twelve Apostles needed a change of pace. News of John the Baptist’s murder by Herod had just reached their ears. This news ushered in a new period of Jesus’ ministry. It was time to begin preparing the Disciples for the climax of His earthly mission. To do so, He wished to be alone with them for a time. In Capernaum there was too much hustle and bustle. People were coming and going in their efforts to see Jesus. Under such circumstances it was almost impossible to confer with the Apostles.

These men had just returned from their first preaching tour. They were excited and wanted to share their experiences with Jesus, but they were kept so busy that they did not even have a chance to eat. They needed a break. So, Jesus invited them to accompany Him to a quiet place. There they could get some rest and Jesus would have the opportunity to teach them. He took them to a desolate area on the northeastern side of the Sea of Galilee, on a mountainside.

We also have need to get away for rest. Our minds and bodies need it. A lot of people reach a stage of burnout simply because they do not rest. They do not take the time to replenish

their strength. Every now and then make sure to stop and just breathe for a moment. Taking a break from constant activity is something that can actually keep you energized in the life you live for the Lord. We need not feel guilty when we seek a solitary place for rest and relaxation. Remember, if Satan can’t defeat you outright, he will settle for an exhausted, ineffective version of the person God wants you to be

Make no mistake about it. God wants His children to rest. When you rest, it allows you to replenish your physical, mental, and emotional strength that keeps you fighting the good fight of faith. In the Book of Psalms, David gives the analogy of a shepherd making his sheep lie down and take a rest. A shepherd would do this in order to make sure his sheep were rested for the journey that was ahead of them. Sometimes the sheep would fight and struggle, but because the shepherd cared for the sheep, he would make them lie down.

Just as a shepherd cares for sheep, God cares for you. He knows the journey that lies ahead for you, and He will nudge you when it’s time to rest for a moment. Taking a rest break doesn’t mean you are losing ground; it just means you are getting prepared for the journey ahead into greater things.

There is, another kind of rest we need, a rest for the soul. The problems and stresses of day-to-day living cause us to worry and complain. Then we realize how miserably we have failed to live in a Christ-like manner...to follow Him with a faith that will not shrink though pressed by many a foe. Martin Luther wrote: *“He who loses sight of the Word of God, falls into despair; the voice of heaven no longer sustains him; he follows only the disorderly tendency of his heart, and of world vanity, which lead him on to his destruction.”*

*continued on pg. 3*

## In this issue...

- 1- Message from Rev. Donald Fondow, District President
- 2- District News
- 3- Opportunities around the District
- 4- In All Things, Office of International Mission, CSL, Mission Training Center
- 5- Message from Rev. Jason Wolter, District Life Coordinator
- 6- Missions Unpacked for Kids, CSP, RSTM
- 7- Doxology, LCEF
- 8- Mission Minutes
- 9- Calendar of Events, Anniversaries and Celebrations District Resources
- 10- Call Update, Wellness Resources
- 11- In Our Prayers
- 12- Prayer Calendar, Contact Information

# DISTRICT NEWS



**Rev. Philip Houser was installed at Trinity, Lake George on Sunday, June 6th.** Pictured are: Back Row: Rev. Jim Neubauer, Rev. Joel Newton, Rev. Dr. Larry Harvala, Rev. Robert Wentzel; Front Row: Rev. Bill Knaack, Rev. Dr. Don Kirschner, Rev. Philip Houser, Rev. Don Fondow (District President), Rev. James Sorensen and Rev. David Walsh.



Rev. Jacob Gillard was installed at Faith Community, Zimmerman on Sunday, May 23rd. Pictured are: Back Row: Rev. Daniel Lewis, Rev. Keith Grimm, Rev. Jason Neal, Rev. Dr. Tom Trapp, Rev. Bob Nikl, Rev. Randy Stroming, Rev. Jon Niebuhr, Rev. Dr. Robert Holst, Rev. Bill Hugo; Front Row: Rev. Terry Grzybowski, Rev. Tim Lamkin, Rev. Marty Mably, Rev. Don Fondow (District President), Rev. Jacob Gillard, Rev. Tim Renstrom, Rev. Donald Polege.



Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy was installed at First, Grand Rapids on Sunday, May 9th. Pictured are: Back Row: Rev. Steve Breitbarth, Rev. Jim Anthony, Rev. Mark Peske, Rev. Bill Zeige; Front Row: Rev. Ray Hendrickson, Rev. Don Stauty, Rev. Don Fondow (District President), Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy, Rev. Bruce Noennig, Rev. Jeffrey Kyler and Rev. Brad Felix.



Good Shepherd Lutheran High School is ready to open at Lord Of Glory Lutheran Church in Elk River this fall! [LEARN MORE>>](http://www.gslhighschool.org)

## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, SHIBLE TOWNSHIP CLOSING SERVICE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 27TH AT 2:30 PM

Evangelical Lutheran Immanuel Congregation was established in the township of Shible, Swift County, Minnesota on January 29, 1889. The church building was dedicated on December 11, 1892 and underwent major remodeling in 1959. Immanuel has been served by 18 pastors and has supplied the church at large with five men for the ministerial office.



# CAPSTONE MINISTRIES

**Rev. Dan & Patty Schmelzer, Founders of Capstone Ministries  
Zion, Morris on Sunday, June 27th.**

Capstone Ministries is a ministry to the street children of Western Kenya, specifically Kisumu and the surrounding areas. Capstone was founded in 2005 with the objective of restoring street children with their family. The ministry is founded upon the Scripture from Psalm 118:22 "The stone the builder's rejected has become the capstone." Capstone Ministries is a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS.

In Kisumu more than 1000 children, mostly boys, live full-time on the streets, begging and stealing to survive. They sleep in open parks, on the sidewalks in front of shops and even in the sewers. Few believe that they can or even should be rehabilitated. But at Capstone we believe that every child has value and every child should know the love of God and family.

The process is often filled with challenges. Shame, discouragement, hopelessness, poverty, HIV, malaria, alcoholism and substance abuse are just a few of the ongoing challenges of this work. Sometimes the road is rough and the setbacks are discouraging but we know God is able and desires change in these children and in their families.

For information please check out the [capstoneministries.org](http://capstoneministries.org) website.

## OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL IN CLOQUET, MN HAS THE FOLLOWING OPPORTUNITIES:

### Preschool Director:

Candidate should have excellent administrative, time management and communication skills. Must have experience with Microsoft Office products. Specifically, Excel, Word and PowerPoint.

### Lead Preschool Teacher:

Candidate must have a Bachelor's degree in Education and 2+ years of teaching experience preferred.

### Part-time Administrative Assistant to work 25 hours a week:

Job responsibilities include creating service bulletins, answering phone calls, creating power point presentations, and other clerical responsibilities. Candidate should be familiar with Microsoft Office Suite. Familiarity with Microsoft Publisher is a plus.

Qualified candidates should send a resume to: [ourredeemer@orlcp.com](mailto:ourredeemer@orlcp.com). Otherwise, an application can be picked up at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 515 Skyline Blvd, Cloquet, MN 55720. Please contact (218) 879-3380 if you have any questions.

## LUTHERAN WORSHIP (BLUE HYMNALS) AVAILABLE

Trinity Lutheran Church in Ortonville, MN has several Lutheran Worship (Blue) Hymnals that they would like to pass along to another church or mission. For more information, contact the church at (320)839-3422 or by email at [ofc.tlcort@midconetwork.com](mailto:ofc.tlcort@midconetwork.com)

*continued from pg. 1*

Our Shepherd is not only concerned about us physically, but all the more spiritually. He restores our soul. The broken heart, the screaming conscience, He comes to heal. Jesus says clearly what His chief work would be as our Good Shepherd—to lay down His life only to take it up again. The forgiveness of sins that Jesus has won for us by His death and proved by His resurrection is the ultimate in soul restoration.

