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<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>9:50 a.m.</td>
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<td>Devotion</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome Video</td>
<td>10:15 a.m.-10:35 a.m.</td>
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<td>Registration Report</td>
<td>10:35 a.m.-10:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>Call to order</td>
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<td>Election Voting Instructions</td>
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<td>Acceptance of Roberts Rules of Order &amp; Standing Rules</td>
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<td>Welcome New Congregations</td>
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<td>Welcome New Workers</td>
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<td>Introduce Floor Committee Chairmen</td>
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<td>SYNOD REPORT – President Matthew Harrison</td>
<td>10:45 a.m.- 12:10 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greetings</td>
<td>12:10 p.m.-12:35p.m.</td>
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<td>Announcements – Meal Prayer</td>
<td>12:35 p.m. -1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>DISTRICT PRESIDENT’S REPORT</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.- 2:15 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS</td>
<td>2:15 p.m.- 3:15 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction of Nominees for District President</td>
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<td>Election of the District President</td>
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<td>Ratification of Circuit Visitors Elections</td>
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<td>THEOLOGY AND ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>3:15 p.m.- 4:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>OUTREACH REPORT</td>
<td>4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>Closing Devotion and Meal prayer</td>
<td>5:15 p.m.- 5:25 p.m.</td>
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<td>Reception</td>
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<td>Dinner</td>
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FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Greetings/Devotion 8:00 a.m.- 8:15 a.m.

PRESENTATION OF VICE PRESIDENTS BALLOT 8:15 a.m.-8:45 a.m.
  Election of Vice Presidents
  Nominations from Floor for Councils and Standing Committees

EDUCATION & CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES 8:45 a.m.- 9:15 a.m.
  Committee 3 – Education and Congregational Services
  Ministerial Health Commission and MEF
  Rev. Richard Koehneke – Caring for the Called

STEWARDSHIP AND STRUCTURE 9:15 a.m.-9:45 a.m.
  Committee 4 – Stewardship and Structure

RANKING OF VICE PRESIDENTS 9:45 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES 10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
  Introduction of Nominees for Councils/Committees
  Greetings
   LCMS Foundation 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
   LCEF
  LUNCH 12:15 p.m.- 1:15 p.m.
  Devotion/Prayer 1:15 p.m.- 1:25 p.m.

GREETINGS 1:25 p.m. - 1:40 p.m.
  CUS -

Committee 1 – Theology and Administration 1:40 p.m.- 1:55 p.m.
Committee 2 – Outreach 1:55 p.m.- 2:10 p.m.
Committee 3 – Education and Congregational Services 2:10 p.m.- 2:25 p.m.
Committee 4 – Stewardship and Structure 2:25 p.m.- 2:40 p.m.

Special Presentation 2:40 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

3:30 p.m.
Communion, Installation and Memorial Service
Saint Paul’s Lutheran Church
Dr. John Wohlrabe, Jr., Preacher
ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Registration** – Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. at the Grand Wayne Convention Center and will continue through noon. **Sessions, however, will begin at 10:00 a.m.**

2. **Meals** – Are provided, however, you need to register for them.

3. **Orientation** – Please read the *Workbook* carefully. Floor Committees will have met in advance of the Convention on May 19 to review the Reports and Overtures. Resolutions will be prepared, written and placed in the *Workbook Supplement* which will be available online by June 1, so that the delegates can know exactly what recommendations will be made during the convention sessions. We intend to follow the agenda as closely as possible.

4. **Excuses and Absences** – All duly elected delegates and advisory members who arrive late and leave early, or who do not attend at all, are to address their excuses in writing to the Credentials Committee, c/o The Indiana District Office, 1145 S. Barr Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802-3180.

5. **New Members** – Newly admitted congregations and church workers no longer need to sign the Constitution of Synod at the Convention (this was done at the time of joining the district). However, **they will be introduced during the first session.**

6. **Convention Workbook/Supplement** – Please bring the materials you think you will need either on your laptop or in print with you. No additional copies will be available. You will need this material for all sessions. You will receive a hard copy of *Today’s Business* each day.

7. **Computers and cell phones** – Computers will be permitted at the convention and charging stations will be available. They may be used to reference convention materials. They may not be used for any online communications or other communications. Cell phones are to be turned off or muted while on the convention floor and are not to be used for any form of communication while in convention. These limitations are requested and will be dependent upon the “honor” system. Electronic communication inside of the convention hall will be considered a breach of the churchman like conduct we need in a convention setting.

8. **Worship** – The Worship Service will be held Friday afternoon, June 15, at 3:30 p.m. at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 1126 South Barr Street, Fort Wayne.

9. **Floor Committees** – Floor Committees may need to meet on Wednesday, June 13, to address late overtures. You will be notified of times and places, if this is necessary.
Delegates are urged to contact the committees through their chairmen regarding suggestions and proposals to be brought to the floor.

10. **Voting and Advisory Delegates:** There will be separate seating for voting and advisory members. **Voting delegates ONLY** will be seated in the front section of the convention floor.

11. **Visitors** – Non-voting persons are invited to attend any and all sessions and events. Meal reservations, however, must be made in advance.

