

## FROM THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

“All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit ...” Acts 2:4

Dear Soldiers in the Army of Christ,

Hatred and violence. Bigotry and racism. Gossip and slander.

In case you haven't noticed, the enemy is strong, deceptive, and on the move.

The opportunities are abundant! The work is overwhelming!! There is no shortage of needs as you look out into our community and world. People need the Lord. Some are hurting. Some are wounded. Some are walking dead. Some are filled with poison. All are broken by sin. Everyone needs some kind of healing, or help, or strength. Emotionally, spiritually, physically, mentally ... people need the Lord.

The sheer volume of the challenge is one reason that God did not just give to pastors this task of touching people with the heart of Jesus. The task is for all His children as His body, the Church. He has given us His Spirit and spiritual gifts to be about this work of bringing healing to our community and to the nations.

From an earthly perspective, the task is too big even for all of us together. This involves not only the people of God, but the counsel of God and the power of God Himself. God is moving among us to touch people in Jesus, the Christ, the Lord and Redeemer of all.

Many Nebraskans, visitors to Nebraska, and others along the “eclipse path” recently watched a wonder of God's creative power. At times I wish I could see God move in and through His Church with that kind of outward display of wonder. I wish I could see His impact more and watch it move faster, but God most often is at work in ways that we cannot see and usually can't even notice, much less understand.

You have been filled with the Holy Spirit and He is steadily working within you to grow you in your faith. Sometimes prodding and sometimes inviting, He leads us, as David writes, “in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.”

Unfolding before you again as this new school year begins are opportunities to receive His gifts, grow in His grace, expand in your skills, and reach out to people within and outside your congregational family: marriage, parenting, finances, adult Bible studies, worship, prayer, children's and youth ministries.

His love is for all and all need His love, grace, and faith. The work may seem overwhelming, with leaders and workers few, but as God equips people He calls them and where He calls, He equips. And as He uses us with His grace, He accomplishes and fulfills what we are unable to do ourselves.

In the joy of His Spirit through the flowing waters of Holy Baptism,

*Rev. Richard Snow*

News items, congregational anniversaries, and ministry stories for the Reporter are always welcome. The deadline for submissions to the November/December Reporter is October 16. Please submit items to Kim Myers at [reporter@ndlcms.org](mailto:reporter@ndlcms.org) or by mail. Visit our website at [ndlcms.org](http://ndlcms.org) for more information or to subscribe to the Reporter by email.

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*Congregations, leaders, and related organizations connected and growing in their mission of discipling the saved and proclaiming Christ to the lost.*

## Nebraska District Middle School Gathering



## District Youth Gathering—Omaha



Register your youth now for the upcoming gatherings! Visit our website at <http://www.ndlcms.org/youth-gathering/> for registration information.

## ANNIVERSARIES

**Trinity Lutheran Church, Murdock,**  
125th, Oct. 8, 10:30 a.m. Rev. Scott Porath, First Vice President of the Nebraska District, will preach at a festive divine service. A lunch will be served following the service.

**St. John Lutheran Church, Madison (Green Garden), 140th, October 29, 10:00 a.m.** Rev. Dr. Brent Smith will be the guest preacher for the morning worship service. A catered meal will follow.