The needed relief and renewed strength for our souls is given to us in the Means of Grace: the Word and Sacraments. In Jesus, who in love for us gave His life as a ransom for all our sins, we receive rest and restoration. He is our Savior and Good Shepherd who provides for all our needs of body and soul. ***(Jesus said) "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"*** (Matthew 11:28).

*In all the strife Of mortal life  
Our feet will stand securely;  
Temptation's hour will lose its pow'r,  
For You will guard us surely.  
O God, renew with heav'nly dew  
Our body, soul and spirit  
Until we stand at Your right hand  
Through Jesus' saving merit.  
LSB 714 v. 3*

Enjoy the Summer and take time to relax, refresh, and be renewed for service to our Lord!

*President Don Fondou*

## ENCLOSED TRAILER FOR LWML STORAGE

The MN North LWML is looking to buy an inexpensive 6X12 ft. enclosed trailer for storing and transporting convention items. If you know of one for sale, please contact LWML President Kathy Brandt at [kathyrae56510@yahoo.com](mailto:kathyrae56510@yahoo.com) or at 218-766-1135. Must be in good condition and ready to use.

We have just over a year before the 2022 Gathering. The list for preparation is long, so Mark and Julianna talk you through some key things to do with guest DCE Annie Anderson.

**Bio:** DCE Annie Anderson is serving a congregation in the East Valley of Phoenix. 2022 will be her 8th Gathering and in this Gathering cycle she is serving as a planner on our Adult Leader Resource Team.

**LCMS Gathering Online Resources:**

- LCMS Youth Gathering Website [lcmsgathering.com](http://lcmsgathering.com)
- In All Things Adult Leader Resource, including Things to Do in Houston [lcmsgathering.com/resources](http://lcmsgathering.com/resources)
- LCMS Youth Ministry Facebook Leader Group [facebook.com/groups/LCMSYouthMinistry](https://www.facebook.com/groups/LCMSYouthMinistry)

*End Goals is the podcast of [LCMS Youth Ministry](#) in the [Office of National Mission](#). LCMS Youth Ministry Staff discuss practices for healthy youth ministry and interview practitioners who provide insight for experienced and new youth leaders.*

[LISTEN HERE](#)

LCMS International Mission Webinar  
Using the Basics in Outreach



June 21  
12 pm CDT

From rustic villages to modern high-rises, missionaries open doors for the Holy Spirit to gather more people into God's family through faithful witness. Take a 30-minute brain break with LCMS International Mission for insight into these international workers' essential ministry tactics and stash them away for handy access right where God has placed you.

Join Rev. Dr. Michael & Irene Paul, who serve in Taiwan, for a discussion of how they connect with people in their neighborhood and find opportunities to present the basics of the Gospel through a series of pictures.

[Register for the webinar](#)

Drop Your Nets  
AND Follow Me

Raising up the next generation of church workers

By Rev. Micah Glenn

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis has created a new resource to help identify and encourage future church workers. "Drop Your Nets and Follow Me: Raising up the Next Generation of Church Workers," written by Director of Recruitment Micah Glenn, is an eight-page booklet that provides insights and practical tips aimed at increasing enrollment at both seminaries of the LCMS and in church worker programs across the Concordia University System.

[Read or download "Drop Your Nets and Follow Me"](#)

Prospective students and those who refer them are also encouraged to check out [Concordia Seminary, St. Louis' new podcast, "Under the Fig Tree."](#)

Hosted by Associate Provost [Dr. Benjamin Haupt](#) and Director of Recruitment [Rev. Micah Glenn](#), "Under the Fig Tree" launched March 5. With a focus on recruitment, the podcast aims to share meaningful content with men and women who are considering enrollment.

**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 [The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod \(LCMS\)](#). To learn more, visit [csl.edu](http://csl.edu).



MISSION  
TRAINING  
CENTER

How well do you know the community in which you live or serve? Have you intentionally thought about their needs, both physical and spiritual? And then, have you taken the next step of finding ways that

you and your congregation can reach out to meet their needs, creating not only a relationship with them but also the means for sharing the Gospel? Our upcoming class might be just what you need.