12. **Pictorial Directory** – Pictures for the 2018 Directory will be taken during the convention. Universal Church Directory has been contracted for this purpose. You will receive a digital image file directly from Universal for participating as well as a copy of the directory itself. *Clergy and deacons* serving in Word and Sacrament ministry are included. Please sign up for your “shooting” when you register for the convention. Please keep your appointment so we can get everyone’s picture taken during the allotted time. **This is a valuable resource for district staff and new pastors coming into the district.** Pastors – please make time to be included.
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Dea. Patricia Nuffer  
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Dea. Amy C. Rast  
Dea. Danielle E. Reher  
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Dea. Kimberly E. Trombley  
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Rev. Otto Brilling, Decatur
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Rev. Michael Malinsky, Columbus
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Rev. Philip Meyer, Terre Haute
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Rev. Edwin Morrow, Lafayette
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Rev. Robert Muller, Garrett
Rev. James Myers, Greenwood
Rev. David Nabinger, Logansport
Rev. Leonard Neumann, Indianapolis
Rev. Jerrold Nichols, Fort Wayne
Rev. Donald Nord, Fort Wayne
Dr. Richard Nuffer, Fort Wayne
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Rev. Donald Olson, Aurora
Rev. Roger Olson, Fort Wayne
Rev. Edwin Parker, Fort Wayne
Rev. Allen Parks, Fort Wayne
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Rev. William Randall, Evansville
Rev. Donald Rauhut, Kerrville, TX
Rev. Robert Reinhardt, Evansville
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Rev. Warren Rubel, Valparaiso
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Dr. Ralph Wetzel, Woodburn
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Rev. Donald Wunrow, Angola
Rev. Tim Zechiel, Decatur
Rev. Thomas Zimmerman, Fort Wayne
Rev. Paul Zimmermann, Fort Wayne
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Mark Baumgartel, Seymour
Dr. Floyd Behrens, Seymour
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Karen Bickel, Valparaiso
Philip Bickel, Valparaiso
Carol Bittner, Decatur
Robert Blazek, Greenwood
Rosalyn Blazek, Greenwood
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Mark Boerger, New Palestine
Robert Boetel, Valparaiso
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Robert Brandt, New Palestine
Shirley Brandt, New Palestine
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Merlin Bray, Valparaiso
Gloria Bredehoeft, Indianapolis
Terry Breninger, Fort Wayne
Lynn Breme, Valparaiso
Martin Brieschke, Prospect, KY
Pamela Brune, Fort Wayne
Loralee Bruns-Teske, Schererville
June Brutcher, Beech Grove
Daniel Buchinger, Bluffton
Susan Buchinger, Bluffton
Sandra Burbrink, Seymour
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Lois Buuck, Highland
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Reinhold Fluegge, Fort Wayne
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Linda Fremder, Fort Wayne
Karl Frick, Leo
Eugene, Friedrich, Fort Wayne
Sandra Friedrich, Fort Wayne
Diane Gleitz, Elizabethtown, KY
Glenna Grannis, Fort Wayne
Carol Grimm, Evansville
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David Grotelueschen, New Palestine
Judith Grotelueschen, New Palestine
Lesley Grotelueschen, Indianapolis
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Paul Groth, Indianapolis
Robert Groth, Indianapolis
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Linda Harlow, Hearborn Heights, MI
Mary Hathaway, Fort Wayne
Donata Haug Owsley, New Albany
Beverly Havera, Edwardsburg, MI
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Jane Henwood, Vincennes
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Sandra Herman, Fort Wayne
Norma Herre, Bradenton, FL
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Dr. Guenther Herzog, Fort Wayne
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Janice Hieber, Fort Wayne
Lori Hill, Columbus
Jacqueline Hitzeman, Fort Wayne
Craig Hoffman, Fort Wayne
William Hoffman, Lansing, IL
Gertrude Hoffschneider, Fort Wayne
James Hohnbaum, Indianapolis
Dorothea Hollmann, Fort Wayne
Robert Holste, Ovideo, FL
Marilyn Hopper, Walton
Connie Hoyer, Fort Wayne
Dexter Hoyer, Fort Wayne
Carol Hubacek, Schererville
Janet Hunter, Corunna
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Nancy Jones, New Haven
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William Knea, Elizabethtown
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Carol Knueppel, Fort Wayne
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James Luepke, Fort Wayne
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Judy May, Fort Wayne
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Karen Meyer, Greenwood
Barbara Middaugh, Bremen
John Mierow, Nashville
Deborah Miller, Hoagland
Eunice Miller, Portland, OR
Elizaebeth Moeller, Wabash
Dianne Moellering, Fort Wayne
Thomas Moellering, Fort Wayne
John Mueller, Fort Wayne
Allen Mundt, Seymour
Janis Mundt, Seymour
Judith Nack, Crown Point
Rabel Newkirk, Seymour
Mary Nichols, Fort Wayne
Paul Nickel, Louisville
Joann Nixon, Fort Wayne
Nancy Osbun, Fort Wayne
Kim Overgaard, Seymour
Bertha Oyler, Columbus
Donald Pape, Fort Wayne
Sandra Penoske, Seymour
Denis Peters, Fort Wayne
Philfert Peters, Brownstown
Arthur Pinnow, Fort Wayne
Joyce Pixley, Indianapolis
Karen Pollert, Seymour
Elaine Ponder, Sharpsville
Richard Poppe, Fishers
Robert Pottschmidt, Brownstown
Jona Preloger, Seymour
Dr. Ronald Preloger, Seymour
Elvira Preuss, Seymour
Sandra Pride, Indianapolis
Suzanne Ramsey, Decatur
Richard Reddemann, Fort Wayne
Randolph Renken, Fort Wayne
James Rettig, Fort Wayne
Wanda Reuille, Fort Wayne
James Richert, Indianapolis
Susan Richert, Indianapolis
Kathleen Riffel, Valparaiso
David Rische, Hope
Allen Rodenbeck, Leo
Edith Rodenbeck, Fort Wayne
Ronald Rodenbeck, Fort Wayne
Sharon Rohr, Seymour
Sheryl Rolf, Indianapolis
Dr. Mary Rowell, Avilla
Bruce Rueber, Liberty
Gloria Rueber, Liberty
Anna Rust, Seymour
Danny Sandmann, Buchanan, MI
Pamela Satke, Fremont
Norbert Schaekel, Decatur
John Schamber, Fort Wayne
Robert Scheiman, Fort Wayne
Stuart Schipper, Bristol
William Schmidt, Fort Wayne
Karen Schoenefeld, Fort Wayne
Arnold Schroeder, Portage
Nancy Schroeder, Osceola
Carl Schulenburg, New Palestine
Linda Schulenburg, New Palestine
Victor Schuler, St. Paul, MN
Daniel Schult, Fort Wayne
James Schumpe, Seymour
Jennie Shreve, Shelbyville, KY
Lynnette Simmons, Indianapolis
Joseph Skvarenina, Greenfield
Barbara Smith, Indianapolis
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Deloris Sombke, Indianapolis
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Scott Staub, Woodburn
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Timothy Taube, Fort Wayne
Judy Teague, Fort Wayne
Cheryl Tellman, Knox
Susan Themer, Pekin
Carl Thies, Fort Wayne
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Ellen Tjernagel, Warsaw
Sharon Toppe, Brownstown
Gary Truwe, Indianapolis
Katherine Tucker, Kokomo
Donald Voelker, Seymour
Jean VonDielingen, Seymour
Cathie Wakeland, Fort Wayne
Edward Weerts, Fort Wayne
Lois Weilum, North Judson
Frederick Weiss, Fort Wayne
Kenneth Wentland, Fort Wayne
Gerald Werth, Fort Wayne
John Westrem, Fort Wayne
Donald Wichman, Fort Wayne
Melba Wilkie, Aurora
Marlene Will, LaPort
Henry Wischmeier, Columbus
Harold Wolf, Mooresville
Judith Woolsey, Danville
Jim Wudy, Fort Wayne
Martin Zimmer, Dyer
## Indiana District Schools

### High Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Principal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concordia Lutheran High</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Patrick Frerking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity</td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
<td>Michael Brandt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seymour</td>
<td>Benjamin Stellwagen</td>
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### Elementary Schools

#### Indiana

<table>
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<tr>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. John</td>
<td>Aurora</td>
<td>Terri Schmeltzer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Our Shepherd</td>
<td>Avon</td>
<td>Amy Hedges</td>
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<td>St. Paul’s</td>
<td>Bremen</td>
<td>James Russell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lutheran Central</td>
<td>Brownstown</td>
<td>Jonathan Sprengel</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Peter’s</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Scott Schumacher</td>
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<td>White Creek</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Janice Buss</td>
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<td>Trinity</td>
<td>Crown Point</td>
<td>Christine Miller</td>
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<td>St. Peter-Immanuel</td>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Greg Becker</td>
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<td>Wyneken Memorial</td>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Andrew Gavrun</td>
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<td>Zion</td>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Mitch Hill</td>
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<td>Elkhart</td>
<td>Sandra Price</td>
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<td>Tony Shull</td>
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<td>Ascension</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Mary Eifert</td>
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<td>Concordia</td>
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<td>Michael Rosin</td>
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<td>Emmanuel-St. Michael</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Jacob Pennekamp</td>
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<td>Emmaus</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Keith Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Cross</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Cecily Chandler</td>
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<td>Lutheran South Unity</td>
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<td>Krista Nagy</td>
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<td>Paul Marinko</td>
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<td>St. Peter’s</td>
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<td>Michelle Kidd</td>
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<td>Hobart</td>
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<td>Karen Geiger</td>
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<td>St. John</td>
<td>Kendallville</td>
<td>Timothy Walz</td>
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<td>Location</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Redeemer</td>
<td>Kokomo</td>
<td>Ruth Lavrenz</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. James</td>
<td>Lafayette</td>
<td>R. Jacob Rogers</td>
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<td>Mark Ploss</td>
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<td>St. John’s</td>
<td>LaPorte</td>
<td>David Wippich</td>
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<td>St. John-Emmanuel</td>
<td>Monroeville</td>
<td>Axel Gruen</td>
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<td>St. Paul’s</td>
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<td>Barbara Mertens</td>
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<td>Central Lutheran</td>
<td>New Haven</td>
<td>John Weber</td>
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<td>Zion</td>
<td>New Palestine</td>
<td>Kristie Sombke</td>
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<td>St. Peter</td>
<td>North Judson</td>
<td>Rhonda Reimers</td>
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<td>Ossian</td>
<td>Mark Schallhorn</td>
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<td>Immanuel</td>
<td>Seymour</td>
<td>Dr. Todd Behmlander</td>
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<td>Seymour</td>
<td>Jonathan Baumgartel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resurrection Academy</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>Michelle Megyese</td>
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<td>Immanuel</td>
<td>Valparaiso</td>
<td>Joshua Bachman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodburn Lutheran</td>
<td>Woodburn</td>
<td>David van Spankeren</td>
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</table>

**KENTUCKY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Savior</td>
<td>Louisville</td>
<td>Wesley Wrucke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES**

**INDIANA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TLC Preschool</td>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>Amber Hartsough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvary</td>
<td>Bedford</td>
<td>Janet Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascension</td>
<td>Beech Grove</td>
<td>Patrice Wagner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>Bloomington</td>
<td>Rachel Stults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ</td>
<td>Brownsburg</td>
<td>Lisa Young</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornerstone</td>
<td>Carmel</td>
<td>Teresa Millwood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Indu Samuel</td>
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<td>Christine Behmlander</td>
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<td>St. Peter Sprouts</td>
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<td>Michelle Schultz</td>
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<td>Faith</td>
<td>DeMotte</td>
<td>Patricia Sojka</td>
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<td>Gwen Kanning</td>
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<td>Karen Bilger/Joyce Wolfe</td>
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<td>Erica Taylor</td>
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**KENTUCKY**