## CALL ACTIVITY IN THE DISTRICT

### ORDAINED

#### CALLS ACCEPTED

**Rev. Daniel Barbey** (StL'86) intentional interim, Faith, Pierre, SD, to intentional interim, Faith, Lincoln

**Rev. Chad Boggs** (StL'10) Zion, Red Cloud, and Grace, Franklin, to Immanuel, Tilden

**Rev. Michael Feldmann** (StL'11) senior, Grace, Wayne, to associate, Salem, Salem, IL

**Rev. Anthony Gerber** (StL'14) assistant, Trinity, St. Joseph, MI, to senior, Trinity, Fremont

**Rev. Eric Jay** (StL'11) candidate, Pacific Southwest District, to associate, St. Mark, Omaha

**Rev. Kevin Kohnke** (FtW'91) We Must Carry On (RSO), Lincoln, to Trinity, Walton

**Rev. Ryan Loeslie** (FtW'09) Immanuel, Merna, to Immanuel, Dimock, SD

**Rev. Terry Makelin** (StL'10) St. John, Pilger, and First Trinity (Altona), Wayne, to St. Paul, Freeman, SD

**Rev. Jonathan Ripke** (StL'11) Immanuel, Hooper, to associate, Zion, Marengo, IL

**Rev. Jason Wolter** (StL'02) St. John, Tecumseh, and Immanuel, Sterling, to St. Mark's, Benson, MN

#### CALLS DECLINED

**Rev. Jason Duley** (StL'12) associate, St. Paul's, Arlington, to Zion, Sioux Falls, SD

**Rev. Garen Pay** (StL'12) Peace, Alcester, SD, to Peace, McCook

#### STATUS CHANGES

**Rev. Theodore Allwardt** (StL'59) emeritus, Northwest District, to emeritus, Nebraska District

**Rev. James Carretto** (FtW'81) St. Paul, Wisner, to emeritus, Nebraska District

**Rev. Jack Gillam** (StL'99) senior, Trinity, Grand Island, to emeritus, Nebraska District

#### INSTALLATIONS & ORDINATIONS

**Rev. Nathan Abel** (StL'17) as pastor, St. John, Wilcox, August 6 (ordination also)

**Rev. Daniel Barbey** (StL'86) as intentional interim pastor, Faith, Lincoln, August 13

**Rev. C. Brian Bucklew** (FtW'11) as pastor, Zion, Plainview, July 8

**Rev. Loren Cooper** (FtW'90) as pastor, Trinity, Campbell, August 13

**Rev. Jose Flores** (StLCqy'96) as pastor, Trinity, Hebron, and St. Mark, Ruskin, July 9

**Rev. Timothy Gall** (StL'17) as pastor, Bethlehem, Pleasant Dale, July 2 (ordination also)

**Rev. Anthony Gerber** (StL'14) as senior pastor, Trinity, Fremont, August 12

**Rev. Justin Hildebrand** (FtW'17) as pastor, St. John's, McCook, July 9 (ordination also)

**Rev. Matthew Koterba** (FtW'17) as pastor, St. Peter's, Wymore, and Zion, Harbine, August 13 (ordination also)

## 2018 NEBRASKA DISTRICT CONVENTION



The 2018 Nebraska District Convention will be held **June 15-16, 2018** at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney under the theme "**Reconciled in Christ, for the World**" based on 2 Corinthians 5:18-20.

Along with conducting the elections and other business of the district, delegates will hear from keynote speaker Rev. Ed

Keinath, who will focus on what it means to be children of God reconciled to Him in Christ, to be reconciled to one another in the body of Christ, and to be reconcilers in Christ to the world.

Information on selecting voting delegates and nominations will be mailed to church offices in September.

- Nominations for district secretary and committee members (online process outlined on back page) – **DUE October 15.**
- Overtures to bring business to the convention – **DUE January 29, 2018.**
- Delegate Information Forms – **DUE January 31, 2018.**
- Nominations for district president, vice presidents, and other board of director members – **DUE to district secretary January 31, 2018.**
- Election of circuit visitors to take place at circuit forums scheduled by current circuit visitors no later than January 14 – **DUE January 31, 2018.**
- Registration for all delegates and guests attending Convention – **DUE May 11, 2018.**

Convention questions may be directed to Nichole Hetz, convention coordinator, at [nicholeh@ndlcms.org](mailto:nicholeh@ndlcms.org). Convention information can be found on our website at <http://convention.ndlcms.org>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Circuit Visitors'/Vice-Presidents' Conference

October 5-6, St. Benedict Center, Schuyler

### Nebraska District Treasurers/Business Managers' Workshop

October 17, Mahoney State Park, Ashland

### All Professional Church Workers' Conference

October 19-20, The Cornhusker, Lincoln

### Nebraska District Middle School Gathering

November 11-12, Ramada, Columbus

### District Youth Gathering—Omaha

November 17-19, Embassy Suites, LaVista

### Spring Pastors' Conference

April 9-10, 2018, Younes Conference Center, Kearney

### Nebraska District LCMS Convention

June 15-16, 2018, Younes Conference Center, Kearney

For more information, or to register for these events, visit our website: [www.ndlcms.org/upcoming-events/](http://www.ndlcms.org/upcoming-events/)

## WORKSHOP FOR TREASURERS AND BUSINESS MANAGERS

Those with financial responsibilities within churches, schools, or other ministries are invited to attend the free Treasurers' and Business Managers' Workshop sponsored by LCEF on **October 17, starting at 8:30** at Mahoney State Park in Ashland. It will cover topics such as insurance, accounting, and taxes. The cost of the park permit will be covered by LCEF. Visit <http://www.ndlcms.org/business-workshop/> to learn more, or contact Joyce Bruha at [joyceb@ndlcms.org](mailto:joyceb@ndlcms.org) for more information.