[MTC015 Knowing and Engaging In Your Community](#) - Appreciate and make meaningful connections with people in the community in which your congregation or ministry is located. A major portion of the

course is focused on developing skills and strategies to know and engage the local community.

MTC is a ministry of the California-Nevada-Hawaii (CNH), Northwest (NOW), and Pacific Southwest (PSD) Districts of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and Concordia University-Irvine (CUI). Check out our remaining 2021 offerings at: [Schedule for Online Classes](#).



# A MESSAGE FROM THE MN NORTH DISTRICT LIFE COORDINATOR

Rev. Jason Wolter, Benson, MN

Last week, the Gospel reading included a story about an interaction between Jesus and His (earthly) family. They were concerned about Him and wanted to take Him home, away from the crowds that constantly encircled Him. But what did Jesus say, when He was told that His family was waiting for Him outside? He said, **“Here are My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother.”**

They say that blood is thicker than water; but that’s not true... when the water comes from the baptismal font. In *that* case, there’s *nothing* stronger than the ties that bind us together into God’s family. And what a privilege it is to be in His beloved family! It is the greatest family that we could ever be a part of! Now, please understand: that’s *not* to diminish the importance- *and preciousness*- of our earthly families.

Clearly God wants us to be part of healthy, loving and supportive families. That’s why He established (in the Scriptures) all the laws that He did. Those commandments were meant to protect- *and preserve*- marriages and families. Being virgins until marriage... and then *keeping* that life-long commitment... and being shepherds of the little lambs that God gives us: those things are all part of God’s plan to have families that are a blessing to those who are in them, as well as being a blessing to the rest of the world.

Yet the greatest family that we can belong to... is still the family of God. In His family, we are completely united to one another, in a way that surpasses all others. In God’s family, we have brothers and sisters who promise to love- *and forgive*- us: just as they have been loved- *and forgiven*- by God. In all things, He is the role model that the rest of our *spiritual* family members strive to

follow.

And in this spiritual family of saints, we are privileged to have older members who serve as parents- and grandparents- for us all. They pray for us, guide us with their wisdom and bless us with their faithfulness. Likewise, the precious little ones, that Jesus bids come to Him, are everyone’s children and grandchildren. And everyone- of all ages- is a brother or sister in Christ.

Being the pro-life people that we are, we strive to make sure that everyone knows how lovable- and loved- they are. So, in our churches, we ought to be helping our members appreciate the opportunities that they have to serve in those roles listed in the previous paragraph. All of us need to be loved (and should be, because- in Christ- we are lovable); and all of us have love to give away.

Like I said, those who are older can be spiritual parents- or grandparents- to younger families and children. They can volunteer to watch the nursery (if a church has one), so that parents of young children can worship without anxiety or distractions. Or they can simply “hold” a baby during the Lord’s Supper, so that the child’s parents can attend the Sacrament of the Altar. They can adopt a child and serve as a surrogate sponsor, by praying for that child and helping them celebrate their baptismal birthdays. And, as I said in my last newsletter submission, they can pray for the younger members of the church.

Likewise, the younger members of a church can be the spiritual children or grandchildren of the older members. They can visit those who don’t get out much (or call them) and offer a supportive ear. They can sponsor special occasions for older members, such as a dinner and dance... or a Christmas party. They can also adopt a spiritual parent / grandparent and develop a special relationship with them. And,

again, they could simply pray for the older members of the church, who- at one time- carried so much of the burden of the church’s ministries.

It may be hard for some people to receive the love and support of others. For some reason, many of us struggle with the idea that other people want to show concern for us and do things for us. Ironically though, most of *us* really enjoy doing those kinds of things for *others*. So it might take some time for us to be able to receive loving support from others. But, hopefully, eventually we’ll realize that- by refusing to let others love us- we’re depriving them of the same joy that we have when we get to help others.