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<td>NW-1</td>
<td>Hammond</td>
<td>Dr. Eric Stumpf</td>
<td>Emeritus</td>
<td>10348 Marlou Dr.</td>
<td>219.782.3717</td>
<td><a href="mailto:estumpf21@gmail.com">estumpf21@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>NW-2</td>
<td>Gary</td>
<td>Rev. Richard Boshoven</td>
<td>Trinity Memorial, Merrillville</td>
<td>1218 River Terrace</td>
<td>219.669.0877</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pastorbosh@gmail.com">pastorbosh@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>NW-3</td>
<td>Valparaiso</td>
<td>Rev. Donald H. Williams</td>
<td>Emeritus</td>
<td>3721 Chimney Hill Dr.</td>
<td>219.464.4466/219-476-5122</td>
<td><a href="mailto:travelwithdon@live.com">travelwithdon@live.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>NW-4</td>
<td>LaPorte</td>
<td>Rev. Joel S. Zipay</td>
<td></td>
<td>15495 S 900 W</td>
<td>219.773.9475/219.544.0175</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jzzip5@msn.com">jzzip5@msn.com</a></td>
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<td>NW-5</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jg6309@centurylink.net">jg6309@centurylink.net</a></td>
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<td>NE-6</td>
<td>Kendallville</td>
<td>Rev. Patrick Kuhlman</td>
<td></td>
<td>3013 Water Wheel Run</td>
<td>260.897.2071/260.338.1997</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pkuhlman@frontier.com">pkuhlman@frontier.com</a></td>
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<td>NE-7</td>
<td>Fort Wayne North</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Ahlersmeyer</td>
<td>Holy Cross, Fort Wayne</td>
<td>3425 Crescent Avenue</td>
<td>260.739.6508</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tahlersmeyer@holycrossfw.org">tahlersmeyer@holycrossfw.org</a></td>
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<td>Fort Wayne South</td>
<td>Rev. Douglas Punke</td>
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<td>260.744-1389/260.341.5397</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dpunke@zionfw.org">dpunke@zionfw.org</a></td>
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<td>NE-9</td>
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<td>Rev. David Stecker</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE 10</td>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Rev. Shayne M. Jonker</td>
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<td>260.418.2206</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shaynejonker@yahoo.com">shaynejonker@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>CE 12</td>
<td>Kokomo</td>
<td>Rev. William S. Allison</td>
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<td>705 E. Southway Blvd</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:pastorallison@redeemerkokomo.org">pastorallison@redeemerkokomo.org</a></td>
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<td>Rev. Ronald W. Baumann</td>
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<td>5601 S. 450 W.</td>
<td>317.861.6855/317.498.3981</td>
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<td>CE 14</td>
<td>Indianapolis West</td>
<td>Rev. Daniel Lepley</td>
<td>Our Shepherd, Avon</td>
<td>2429 Ring Necked Dr.</td>
<td>317.402-9401 cell</td>
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<td>Rev. Arthur Wehrmeister</td>
<td>Emeritus</td>
<td>8165 Ehlerbrook Rd.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ordained</td>
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### Council for Congregational Resources

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<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
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#### Lay Members

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<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
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2018 CONVENTION REPORT

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

“I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel”

Convention Theme – We are all on a journey – planned by God, led by God and powered by God! As we gather in convention the congregations, districts and the LCMS globally enjoy and celebrate the mission we share as we travel together to the Father’s house. We know, confess and share that God’s Plan is our future and our hope!

It all begins at the Baptismal font as we are granted the gift of faith and led then by God’s road map for ourselves and for the Church. The work we share in the Indiana District is a vital and exciting venture of faith! Together we encourage and assist one another as we witness in a wide variety of settings. As the Indiana District, we are determined to encourage and assist one another in seeing and trusting God as our future and hope individually and as the Body of Christ.

When we meet in convention, we represent congregations that are in rural, urban, small town or suburban settings. Some are historic congregations that began their ministry auf Deutsch and others are new and may worship in Spanish, Japanese, Chinese or a number of other languages. By God’s grace, some of our congregations are large and growing and some are seeking God’s direction, as they are very small and have very limited resources. All of our congregations are committed to instructing our young and old – some through a Lutheran grade school and Lutheran high school and others through Sunday Schools, Vacation Bible Schools, youth ministry and a host of Adult Bible studies at the church, in the home or at the local coffee shop.

As we meet in convention we get a sense of the size and strength of God’s family in Indiana and northern Kentucky, but even more we see the faith commitment we share in bringing Christ to our neighbors, families and communities. We boldly declare our confessional faith in our missional work! God leads us even as He did Wyneken when he first established many congregations in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. This is a great time for us to enjoy the Spirit’s leading us to confess and demonstrate to one another and the world our God-given future and hope! We represent the congregations of the Indiana District as we pray, think and plan together.
We will join together in worship, Bible Study, decision-making, fellowship and information sharing.

Every three years we affirm and plan to faithfully follow God’s lead in our ministries in our many and varied communities throughout our district. We continue to be recognized as a “peaceful and healthy district” by people around the synod. Whatever peace and health we enjoy is God’s doing in our hearts and in our fellowship. Paul encourages us to do our work together, “with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

Our partnership revolves around the partnership we share in the Gospel! Paul writes to the Philippians, “In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” By God’s grace we strive to do together what none of us can do alone. It is a blessing and pleasure to be able to share this time in history and this geographic area as we live out our Christian vocations.

Living out our Christian vocations in these days means dealing with and confronting an often harsh and determined worldly resistance to our faithful confession. Our families and congregations continue to wrestle with a host of contemporary issues which in reality are not as contemporary as they are persistent and historic. The dialogue of today often disparages the Christian faith, seeks to redefine God’s design for marriage, family and our basic life in Christ. Many people continue to deny God’s creative power and redemptive grace. God’s Word and God’s will are fiercely attacked from many directions. The old evil foe is not new, but his tactics present the old temptations in new and alluring ways. The tempter in Eden is the same “roaring lion” on a host of social issues seeking to destroy and to devour the human mind, heart and soul.

Still we are called as individuals, families and the church to be what God has called us to be in our baptisms. God’s Word remains stronger than any two edged sword and His Word will endure forever. It is vital for us to remember this and teach this to the generations that follow. The church is today training the youngest among us to understand the changes that surround us and to trust the Lord who leads us. While the challenges of today may seem different, they come from the same Satan of old.

The most basic instruction takes place in the home as catechesis comes from the mouths of wise and caring parents and is repeated in the church. It is critical for us to take the time at home and in the church to study God’s Word with young and old, to listen to one another and to pray with and for one another.

We need not be intimidated by the deceiver, but comforted and sustained by the One who loves us and gave His life for us! The Apostle Paul writes to the Romans and to us: “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all the daylong; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.’ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life,
nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:35-39

Our faith is nourished as we feed on Word and Sacrament. We are usually a quiet and peaceful people. We do not desire to be at war with our neighbor and certainly not with those who are of the household of faith. Yet, God did not call us to peace or timidity in the face of the sin that surrounds us. As the Apostle Paul reminds young Timothy, “For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.” 2Ti 1:6-7

As we focus on witness, mercy and life together we share with one another the blessings of our confession – Scripture alone, faith alone and grace alone! We preach and teach these three truths as we gather in worship and Bible study. Our witness is bold, clear, compassionate and profound as the church militant always defends and understands that we are “called to arms” in a spiritual sense. At the same time our arms embrace one another and in so doing the world sees God’s grace in action. Our Lord said, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:34-35

As a synod, a district and as individual congregations we strive to demonstrate this in a myriad of ways. We of course have plenty of room for improvement. Text, speak, write and blog carefully. Our words have consequences and today’s technology provides wonderful avenues to share and show a love that lifts people up and builds the body of Christ. A God pleasing tweet here and there can be a terrific blessing to those around us! Many of our schools, congregations and other institutions have learned and are learning to use these modern tools to “fan the flame”. Let us live life together in a way that gives glory to God!

We also strive to do acts of mercy! Helping a neighbor and being a neighbor speaks volumes. Many of our 100,000+ LCMS folks in the Indiana District have done this for many years and it has been very good. Many of our congregations have grown to a greater understanding of what it means to be a part of the neighborhood, city and larger community. We are learning what it means to be a good neighbor. Efforts like our Grain Train, food pantries, Lutheran Housing Support, youth volunteer groups, along with our Lutheran schools and high schools are highly visible and active in all of our communities and beyond! Lutheran Special Educational Ministries (LSEM), Lutheran Child and Family Services (LCFS) and the efforts of Lutheran Disabilities Ministries, larger institutions such as Bethesda, Lutheran Social Services, the Bakery/Lydia House in Gary and the Lutheran Center in Evansville do what they do because working together as servants of Christ!