# CALL ACTIVITY IN THE DISTRICT

## COMMISSIONED

### CALLS ACCEPTED

**Amanda Bell** (TX'07) DCE, Good Shepherd, Fremont, to Director of Family Ministry, Beautiful Savior, Sarasota, FL

**Karl Bergdolt** (S'88) teacher, Trinity, Grand Island, to teacher/AD, St. Paul, St. Joseph, MO

**Andrew Jipp** (S'99) candidate, to teacher, Concordia, Omaha

**Alyssa Kirby** (S'14) teacher, Zion, St. Charles, MO, to teacher, St. John, Battle Creek

**Kassidy Klingsporn** (S'15) teacher, Zion, Kearney, to teacher, St. Paul, Utica

**David Kumm** (S'01) principal, St. Paul, Napoleon, OH, to principal, Trinity, Lincoln

**Jane Limback** (S'84) director, Christ, Platte Woods, MO, to interim director, St. John Child Development Center, Seward

**Scott Nelson** (S'83) candidate, Nebraska District, to teacher, Immanuel, Twin Falls, ID

**Rebecca Rumsch** (PO'CQ'09) teacher, King of Kings, Omaha, to teacher, Lutheran Church of the Cross, Kent, WA

**Sarah Scherer** (S'04) candidate, to teacher, St. Paul's, Arlington

**Lisa Vannoy** (S'95) teacher, Messiah, Lincoln, to teacher, Trinity, Pueblo, CO

**Larry Wooster** (S'82) principal, St. Paul, Ogallala, to principal, St. Paul's, Arlington

### CALLS DECLINED

**Scotte Hansen** (S'00) DCE, Beautiful Savior, LaVista, to Zion, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada

**Brett Jagels** (S'11) teacher, Zion, Kearney, to teacher, Concordia, Omaha

**Sue Tarr** (S'93) teacher, Trinity, St. George, UT, to teacher, King of Kings Preschool, Omaha

### OTHER TRANSACTIONS

**Beverly Cram** (SCQ'99) emerita, resigned from the roster

**Angela Davies** (StL'CQ'85) teacher, Concordia Academy, Omaha, resigned from the roster

**Debra Erickson** (S'11) candidate, Iowa District West, to candidate, Nebraska District

**Randa Felske** (S'CQ'04) teacher, Trinity, Grand Island, to candidate

**David Geidel** (S'72) principal, Trinity, Lincoln, to emeritus, South Dakota District

**Kimberlee Holden** (S'11) candidate, resigned from the roster

**Rebecca Jeseritz** (MQ'04) teacher, Concordia, Omaha, to candidate

**Sharon Johnson** (S'64) emerita, Nebraska District to emerita, Kansas District

**Joshua Keithley** (S'05) DCE, Beautiful Savior, LaVista, to candidate

**Emily Kennell** (SP'06) candidate, Nebraska District, to candidate, Missouri District

## COMMISSIONED, continued

**Robin Kolumban** (PO'92) teacher, Beautiful Savior, LaVista, to candidate

**Carol Loewe** (S'69) emerita, Nebraska District, to emerita, Minnesota South District

**Jerald Loewe** (S'67) emeritus, Nebraska District, to emeritus, Minnesota South District

**Russell Mosemann** (S'84) emeritus, Nebraska District, to emeritus, Iowa West District

**Thomas Pruitt** (MQ'91) emeritus, Nebraska District, to emeritus, Indiana District

**Annie Rumsey** (SCQ'01) teacher, Trinity, Madison, to emerita

**Robin Seim** (S'08) teacher, Trinity, Grand Island, to candidate

**Elizabeth Slothower** (SP'70) emerita, Nebraska District, to emerita, Southern District

**Marva Tonniges** (S'65) emerita, Nebraska District, to emerita, Rocky Mountain District

**Nancy Weber** (S'74) teacher, Christ, Norfolk, to emerita

**Mira Wiegmann** (S'69) emerita, Nebraska District, to emerita, Northwest District

**Kathryn Wiest** (S'78) teacher, Our Redeemer, North Platte, to emerita

**Allan Zeitz** (S'68) emeritus, Nebraska District, to emeritus, Minnesota South District

### PLACEMENTS

**Cassandra Engbrecht** (S'17) as teacher, St. John, Battle Creek, August 13

**Brady Laib** (S'17) as DCE, First, Papillion, July 2

**Nicole Phelps** (S'15) as teacher, Christ, Norfolk, August 13

**Laura Smith** (S'13) as teacher, Emmanuel-Faith, York, July 23

**Matthew Wingert** (TX'17) as DCE, Christ, Norfolk July 23

## NEBRASKA DISTRICT ALL PROFESSIONAL CHURCH WORKERS' CONFERENCE

October 19-20

The Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel

Registration materials are available online and are **due by October 2, 2017**. Each participant must complete a separate Sectional Registration Form and return it with the appropriate registration fee as indicated on the form, or register and pay online. ***School administrators should return all teacher registrations together by mail.***

Conference details and a list of scheduled breakout sectionals are also available on the District website.