In Forrest Carter’s book, The Education of Little Tree (*about life during the Depression*), a Cherokee grandfather told his grandson about the *true* meaning of “*kin-folk*”. He said, “‘*Kin folk*’ used to be *everyone that you knew and loved... and who knew and loved you. But people got selfish... and brought it down to mean just blood relatives. But it was never meant to be just that.*” In other words, during those difficult times people wanted to put a limit on the number of people that they were required to love and care about. Because of their challenging situations, they didn’t feel like (or want) to care about any more people than they had to.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ: may that never happen to us. We’ll *all* have to face difficult times in our lives. But, in those times, hopefully we can find comfort in the church family that we have: who loves us- *with Christ’s own love*- and cares about us more than we’ll ever know. And if it doesn’t always seem that way, then let us strive to make it that way: so that we can always see one another... as *kin-folk*; because that *is* what we are- *in Christ*- and that’s what we’ll always be. Thanks be to God! Amen.



for Kids  
**MISSIONS  
UNPACKED**

**Introduce kids to the people and places of LCMS International Mission.**

**Who:** Kids in grades 1-6

**When:** June 21-August 8, self-paced!

**Where:** Your home, neighborhood, or church

**Learn more & register:**  
[international.lcms.org/missions-unpacked](http://international.lcms.org/missions-unpacked)

### **Dwell in Unity**

This issue of Reaching Rural America for Christ, the newsletter from LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission, provides encouragement for us to continue to boldly proclaim the love of God in Christ Jesus.

This issue also highlights a recent webinar, which discusses how we can look at conflict as a tool rather than a threat so we can move forward in confidence as we serve the Lord.

**[READ THE NEWSLETTER>>](#)**

### **Webinars:**

**“Joy in Youth Ministry”** — [1 to 2 p.m. Central time, Thursday, June 24.](#)

Presenter: Rev. Mark Kiessling, director of LCMS Youth Ministry.

**“Schools Overview”** — [1 to 2 p.m. Central time, Thursday, July 22.](#)

Presenter: Dr. Rebecca Schmidt, director of LCMS School Ministry.

[View webinar schedule](#)

## **Influenced By a Cloud of Witnesses: Reading the Psalms for Spiritual Strength**



**PROF  
INSIGHTS**  
FACULTY-LED WORKSHOP SERIES



**Dr. Timothy Saleska | Concordia University, St. Paul**

**June 28-30, 2021 | \$100**

[csl.edu/event/faculty-led-workshop-series-professor-saleska](http://csl.edu/event/faculty-led-workshop-series-professor-saleska)



# DOXOLOGY

As a pastor there is always more to know and there is always a need to refresh.

Perhaps even more after being put through the pandemic wringer this past year.

The DOXOLOGY Classic program provides pastors with **advanced training for the care of souls**. The Classic program is a comprehensive experience of applied learning through a series of three conference retreats.

The Classic program combines lecture, discussion, mentoring, case study analysis, and individual consultation – all wrapped in rich corporate worship under the leadership of a pastor in residence.

Access a three minute overview of the entire program [here](#).

[Classic program starting July 19-22 this summer in Buffalo, Minnesota.](#)

Generous grants allow us to subsidize the cost of this training experience reducing it to less than half the regular price. Special financial plans may be arranged upon inquiry.

**Contact us if you have any questions about the program or funding. We want to make this happen for you.**

For additional information and to register, visit [doxology.us](http://doxology.us).

In Christ,

[Rev. David C. Fleming](#)

Executive Director for Spiritual Care

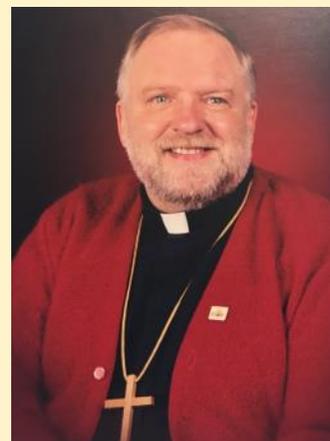
[Dr. Beverly K. Yahnke](#)

Executive Director for Christian Counsel

## MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR REV. RON TIBBETTS

Rev. Ronald Tibbetts (em. Aitkin) passed away on April 9, 2020. A graveside service at Lakewood Cemetery in Aitkin took place at that time.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, August 6, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church in Aitkin.