At this convention we again have a lot to celebrate and an opportunity to promise each other again that we will work together knowing that we can do more as a large family in Indiana and Kentucky than any one of us can do alone.
God uses means such as us by drawing us together and helping us work together. In a world that loves to silo – accept virtual relationships rather than real face-to-face interaction as people, look out for good old #1 first - we are unique. Our bonds of faith and love lead us to dream big dreams and forge into all kinds of mission fields without fear. The brutality of the world and groups within the world are disheartening and stressful to us. When God’s Word in not authoritative in the lives of people, life is devalued and destroyed in a million ways from womb to nursing home. People even devalue their own lives - as life is cheapened and the thought of a good future and a real hope are lost.

As we look at the world around us we can see chaos or we can see a mission field ripe for harvest. It is with bold confidence that we plan to forge into the future knowing that even though the mission climate has changed, is changing and will change we serve our Lord Jesus who is the same yesterday, today and forever – God’s Plan will always be our future and our hope.

**Growth since the last convention**

As we think about and remember one another we with the Apostle Paul, “always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” God has blessed us with this terrific mission field in Indiana and northern Kentucky. Since our last convention we have chartered new congregations, expanded many of our schools, and are planning to open several new congregations throughout our district. We continue to see and have new opportunities for child, youth and adult ministries everywhere. The Lutheran Church Extension Fund is now under the leadership of T.J. Mattick and he is hard at work in helping congregations and church workers be aware of this strong financial ministry. Our district leads the nation in young children becoming part of the YI club of LCEF to help provide loans to ministries in the Indiana District and beyond. This fiscal year, which concluded March 31, ended with a slight surplus in our district budget – but a surplus. The Grace of God is seen in the faithfulness of our congregations and the stewardship of our leaders. “We really do Love to Tell the Story” and we put everything into it!

**Affirming our Lord’s Mission**

It is my prayer that, in the midst of all that we do at this convention we will once again affirm our Biblical and Confessional foundation as we continue to “fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”

No matter what, we are God’s people – baptized in His name and serving together with a bright future and clear hope! The LCMS is seeing some aging in its membership which sometimes opens the door to new and creative senior ministries. It also reminds us of the dwindling birth rate and smaller congregations. The changing demographic calls us to focus our work carefully. Our mission is Christ’s mission! “THE MISSION OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT IS TO ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST THE CHRISTIAN OUTREACH AND NURTURE OF ITS CONGREGATIONS AND OTHER MINISTRIES.”
CHRIST’S PEOPLE IN MISSION

We know who we are and whose we are! We are a family of 236 congregations in the Indiana District. More than 1200 professional church workers work in partnership with more than 100,000 baptized congregational members in boldly bearing witness of Jesus Christ in this part of God’s vineyard. The diversity of gifts, interests and opportunities that exist from northern Kentucky to northern Indiana is astounding and humbling. Our gathering at this convention gives us a small sampling of the depth and breadth of the blessings we enjoy and share in the Indiana District!

Ministry to and Through Children, Youth and Families

The nurture of young faith begins in our homes with our very youngest members as we spend time with them in prayer, Bible study and song! We urge the diligent and faithful use of cradle rolls and early parent/baby Bible classes for our young parents. We ask God to direct us as we prepare for millions of classes taught in our Sunday Schools, day schools, pre-schools, midweek classes, catechism classes, and Sunday morning classes.

We care for and about our youth, college students and other young adults in our congregations. These are critical years and we must minister to and with this segment of our population. We continue to expand and improve our various campus ministries and this year experienced a huge expansion of our campus ministry at Purdue in West Lafayette.

We Love to Worship

Like David we find joy in our worship, “I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." Ps122 The blessings we share as we gather around Word and Sacrament are rich and deep. God’s Word provides guidance and strength to all of us at a time and in a world where we are aliens and strangers living in our wayward society. Worship is at the heart of each congregation’s life. While we do have a variety of worship styles in use in our district, The Lutheran Service Book continues to be a helpful and unifying tool for many of our congregations. The choices of services offered in our new hymnal are appreciated by our people. The inclusion of the Luther’s Small Catechism offers the opportunity for families to become more familiar with Luther’s Table of Duties. The LSB is a valuable resource for many congregations and church workers.

Work at the home office of the Indiana District

The Indiana District commends itself to seriously and faithfully take God’s Word to heart and to the world. The dedicated staff of your district is anxious and willing to be with you as we all set our hearts on the future and plans God has for us all! We will visit and pray with you regularly. We always pray for you as we encourage and support each of you and your congregations and schools in this vital walk of faith. This effort is directed to our professional church workers in our district at our circuit conferences, district forums, conferences, training sessions, conventions and meetings. This fall we look forward to having all of our church workers gather in several conferences for fellowship and growth. The Indiana District structure of lay people, church workers, elected leaders and executive staff members provides...
opportunities for us to join as partners in the major areas of outreach/evangelism, congregational ministry services, Lutheran educational agencies and Christian stewardship and financial planning. We treasure our ministry partnerships as they are carried out at work, in our homes, at church, at the district and national level. For ten years we have enjoyed the blessing of working with Dr. Jon Mielke and Pastor Robinson. For the past four years Ron Bleke has served as our CFO and Dave Ebeling has been my part-time assistant. Since our last convention Diane Ottinger has joined our staff as a part-time assistant with our finances and we have been able to enhance our communications with the services of the Nichols Company with John Paff as our contact person. Also, Kristen Whirrett is managing our social media. The coming year will bring quite a bit of change as Dr. Mielke has announced his retirement by the end of December and Ron Bleke will retire in February.

**God’s Plan & Future Continue!**

We are aware of the growing number of unchurched, dechurched and lost people living in Indiana and northern Kentucky. Staff changes do not change our resolve to bring Christ to everyone we can in the time He provides! It is clear that the mission field is all around us. It is inviting and challenging. Pastor Robinson serves faithfully and energetically with a mission heart. What a blessing 100,000 of us can be as we look for ways and opportunities to share our faith in Jesus Christ!

Trusting God’s faithfulness and encouraging boldness in each other we approach the next triennium with a confident joy. We need to do everything we can to nourish and strengthen our existing congregations and schools. As we gather around Word and sacrament we are fed and guided as we care for those already in our congregations and attend to the unchurched, dechurched and lost in our communities.

**New Congregations**

We look forward to establishing more new congregations that will serve people from every segment of our changing society. We are seeing “daughtering”, satellite and fresh mission starts. As we collaborate with one another we anticipate more Spirit powered celebrations that come when the lost are found. Jesus tells this short parable, “...suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? 9 And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Our prayer is that God’s working in and through us will provide great encouragement, regular celebrations of God’s love and a strong witness in the world! What we do and how we do it is an example that reaches far beyond our district borders. Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let
your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

This is my prayer and I know that it is yours too as we work and walk together as the Body of Christ in this place. What we confess as Christians and as a church we also profess, proclaim and share in many ways and on every day!

Our Lutheran Schools remain cherished treasures!

Our Lutheran Schools (pre-schools, elementary, secondary) are vital blessings and a powerful aspect of our ministry to children and youth. While Lutheran education is never easy and never inexpensive, it is increasingly important and vital for our young people. Most of our schools are carefully working with the Indiana Choice Scholarship program in Indiana as a way of making a Lutheran education accessible to those in need. Dr. Jon Mielke is a highly talented and energetic blessing to our schools, teachers and congregations. His counsel and leadership have produced huge blessings to our many school ministries. Accreditation, funding and staff credentialing are vital to our maintaining a quality educational system. We are thankful for his wisdom and passion for Lutheran education and we know it will be difficult to fill his shoes!

Encouragement through communications

Since our last convention we have worked to develop more effective communication vehicles in the district. That will need to continue and grow in the next triennium. The district office building on Barr Street in Fort Wayne is able to provide a class-A meeting and training facility or a mini-conference area.

Caring for our Called Workers

In the year ahead we are concluding the work we were able to do through Ministry Excellence Fund, but we are enlarging our work of “Caring for the Called” to now include the NE & NW parts of the district. This program provides counsel to congregational leaders in their caring for those who are called to serve as pastors, teachers, DCE’s and Deaconesses. The Rev. Richard Koehneke has been working with congregations in NE Indiana and the Indiana District Board of Directors is now providing funding for us to serve the NW part of the district for 2018-2019. We want to extend this offering to the central and southern parts of the district in the next year or so.

Dr. Ebeling is in his third “level” of retirement as he has continued assisting the president the past three years. Now he is moving to the fourth “level” of retirement which will mean concluding his work with the district office and spending more time at Faith in Bloomington.

Stewards of God’s Gifts

As we move now to a less economically challenging time, each of our congregations may find an opportunity to be even more generous in providing the resources needed to maintain our health at the district and national levels. Many of our congregations and members of our congregations also provide support for a wide range of special mission projects around the world! The thoughtful and wise balance of all of the God-given resources we receive at the
local, district and national levels is very crucial to our overall well-being. It is important for us as a district to encourage one another in each of these areas.