For questions, contact Candi Menze at [candim@ndlcms.org](mailto:candim@ndlcms.org) or 402-643-2961, x1010. Registration information can be found at <http://www.ndlcms.org/apc/>.

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nebraska District LCMS Convention, June 15-16, 2018  
convention.ndlcms.org



In order to increase the participation in and efficiency of the nominations and evaluations process, the Nominations Committee has decided to transition to a largely paperless nomination and evaluation process, starting with this **Call for Nominations**. **Recommendations for Nominations, Candidate Profiles, and Confidential Evaluations will now be submitted entirely online via the District website.**

Recommendations for Nomination will be accepted via the District website **starting Wednesday, July 19**. The recommendation for nomination process will **close at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, October 15**. To submit a Recommendation for Nomination, please visit [convention.ndlcms.org/nominate](http://convention.ndlcms.org/nominate) and fill in the online form.

- Contact **Kimberly Myers** with questions about **the website and the online forms** for nominations and evaluations: kimberlym@ndlcms.org, 402-643-2961, extension 1009
- Contact **Kim Hofer** with questions about **the nomination, profile, and evaluation process**: kimh@ndlcms.org, 402-643-2961, extension 1014

In order to maintain the integrity of the second part of the nominations process, all nominations for District President, District Vice-Presidents, and District Board of Directors will still utilize paper forms and require signatures of congregational leaders. Those forms will continue to be sent directly to congregations in the fall and returned to the District Secretary on the same schedule as in previous years.

**The Nominations Committee for the 2018 District Convention will need to supply candidates for the following offices, boards, and committees:**

**District Secretary, Nominations Committee, Constitution Committee, Board of Regents (Seward)**

**The Committee invites suggestions for nominees from the circuit visitors, pastors, commissioned ministers, lay members, circuit forums, and congregations of the District.**

By means of this announcement, the invitation to submit names is herewith extended to all in the Nebraska District LCMS who are interested. Please use the online form "Recommendation for Nomination," which is explained in detail below.

The Committee requests that names be forwarded to the District Office by October 15, 2017. Experience has shown that the Committee needs a major time segment to do its work properly.

**The current Nominations Committee is: Rev. James Rasmussen (District Secretary), Rev. Michael Awe (Committee Chair), Rev. Jeff Bloom, Rev. Rob Kuefner, Sandra Armstrong, Kim Cornett, Mick Onnen, and Glenn Van Velson.**

**DISTRICT SECRETARY:** *One ordained minister to be elected. Completing his first term is Rev. Jim Rasmussen, who is eligible for re-election.* Records the proceedings of District Convention, serves as member and recording secretary of the District Board of Directors, serves as member and secretary of the Constitution Committee, and corresponds with congregations concerning constitutional revisions.

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:** *Three ordained ministers, one commissioned minister, and three lay members to be elected. Completing terms are Rev. Michael Awe, Rev. Jeff Bloom, Rev. Rob Kuefner, Sandra Armstrong, Kim Cornett, Mick Onnen, and Glenn Van Velson. (The District Secretary also serves on this committee.) All are eligible for re-election.*

Prepares a slate of at least two candidates for every position to be filled: Secretary, Nominations Committee, Constitution Committee, Members of Board of Regents, and the District representative and alternate to Synodical Committee for Convention Nominations in years determined by the Bylaws of the Synod.

**CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE:** *Two ordained ministers, one commissioned minister, and one lay member, preferably an attorney, to be elected. Completing terms are Rev. Bart Fouts, Rev. Terry Makelin, Stuart Tietz, and Richard Kreutzer. All are eligible for re-election.* Advises the District, circuit forums, and individual congregations on constitutional matters. It reviews new and revised constitutions to make sure they are theologically sound, state laws are followed, and in agreement with the synodical Handbook. It also keeps the Nebraska District Bylaws up-to-date.

**BOARD OF REGENTS (Seward):** *One ordained minister, one commissioned minister, and two lay members to be elected. Completing terms are Rev. Eugene Gierke, Krista Barnhouse, Ryan Burger, and Andrew Stadler. All are eligible for re-election.* Serves on the Board of Regents of Concordia University, Seward.