## REPAIR AND REFRESH

**Is your church in need of improvements, repairs or upgrades? We can help.**

Lutheran Church Extension Fund's (LCEF) Church Improvement Loan provides congregations up to \$150,000 for projects to make necessary repairs, deferred maintenance or energy-efficiency gains.

 **GET STARTED TODAY AT [LCEF.ORG/CHURCH-IMPROVEMENT](http://LCEF.ORG/CHURCH-IMPROVEMENT).**

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

**REV. JEFFREY A. LEE**  
LCEF District Vice President | Minnesota North  
218-829-1781 | [Jeff.Lee@lcef.org](mailto: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. Lutheran Church Extension Fund-Missouri Synod (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/](http://lcef.org/state-disclosures/). The National Office is located at: 10733 Sunset Office Drive, Suite 300, St. Louis, MO 63127-1020.



# MISSIONARY MINUTES



## 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. The school is bursting at the seams and is so thankful for their teachers and support staff pictured here. Funds for teacher salaries are still needed and greatly appreciated. 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 (a 2021 graduate of Concordia Academy, Roseville, MN) are also studying in the US with plans to return to Liberia to use their education. Donations (specifically designate on the memo line) can be sent to: MN North District, PO Box 604, Brainerd, MN 56401.

**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](#).



## 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. Project 24 is excited to announce that the Kakamega Site groundbreaking will be July 1st and hopes to open the facility in January. Our second class has joined our Pre-Lutheran Academy at the Neema Lutheran College in Matongo, Kenya. Students pictured here have completed secondary school and are attending this program for the next several months. We pray God's blessings as they continue to learn and grow in their faith. Total Number of Students at the P24 sites: 190 children; Number of Students Sponsored as to date: 136. Find **Project 24 on Facebook** [HERE](#). Find the P24 Newsletter [HERE](#). Sponsor a child [HERE](#).



**PUERTO RICO FORO** The team in Puerto Rico continues to share the Gospel with the people of Mayaguez and Ponce. We ask for your prayers as we begin (again) our in-person ESL classes in our CARD centers in Mayaguez and Ponce in June. Ruth Maita has been working hard to gather and assess future students to schedule a total of four classes. Rev. Gustavo Maita, Ruth, and Mikhaela will be in the United States June-August to share with your congregation about the work being done here in Puerto Rico, and in particular about Ruth's service as a career missionary. Below is a schedule of the Maita's time over the next few months. They will be in Minnesota in August., please reach out to Ruth to schedule a visit. [ruth.maita@lcms.org](mailto:ruth.maita@lcms.org). Adam Lehman, his wife, Christine, and their children, Hannah, Noah, Abigail, and Jonah have been serving in Spain for the last six years as LCMS Missionaries. Please keep them in your prayers

as they transition from one mission field to another. Check out their missionary page [HERE](#)! 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](#).



## REV. DR. DAN & DR. JOAN JASTRAM

Pastor Jastram is the Asia Lutheran Resource Coordinator: Making Lutheran resources of theology and worship available in all of Asia. He shares: *"God has wonderfully arranged some recent connections with international Tokyo expats which resulted in our first catechetical study on park benches in the center of Tokyo."* 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.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 13, 2021	LWML Board of Directors Meeting, District Office
August 11-12, 2021	New Worker Orientation, District Office
August 30-31, 2021	Circuit Visitors Conference, District Office
Sept 19-20, 2021	MN North District BOD Meeting, District Office
September 25, 2021	Lutheran Layman's League Annual Conference, Zion Lutheran Church, Hoffman, MN Rev. Fred Hinz, District Public Policy Advocate
Sept 26-28, 2021	MN North District Fall Pastors Conference, Lutheran Island Camp
December 5-6, 2021	MN North District BOD Meeting, District Office
May 9-11, 2022	MN North District Convention, Brainerd