Loving to tell the story of salvation remains a joy in the Indiana District. Our people and our congregations are serious about this part of their Christian lives and continue to demonstrate their faithfulness generously. Special thanks go to Ron Bleke as he carefully accounts for all the gifts which flow to and through the Indiana District. At this time Ron is heading the stewardship emphasis, “We love to tell the story”. We do love to tell the story of salvation as we use our God-given resources in our homes, congregations and in our district and through synod. God has blessed us with the capacity to do so much more than any of us can do on our own! Our office provides a variety of materials and workshops to enhance the stewardship acumen of us all! Ron is available for consultation with congregational treasurers and other congregational leaders dealing with congregational business matters and church worker insurance questions.

Stewardship paradigms continue to change and our economic downturn of the past years has made our work at large more and more challenging. Many individuals and congregations choose to support a particular or targeted area of ministry outside of the local congregation. Mission support in this way is especially strong in our district. While such directed gifts given to specific missions are important and good, we also encourage the congregations to continue their work through the Indiana District with their Sunday morning offerings. It is only with these offerings that we can encourage larger, broader and newer mission opportunities that come before us. The dedicated and directed portion of our congregational offerings that comes to and through the Indiana District is essential for us to accomplish the bold mission God has set before us. In the next triennium I again urge and challenge each congregation to carefully review their mission giving and faithfully determine that careful balance which will support God’s work at the local, and district levels and at the same time link with individual and specified mission efforts around the world. The Resource Council has already begun planning to address a multitude of stewardship training opportunities as it strives to lead our district in a variety of new ways. It is also vital for us to support the coordinated synodical mission efforts that can be done best on a national or international level. After all, we are partners at the circuit, regional, district and national levels.

Since our convention in 2015 Pastor Phil Krupski has served in our development program which partners with the Lutheran Foundation in STL. The Lutheran Foundation has promoted him to the STL office which means we are in the process of seeking a new Development Director in coordination with The Lutheran Foundation in St. Louis.

PERSONAL CONTACTS

Our district continues to grow as children and adults are welcomed into God’s kingdom through Holy baptism. There is always joy in our hearts and celebrations as young people and adults make public confession and become communicant members in our congregations. We praise God for the faithfulness we see in our solidly based congregational ministries. God is doing His work among us and through us. The opportunity for the future is bright and hopeful in Christ!
Caring for Workers

The encouragement and assistance that define the work of the district includes caring for and about the host of hurting under shepherds that work among us. Again we thank God for “Caring for the Called Worker” in helping us accomplish this important task. Conflict resolution continues to be a daily task in my office. This past winter the wives of many Indiana District pastors enjoyed their 14th Katie Retreat held in Greencastle and planning is already underway for next year. Important encouragement, healing and partnering happens in settings like these as pastors’ wives build and strengthen their bond of faith and love. Gratitude for this retreat goes to my beloved Judy, who has led and coordinated this effort! While the initial plans have been made for 2019, the leadership of the retreat now passes to Mrs. John (Harriet) Armstrong. A great amount of assistance and encouragement comes to the church workers of our district in the form of our Ministerial Health Committee. This committee provides resources for help in the area of physical and emotional needs. We have excellent Christian counselors available. We also have Reconcilers Rev. Ed Keinath, Rev. John Kolb, and Carol Ebeling, to work with congregations and people when there are challenges that require special attention.

Intentional Interim Ministry

Galen Drawbaugh continues to coordinate our IIM work as he aids congregations with unique vacancy situations (39 congregations in Indiana have benefited from IIM and we have also “loaned” IIM Pastors to the Mid-South, Michigan, Fla/ Ga. and Ohio districts) that will benefit from a transitional time through our Intentional Interim Ministry program. IIM has proven helpful to congregations when a vacancy occurs after the faithful service of a pastor with long tenure, or in dealing with the unexpected loss of a pastor due to illness or death, struggling through congregational conflict or when there is a need to refocus on a new ministry direction due to changing demographics, economic issues or congregational size. At such times a congregation may appreciate, desire or need the services of a pastor who will serve on a temporary basis (usually 18-24 months) to facilitate the transition to a new full-time pastor. We have a number of pastors who are trained for Intentional Interim Ministry. Galen works under the direction of the District President.

Support Staff

Other matters are dealt with on a daily basis through our district ministry. Planning, demographic study, calling of ordained and commissioned workers, conflict resolution, counseling and support are a daily occurrence on Barr Street. Ron Bleke serves an important role as building and office manager/coordinator with the staff at the district office. From our office we are available to offer professional advice for church and school secretaries under the direction of my assistant Jan Koenig, Jon Mielke’s assistant, Amy Mews, Rev. Robinson’s assistant, Nancy Loser and Ron’s assistant Nita Voltz.

It is a privilege and an honor for me to work with your talented and dedicated district staff. They are faithful and reliable and function at a high professional level! Each week we pray for each of you, we covet your prayers for:
Volunteers

Our district work enjoys the significant and essential contributions that are made by the faithful volunteers/office holders whom we elect at this convention: presidium members, Board of Director members, council members, committee members, 24 circuit visitors and office helpers. These faithful volunteers meet, plan and pray about all of the work we share in our district. We thank God for their partnership in the Gospel!

An Army of Help

It would be a very lengthy list if we were to name all of the entities and agencies in our district and I cannot catalogue all of them in this report, but they are wonderful partners and great blessings! We thank God for you, for the partnerships that you have formed and will form in the days ahead. I thank you for this wonderful and challenging opportunity to serve with you in this part of God’s vineyard and to encourage all of us to do together what we cannot do alone. May we rejoice in knowing that God’s Plan is Our Future and our Hope!

“May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” It will always be critical for us to strengthen the relationships and partnerships we have with one another as we move ahead with faithful determination and a burning desire to be God’s faithful people in this place now and all the way to the Father’s house! As a church family we are never able to be exactly what God wants us to be or exactly what we would like to be. We do our ministry outside of Eden and our imperfections cannot be denied. Yet, we commit our time, energy and resources to the encouragement and assistance of each of you and everyone you represent at this convention! May God so bless our sharing of His Word that we may welcome thousands of new friends into our Indiana District congregations! May God bless you with the desire and zeal to share your faith with someone who needs to know what it is that burns within your heart! Thank you and may God bless you in His service and may He bless us all as we journey together to the Father’s house!

Serving our Lord with you!

President Daniel May
ORDAINED

NEW TO DISTRICT:
Ahlersmeyer, Benjamin T. (NI) to Pastor, St. Peter, Portage, IN; installed 7/31/16 by D. May.
Ahlersmeyer, Peter C. (NE) to Associate Pastor, Concordia, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 6/26/16 by D. May.
Akey, Bradley (FW17), to Associate Pastor, Zion, Seymour, IN; ordained at St. Paul’s, West Allis, WI, 6/24/17 by W. Palmer; installed 7/16/17 by D. May.
Albers, John (MO) LCMS National Housing Support, St. Louis, MO – no change in status.
Banuelos, Juan Garcia (TX), Candidate
Burfiend, Daniel L (FW16) to Pastor, New Hope, Ossian, IN; ordained and installed 6/19/16 by S. Jonker.
Campbell, Delwyn X. (PSW) to St. John’s, Gary, Strategic Mission Developer for Gary, IN; installed 1/8/17 by D. May.
Clark, Adam, (MNS), Associate Pastor, St. Peter’s, Mishawaka, IN; installed 8/30/15 by D. May.
Cohen, Marc S. (NI) Candidate
Countryman, Troy A. (CI) to Senior Pastor, St. John’s, Indianapolis, IN; installed 12/11/16 by D. Shadday.
Douglas, Matthew G (SL16) to Assistant Pastor, Our Shepherd, Avon, IN; ordained and installed 7/9/16 by D. Lepley.
Duff, Alexander L. (NI) to Assistant Pastor, Sub. Bethlehem, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 4/9/2017 by D. May.
Eggold, Daniel A. (MO) to Pastor, Grace, Lafayette, IN; installed 6/5/16 by D. May.
Emrick, William C. (CI) Emeritus
Ferry, Joseph (SL15), to Pastor, Southwest, Fort Wayne, IN; ordained and installed 7/5/15 by D. Punke.
Foster, Charles (Chad) (MDS) to Associate Pastor, St. Peter’s, Columbus, IN; installed 7/10/16 by M. Teike.
Frincke, Karl A. (OH), Emeritus
Fundum, James K. (NW) to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/6/16 by D. May.
Gawura, Eric, (NI) Candidate
Good, Douglas A. (MNS) Candidate
Heckert, Peter (SL15) to Associate Pastor, St. James, Lafayette, IN; ordained at Christ, Wausau, WI 11/19/16 by D. French; installed 12/4/16 by D. Mueller.
Henderson, Stephen P. (IE), to Senior Pastor, Trinity, Crown Point, IN; installed 9/20/15 by D. May.
Henning, Josef J. (AT) to Emmanuel (Soest), Fort Wayne, IN installed 5/21/17 by D. May.
Hetherington, Dale L. (CQ17) to Associate Pastor, Faith, DeMotte, IN; installed 1/14/18 by J. Raebel
Hoffmann, Peter C. (EN) Emeritus
Hosch III, Edward, (MO), Missionary, transferred back to Indiana District 7/28/15.
Irmer, Douglas D. (NEB) Emeritus
Jung, Matthew P. (FW15), Chaplain/Teacher, Trinity High, Seymour, IN; ordained and installed at St. Paul’s (Clifty), Columbus, IN 7/8/15 by P. Bloch.
Kohlmeier, Theodore W. (TX) Emeritus
Korte, Seth P. (SE) to Pastor, Praise, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 7/10/16 by D. Punke.
Koziol Jr., Stephen J. (FW16) to Zion, Corunna, IN; ordained and installed 4/9/16 by D. Brege.
Kramer, Nathan G. (NW) to Trinity, Hobart, IN; installed 1/8/2017 by D. May.
Krebs, Adrian J. (FW15) to Lord of Life, North Vernon, IN; ordained at Redeemer, Seymour 11/28/15 by A. Currao; installed 11/29/15 by P. Bloch.
Loftis, Joseph N. (EN) Emeritus
Long, Ray W. (OH), Emeritus
Lorenz, Timothy J. (KS) to Pastor, St. Peter, Huntington, IN; installed 7/31/16 by W. Allison.
Luu, Tich H. (SE), to Associate Pastor (Chinese Ministry), St. Paul, Evansville, IN; installed 9/20/15 by R. Schneider.
May, Curtis A. (OH), to Pastor, St. John, Rochester, IN; installed 8/9/15 by D. May
Mayes, Theodore E. (SI) Emeritus
McKinley, Jordan J. (IE), to Pastor, Trinity, Vallonia, IN; installed 8/23/15 by C. Muhlbach.
Micheel, Benjamin P. (SE) to Holy Trinity, LaGrange, KY; installed 9/10/17 by D. May.
Olson Jr., Donald L. (TX) Emeritus
Pollock, Benjamin (NOW) Candidate
Reifsteck, Joshua P. (SL15) to Associate Pastor, Calvary, Indianapolis, IN; ordained and installed 6/11/17 by D. May.
Satkowiak, Brett A. (SL16) to Associate Pastor, Trinity, Crown Point, IN; ordained and installed 6/26/16 by D. R. Stuckwisch.
Schaeffer, Kendall L. (MI), Candidate
Schmidtke, Gary (NI), Emeritus
Schultz, David M. A. (SL15) to Associate Pastor, St. Peter’s, Fort Wayne, IN; ordained 6/21/15 at St. Paul, Wood River, IL by M. Walther; installed 6/28/15 by D. May.
Sheafer, Daniel M. (FW16) to Associate Pastor, Emmanuel, Fort Wayne, IN; ordained and installed 7/17/16 by D. Brege (held at Kramer Chapel).
Smith, Chad L. (FW15), Assistant Pastor, St. Paul’s, Fort Wayne, IN; ordained 7/19/15 at Immanuel, Sebewaing, MI by G. Bagnall; installed 7/26/15 by P. Cage.
Stebbins, John T. (FW16) to Pastor, Faith, Louisville, KY; ordained at First Holyoke, MA 6/26/16 by S. Schuett; installed 7/17/16 by J. Fraiser, witnessed by R. Richeson.
Speerbrecker, Paul E. (EN), Emeritus
Steiner, Mark H. (SO), Emeritus
Stone, Jeffrey (SELC), Candidate
Stout, David L. (CQ17) to Associate Pastor, Emanuel, Tipton, IN; installed 2/18/18 by D. May
Tietz, Ryan (NI) to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/13/15 by D. May.
Voelker, Steven M (EN) to Trinity (St. Mary’s Ave.), Fort Wayne, IN; installed 2/26/2017 by D. May.
Wagener, Kenneth C. (MI) to Pastor, Trinity, Indianapolis, IN; installed 3/13/16 by R. Baumann.
Wartick, Kent G. (OH), Emeritus
Westfall, John H. (CQ17) St. Matthew, Delphi, IN; ordained and installed 3/12/17 by D. May
Whitmore, Justin D. to St. John’s, Columbus, IN; installed 1/15/2017 by D. May.
Whittaker, Nathan (SL17) to Mt. Calvary, Fort Wayne, IN; ordained at Hope, High Ridge, MO 6/18/17 by J. Wagner; installed 7/30/17 by D. Brege.
Wietfeldt, Matthew J. (J) to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 12/8/15 by L. Rast.
Wiley, Don (PSW) to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/5/17 by D. Brege.
Wurschmidt, Randall P., (EN) to Pastor, Bethlehem, Ossian, IN; installed 7/19/15 by D. Brege.
Zieroth, Gary W. (MNS) to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/6/16 by D. May

CHANGES WITHIN DISTRICT:
Anderson, Timothy P., Candidate to Part-Time Pastor, Trinity, Culver, IN; installed 4/2/17 by D. Williams
Brauer, Ronald, Associate Pastor, St. John, LaPorte, IN to Senior Pastor, St. John, LaPorte, IN by action of the Voters Assembly 9/10/17
Dancy, Paul M., Emeritus, to Intentional Interim, Trinity, Culver, IN; installed 1/3/16 by E. Stumpf.
Ebert, Kurt A., from Associate Pastor to Senior Pastor, Calvary, Indianapolis, IN; installed 6/26/16 by A. Wehrmeister.
Elbert Jr., Thomas J., Military Chaplain, to Pastor, Divine Savior, Shepherdsville, KY; installed 3/13/16 by D. May.
Knea, Keith, Candidate to Assistant Pastor, Trinity (Darmstadt), Evansville, IN; installed 1/14/2017 by D. May.
Ludwig, Thomas A., Zion, Kokomo, IN; also to Emanuel, Arcadia, IN (dual parish); installed 9/31/15 by W. Allison.
Mueller, Jonathan R., Candidate to Pastor, Risen Lord, Taylorsville, KY and Peace, Louisville, KY; installed 10/29/16 by D. May.
Osbun, Michael Joshua, Candidate to Pastor (Part-Time), First, Hanna, IN; installed 10/15/17 by D. R. Stuckwisch
Richeson, Ronald, Emeritus to Intentional Interim Pastor, St. John, Lanesville, IN; installed 4/10/16 by M. Woods
Salemink, Raymond J., from Trinity, Ellettsville, IN, to St. Paul, Woodland, IN; installed 10/9/16 by D. May.
Schaeffer, Kendall L., Candidate to Assistant Pastor, St. John, LaPorte, IN; installed 10/22/17 by J. Zipay
Schmelz, Rodney L., Candidate, to Pastor, St. John, Evanston, IN; installed 8/2/2015 by R. Schneider.
Steiner, Mark H., Emeritus to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/6/16 by D. May

Teasdale, James R., Heartland Hospice, Fort Wayne, IN, to Pastor, Martini, New Haven, IN; installed 6/5/16 by T. Sims.

Yeadon, Jeremy T., Zion, Wabash, IN; to St. Peter’s, Brownstown, IN; installed 8/27/17 by C. Muhlbach.