## ANNIVERSARIES AND CELEBRATIONS

Rev. David Buuck, former pastor at St. Paul, Hinckley and Joy, Cambridge is celebrating his 50th Ordination Anniversary during the 8:15 am Traditional Service at Cross View Lutheran Church in Edina on Sunday, June 27, 2021. The service will be live streamed at: <https://www.crossview.net/worship/media.cfm>

Rev. Jonathan Watt, Life in Christ, Grand Marais is celebrating the 20th Anniversary of his ordination with a special reception on June 20th at 3:00 pm at the church.

Trinity Lutheran Church in Ortonville, MN will celebrate their 125th Anniversary with special events on September 11-12, 2021.

Ordination Anniversaries this year:

- ◆ Rev. Roger Lange - 60 years
- ◆ Rev. Dan Abrahams - 50 years
- ◆ Rev. David Fechner - 50 years
- ◆ Rev. Delbert Meyer - 50 years
- ◆ Rev. Gerald Creighton - 50 years
- ◆ Rev. Ray Hendrickson - 40 years
- ◆ Rev. Bruce Noennig - 40 years
- ◆ Rev. David Schoessow - 40 years



## 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 available this fall.



Concordia Plans is invested in the long-term health and wellness of workers and their family members, offering benefits and solutions that care for them throughout their lives. The Concordia Health Plan offers a comprehensive suite of health care and wellness benefits that meet the needs of your ministry, your workers and their family members so everyone can be well to serve well – including medical, wellness, mental health and prescription drug coverage.

[LEARN MORE>>](#)



Main Street Living continues to reach out with televised worship services in the Twin Cities, Fargo and Sioux Falls markets. Visit [mainstreetliving.com](http://mainstreetliving.com)



MSL Northland is reaching out to a large audience in the Duluth Market every week. Visit [mslnorthland.com](http://mslnorthland.com)



The ADF Church Alliance aims to provide religious liberty help that is tailored to the needs of each congregation and the latest challenges to religious freedom. The direct benefits for churches are document review, attorney access, legal resources, and pro bono representation. Find more on the blog [HERE](#).



# CALL UPDATE

## MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT—Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

### CALLS ACCEPTED

**ALEXANDRIA**, Zion - Candidate Matthew Lorenz accepted the Call. Installation 7/18/21.

**BELLINGHAM/CORRELL/ODESSA**, Trinity/Grace/Trinity - Candidate Nathaniel Brown accepted the Call. Installation 7/18/21.

**CLOQUET (Munger)**, Hope - Candidate Stafford Thompson accepted the Call. Installation 6/27/21.

**ELY/BABBITT**, First/Good Shepherd - Candidate Zachariah Burgdorf accepted the Call. Installation 8/22/21.

**ST. CLOUD**, Holy Cross - Rev. Zachary Hoffman, Gainsville, GA accepted the Call. Installation 6/27/21.

**SEBEKA/NIMROD/N. GERMANY TWP**, Grace/Nimrod/Zion - Candidate Timothy Schmeisser accepted the Call. Installation 6/20/21.

**VILLARD/GROVE LAKE**, St. John/Trinity - Candidate Ryan Pumphrey accepted the Call. Installation 6/20/21.

### 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. Christopher Vossler, McFarland, KS. He declined the Call. Called Rev. Ben Hollingsead, Stacy, MN.

**EDEN VALLEY**, St. Paul (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Jack Baumgart) - Called Colloquy Candidate Rev. Ben Hollingsead, Stacy, MN.

**ESKO**, St. Matthews (Associate)

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

**HENNING**, St. Paul (Vacancy Pastor—Rev. Ron Jobe) - Called Rev. Daniel Gifford Falls, Falls City, NE.

**HERMANTOWN**, Peace in Christ (Associate)

**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) - Called Rev. Timothy Steckling, Bessemer, MI. He declined the Call.

### OTHER CALLS AND CHANGES

Rev. Philip Hoppe (Peace, Finlayson & St. Paul, Bruno) received a Call to Holy Cross, Scott City, KS. He declined the Call.

Rev. Daniel Lewis (Joy, Cambridge) received a Call to St. Peter, Portage, IN. He declined the Call.

Rev. Daniel Lewis (Joy, Cambridge) received a Call to St. John, LaPorte, IN.

Rev. Micah Schmidt (Living Branch, North Branch) received a Call to Bethlehem, Renton, WA. He declined the Call.

### COMMISSIONED MINISTER CHANGES

**HERMANTOWN**, Peace in Christ is Calling a DCE.

## 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](mailto:paul.cloeter@mnnlcms.org)

**HEALTHY CHURCH WORKERS:** [HealthyChurchWorkers.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://shepherds canyonretreat.org)

# IN OUR PRAYERS

The Family of Martha Sundberg-Buchholz, widow of sainted Rev. Henry Buchholz, who passed away on Sunday, June 13th.

Dr. Elly Lutz, wife of Rev. Dr. Bernie Lutz (em. Woodbury), recovering after a back injury.

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

Rev. Tom Puffe (St. John, Thief River Falls & Zion, Warren) recovering after a fall and subsequent surgery to repair a broken arm.

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

Mrs. Barb Angland, wife of Rev. Dennis Angland (Zion, Parkers Prairie), recovering after a recent hospitalization.

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

Rev. Marvin Blaske (em. Milaca), dealing with shingles.

George Miller, recovering after cataract surgery and 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. Roy Hasbargen (em. St. Cloud), dealing with health issues.

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), diagnosed with cancer.

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.

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

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

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

Pre-seminary student Jacob Franck, son of Rev. Rob & Gayle Franck, is at Fort Sill this summer undergoing basic training for the Army Reserves.

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

Captain Vincent Bain, Active Duty Chaplain, Fort Leonard Wood, MO

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, US Army

1st Lt Michaela Biegner-Wentz, granddaughter of Rev. Paul (em. Brainerd) and Joan Biegner, Virginia Beach, VA

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.

# JULY PRAYER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> Rev. Marty Porter - Zion, Sauk Centre	<b>2</b> Rev. Thomas Puffe - St. John, Thief River Falls/Zion, Warren	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>District Office Closed</b>	<b>6</b> Rev. Jacob Quast - St. Paul, International Falls	<b>7</b> Rev. Dean Rager - Nicolai, Canby/ Zion, Boyd	<b>8</b> Rev. John Rams- bacher - Trinity, Appleton	<b>9</b> Rev. Andrew Ratcliffe - St. Paul's, Perham	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Rev. Joshua Reber - Faith, St. Cloud/ Trinity, Clear Lake	<b>13</b> Rev. Dr. Timothy Rehwaldt - St. Paul, Foley/St. John, Poppo Creek	<b>14</b> Rev. Tim Renstrom - St. Stephen, Braham/St. John, Rush City	<b>15</b> Rev. Blake Rickbeil - St. Paul, Bertha	<b>16</b> Rev. Guy Roberts - Zion, Detroit Lakes	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Rev. Jeffrey Ross - St. John, Garfield	<b>20</b> Rev. Kirk Schield - Christ, Superior, WI	<b>21</b> Rev. Timothy Schiller - St. John, Hinckley (Kroschel)	<b>22</b> Rev. Micah Schmidt - Living Branch, North	<b>23</b> Rev. Mark Schwarz - Trinity, Carlos	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Rev. James Sorensen - Holy Trinity, Blackduck/ Immanuel, Cass Lake	<b>27</b> Rev. Donald Stauty - Gloria Dei, Virginia/Redeemer, Aurora	<b>28</b> Rev. Reed Stockman - Zion, Morris	<b>29</b> Rev. Delton Stohs - St. Paul, Vergas	<b>30</b> Rev. Dean Stolz - Zion, Crosby/ Immanuel, Iron Hub	<b>31</b>

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



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