CHANGE IN STATUS:

Anderson, Timothy P., IIM, St. Peter, Huntington, IN to Candidate
Bohlmann, Robert E., Good Shepherd, Kokomo, to Emeritus
Dancy, Paul B., Trinity, Culver, IN to Emeritus
DeVore, Gregory D., Calvary, Bedford, IN; to Emeritus
Doehrmann, Paul M., New Hope, Ossian, IN, to Emeritus
Easterday, David A., Senior Pastor, Trinity, Crown Point, IN; to Emeritus
Fraiser, John M., Holy Trinity, LaGrange, KY, removed from roster
Gillespie, Christopher R., Grace, Dyer to Candidate
Griebel, Paul B., Candidate to Emeritus
Griebel, David, Candidate to Non-Candidate Status
Harris, Jason, Trinity, Westville, IN to Non-Candidate Status
Hoyt, Thomas W., Emeritus – removed from roster
Johnson, Lohn M., Good Shepherd, Lexington, KY to Emeritus
Lim, Edmund T. H., Christ, Indianapolis to Candidate
Link, James C., St. John, Indianapolis, IN to Emeritus
Malinsky, Michael A., Associate Pastor, St. Peter’s, Columbus, IN to Emeritus
Martin, Lannon, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN to Candidate
McFadden, Dennis, Mt. Calvary, Fort Wayne, IN, to Emeritus
Merino, Larry, Associate Pastor, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne, IN to Emeritus
Morales, Oscar G., Assistant, Trinity, Ligonier, IN to Candidate
Muller, Robert J., Restoration, Kendallville, IN to emeritus
Nuffer, Richard, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN, to Emeritus
Patterson, Jeffrey, St. Peters, Brownstown, IN to Candidate
Ray, Neil E., Candidate, removed from roster
Richeson, Ronald, Faith, Louisville, KY, to Emeritus
Rockrohr, Carl E., Non-candidate to Candidate Status
Satkowiak, Brett A., Associate Pastor, Trinity, Crown Point, IN to Candidate
Schamehorn, Philip J., Trinity, Ligonier, IN to Emeritus
Schulz, Stewart G., IIM, Grace, Lafayette, IN to Emeritus
Simmerman, Jerrell, Emeritus to Candidate at his request
Smith, Sean, Our Redeemer, Evansville, IN; to Candidate
Springer, Jeffrey D. Candidate to Emeritus
Tews, James R., Messiah, Wolcottville, IN; to Emeritus
vonSeggern, Arleigh F., Chaplain, MAF, to Candidate
Whan, David J., Emanuel, Seymour, IN to Candidate
Wingfield, Albert B., Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN to Candidate
Zimmermann, Thomas P., Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN to Emeritus

OUT OF DISTRICT:
Becker, Robert, Assistant Pastor, Zion, Decatur, IN to Associate Pastor-Emeritus, Redeemer, Convoy, OH (OH)
Bohmann, Robert E., Emeritus to South Dakota
Brown, J. David, Associate, Concordia, Fort Wayne, IN, to Dir. of Church Relations, Concordia University, Austin, Texas (TX)
Dewell, Russell L., Trinity (St. Marys), Fort Wayne, IN; to Military Chaplain Endorsed Ministry, Montana
Elliott, Paul M. C., Assistant Pastor, St. John, Aurora, IN to Assistant Professor of Theology, Concordia University, Irvine, CA (PSW).
Engel, Thomas E., Candidate, to St. Paul, Chicago, IL (NI)
Engel, Timothy A., Holy Cross, Portage; to Messiah, Houston, Texas (TX)
Evans, Derke M., Zion/Mt. Calvary, Woodburn, IN/Antwerp, OH to St. Paul, Aurelia, IA (IW)
Griebel, Paul B., Emeritus, to Southeastern District (SE)
Hallman, Gerhardt F., Emeritus to Minnesota South (MNS)
Harris, Jason, Non-Candidate to Ohio District (OH)
Klotz, Gregory D., to Grace, Pittsburg, CA (CNH)
Kohl, Matthew P., Martini, New Haven, IN; to Our Redeemer, Cloquet, MN (MNN).
Kretzschmar, Aaron C., Sr. Pastor, St. John, LaPorte, to St. Paul’s, Decatur, AL (SO)
Krueger, Kyle D., Emmanuel (Soest), Fort Wayne, to Associate Pastor, Glory of Christ, Plymouth, MN (MNS).
Markel, Jerry E, First, Hanna, IN to Emeritus, Missouri District (MO)
Martin, Lannon R., Candidate to Grace, Woodbridge, VA (SE)
Meyer, Glenn D., Candidate, to Pastor, Good Shepherd, Fremont, NE (NEB).
Miller, Gary L., Emeritus to IIM, St. John, Garfield Heights, OH (OH)
Mitchell, Jerome K., Non-candidate to Pastor, Trinity, Cleveland, OH (OH).
Morales, Oscar G., Candidate to Pacific Southwest District (PSW)
Nagy, Gary, Emeritus to Resurrection, Crown Point, IN (SELC)
Noland, Martin, Trinity, Evansville, IN to Grace, San Mateo, CA (CNH)
Ouellette, Dennis, Non Candidate to Missionary Pastor/Pilot, LAMP, and RSO headquartered in Michigan (MI)
Porter, Donald, Emeritus, to Texas District
Resch, Richard C. Emeritus to Minnesota South (MNS)
Reynolds, John D., (Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN to Pastor, Sts. of Timothy, Gadsden, AL (SO).
Salemink, Michael W., Associate Pastor, St. James, Lafayette, IN; to Lutherns for Life, Nevada, IA (IW)
Schulz, Stewart G., Emeritus to Northern Illinois District (NI)
vonSeggern, Arleigh F., Candidate to North Wisconsin
Wright II, Kyle James, St. Matthew, Hamlet, IN; to Holy Cross, Collinsville, IL (SI)
CALLED TO GLORY:

Butz, Lee A. 6/25/16
Carey, Edwin J. 4/14/16
Carr, Timothy J. 12/21/15
Elling, Norman B. 11/14/16
Hoffmann, Peter C. 7/25/17
Kimball, Albert L. 6/22/16
Knippenberg, Keith J. 1/14/16
Koch, Robert W. 11/13/17
Lever, Richard F. 1/17/18
Link, James C. 11/23/17
Muller, Richard E. 4/11/16
Nack, Delton L. 11/08/16
Rastl, Marvin L. 1/09/17
Rickus, Richard H. 9/25/15
Welsh, Ronald C. 5/31/16
Wilkie, Richard 4/02/16
Zschiegner, Arthur H. 12/03/15

COMMISSIONED

New To District/Roster:

Antonetti, Karin L. (MI) teacher Lutheran Special Education Ministries (LSEM) to serve St. John, Kendallville, IN 8/31/17
Bacon, Harold (EN) teacher emeritus
Bader, Gretyl (S14) teacher to St. John, Kendallville, IN; commissioned and installed 8/7/16 by R. Shriner.
Baumgartel, Mark (RM) teacher emeritus
Becker, Carla (SW) teacher candidate
Becker, Gregory (SW) principal to St. Peter-Immanuel Lutheran School, Decatur, IN; installed 8/6/17 by M. Moehring
Becker, Hannah M. (CUC) Deaconess, Bethesda Lutheran Communities in Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed at St. Paul, New Haven, IN, 8/2/15 by M. Blodgett
Becker, Peter (RF15) teacher to Central Lutheran School, New Haven IN; commissioned & installed 8/2/2015 by M. Blodgett
Behl, Joel (NI) teacher to Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/20/17 by R. Lessing
Bienz, Clinton(RF15) teacher to Lutheran South Unity School, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 8/21/16 by R. Glander
Blanken, Ann (FG) teacher candidate
Bleke, Alyssa (MQ15) teacher to St Paul, Munster IN; commissioned & installed 8/16/2015 by P. Speckhard
Boehme, Hannah (MQ17) teacher to Emmaus Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; commissioned & installed 8/13/2017 by R. Olsen
Bolt, Jonathan (MI) teacher to Central Lutheran School, New Haven IN; installed 8/9/2015 by M. Blodgett
Bosman, Bailey (MQ17) teacher to St Paul Lutheran School, Munster IN; commissioned & installed 8/13/2017 by P. Speckhard
Buchholz, Aaron (S15) teacher to Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 9/6/16 by J. Gudel
Burant, David (MQ12) teacher to Evansville Lutheran School, Evansville, IN; commissioned and installed 9/13/15 by T. Wenig
Buss, Micah (MO) teacher Concordia International School of Hanoi, Office of International Missions 2/16/18
Carr, Brian (CQ15) teacher to Evansville Lutheran School, Evansville, IN; commissioned and installed 1/29/17 by M. Schilling
Cashmer, Leah (AA17) teacher Lutheran High School, Indianapolis; commissioned and installed 8/31/17 by R. Armao
Claucherty, Kaila (AA15) teacher to Redeemer, Kokomo, IN; commissioned and installed 8/7/16 by W. Allison
Clendenen, Jennifer (CQ15) teacher to Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 9/20/15 by R. Lessing
Coe, James (SELC) DPM emeritus 2/2/18
Collins, Jon (CQ15) teacher to Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 9/20/15 by R. Lessing
Cotton, Dr. Patricia (CQ16) director of parish music to Holy Cross, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 10/30/16 by T. Ahlersmeyer
Cox, Corey (CQ15) teacher to Trinity Lutheran, Elkhart, IN; commissioned and installed 11/15/15/ by C. Davis
Douglas, Tracie (MO) teacher to Our Shepherd, Avon, IN; installed 12/11/16 by D. Lepley
Driver, Emily (RF16) teacher to St. John, Indianapolis, IN; commissioned and installed 8/7/16 by J. Link
Duensing, Cara (SE) teacher to Suburban Bethlehem, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/9/2015 by W. Mueller
Eck, Karen S. (FW17), Deaconess, to Faith, DeMotte, IN; commissioned and installed 7/9/17 by J. Raebel.
Falk, Ariana D. (CQ15) teacher to St. Paul Lutheran, Munster, IN; commissioned and installed 3/6/16 by P. Speckhard
Farrington, Jenna (NI) teacher to St James Lutheran School, Lafayette IN; installed 8/6/2017 by D. French
Felton, Faith (SP90) teacher to Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne IN; commissioned and installed 1/25/16 by C. Hoover
Foote, Henry (NI) teacher to Trinity Lutheran School, Hobart IN; installed 8/20/2017 by N. Kramer
Foote, Henry (EA) teacher as candidate 6/2/16
Foote, Karen (EA) teacher to St Paul, Munster IN as Director of Music; installed 8/16/2015 by P. Speckhard
Frerking, Patrick (NOW) principal to Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/6/16 by J. Gudel
German, Sue (OH) teacher reinstated to roster Sept 2015, candidate 10/19/2015
Graham, Amanda (CQ15) teacher to Central Lutheran School, New Haven, IN; commissioned and installed 10/21/15 by D. Stecker
Gross, Stephanie (S16) teacher to Redeemer, Kokomo, IN; commissioned and installed 8/7/16 by W. Allison
Gruen, Allison (P13) teacher to Concordia, Fort Wayne IN; commissioned & installed 8/16/2015 by D. Croucher
Haese, Taylor (MQ16) teacher to Ascension, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 8/7/16 by J. Stube
Hecksel, Shawn R. (MO) teacher to Carmel Lutheran Church, Carmel, IN; serving as youth director; installed 1/10/16 by I. Brunette.
Hedstrom, Laura, DPM, Trinity, Elkhart, IN; commissioned and installed 1/21/18 by R. Schallhorn
Heiss, Christina (MO) teacher to principal Zion, Seymour, IN; installed 8/28/16 by J. Stuckwisch
Hromowyk, Andrea (KS) teacher to Lutheran Central, Brownstown IN; installed 8/16/2015 by M. Keller
Irwin, Cassandra (PSW) teacher to St John-Sauers, Seymour IN; installed 8/2/2015 by C. Muhlbach
Jaseph, Rachel E. (MO), Deaconess, to Shepherd of the City, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/27/17 by R. Tietz
Johnson, Emily (SE) teacher to Holy Cross Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/27/2017 by T. Ahlersmeyer
Koch, Adam E (AA17) teacher to St John-Emmanuel Lutheran School, Monroeville IN; commissioned & installed 8/6/2017 by D. Christian
Jones, Samantha Lee (CQ15) teacher to Immanuel, Valparaiso, IN; commissioned and installed 12/27/15
Kearns, Megan (RF14) teacher to St. Peter-Immanuel Lutheran School, Decatur, IN; commissioned and installed 8/13/15 by M. Moehring
Keller, Abigail (RF15) teacher to St John, Indianapolis IN; commissioned & installed 8/9/2015 by J. Link
Kesar, Ethan (S16) teacher to Holy Cross, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 8/21/16 by T. Ahlersmeyer
Kowalke, Julie (MI) teacher/principal to St Peter-Immanuel Lutheran School, Decatur IN; installed 8/16/2015 by D. Koeneman
Krenzke, Christine M. (MNS), Deaconess, Non-Candidate
Labahn, Kristen A (MNS) teacher as candidate 8/23/2017
Latin, Keri (MI) assistant principal to Emmanuel-St Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/20/2017 by R. Lessing
Lepley, Wendi (CQ13) teacher to Our Shepherd, Avon, IN; commissioned and installed 12/11/16 by D. Lepley
Loppnow, Matthew (TX) DCE Candidate 2/15/18
Lundquist, Heidi K. (NI) to Lutheran Life Villages, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/9/17 by D. May Martin, Meghan (CQ15) teacher to Emmaus, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 9/27/15
Martin, Sarah (TX) teacher to Redeemer, Kokomo IN; installed 8/9/2015 by W. Allison McCaig, Kayla (EN) teacher to Emmanuel-St Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/20/2017 by T.A. Eggold
Mello, Michael Ryan (SW) teacher to St. Peter’s, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/8/15 by S. Ahlersmeyer
Mierow, John E. (NI) teacher Emeritus 5/25/16
Moses, Lori (RM) teacher reinstated to roster 4/16 to Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour, IN; installed 8/7/16 by J. Armstrong
Mulder, Nayva K. (FW14), Deaconess to Lutheran Special Educations Ministries deployed to Zion, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 12/3/17 by T. Eggold
Nagy, Scott (OH) teacher, candidate 11/7/17
Neuman, Jeffrey B (EA) teacher to St John Lutheran School, Kendallville IN; installed 8/6/2017 by R. Shriner
Nimmer, Joshua (IE) teacher to Emmaus, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/7/16 by R. Olsen
Noelker, James (MI) teacher to White Creek Lutheran School, Columbus, IN; installed 7/24/16 by M. Jung
Oedewaldt, Amber (IV15) teacher to Holy Cross, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 8/21/16 by T. Ahlersmeyer
Osborne, Madeline (NEB17) teacher to St Paul Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; commissioned & installed 8/13/2017 by P. Cage
Otten, Danae (SI) teacher to St. John Lutheran, Lanesville, IN; installed 11/1/15 by C. Peters
Oyler, Bertha J. (SW) teacher emeritus 1/4/16
Pankow, Lauren (S16) teacher to St. Peter’s, Columbus, IN; commissioned and installed 7/31/16 by M. Teik
Pedde, Joshua (CQ16) DPM to Cornerstone Lutheran, Carmel, IN; commissioned and installed 12/17/17
Petersen, Doris (EN) teacher emeritus 1/10/17
Pflughoft, Casey (CQ16) teacher to Trinity, Crown Point, IN; commissioned and installed 11/20/16 by S. Henderson
Ploss, Mark A (CNH) teacher to St John Lutheran School, Lanesville as interim principal; installed 7/30/2017 by R. Richeson
Pollock Rachel (NOW) teacher non-candidate 7/12/16
Pruitt, Thomas H (NEB) emeritus 7/17/2017
Pyle, Jennifer (SW) teacher to Immanuel Lutheran School, Seymour IN; installed 8/6/2017 by R. Blomenberg
Rauch, Micah (MQ17) teacher to Concordia Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; commissioned & installed 8/13/2017 by D Croucher
Rockrohr, Deborah L. (MI) Deaconess, Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/24/15 by C. Hoover
Russell, Katelyn E. (CQ17) teacher to Immanuel Lutheran, Valparaiso, IN; commissioned and installed 4/2/17 by A. Fields
Ryddner, Kelli (S16) teacher to Ascension, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 8/7/16 by J. Stube
Schmitz, Lindsey, (NEB) DCE candidate 8/1/16
Schultz, Jenna (MO) teacher non-candidate to St. Peter, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/7/16 by S. Ahlersmeyer
Schultz, Sara E. (FW16), Deaconess, Emmanuel (Soest), Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 9/4/16 by A. Just.
Sheppard, Loren (MI) teacher to St. Peter, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/7/16 by S. Ahlersmeyer
Sinclair, Brandon J. (CQ15) teacher to Immanuel, Seymour, IN; commissioned and installed 1/12/16 by R. Blomenberg
Smith, Janet (CQ15) teacher to Emmanuel-St Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; commissioned & installed 8/23/2015 by T. Eggold
Stellwagen, Benjamin (CQ16) teacher to Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour, IN; commissioned and installed 8/12/16 by M. Jung
Teeple, Gina K. (FW16), Deaconess, to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; commissioned and installed 9/27/16 by P. Grime.
Tietz, Rebecca (RF17) teacher to St Paul Lutheran School, Munster IN; commissioned & installed 8/13/2017 by P. Speckhard
Tietz, Joan M (MO) emeritus teacher 6/28/2017
Troemel, Molly (CNH) teacher to Calvary Lutheran School, Indianapolis IN; installed 7/16/2017 by K. Ebert
Troemel, Samuel (CNH) DCE to Calvary Lutheran Church, Indianapolis IN; installed 7/16/2017 by K. Ebert
Utecht, Rianne (S15) teacher to Lutheran South Unity School, Fort Wayne IN; commissioned 8/12/2015, installed 8/16/2015 by J. Geisler
Vasquez, Angela (CNH) teacher to Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/6/16 by J. Gudel
Wartick Ruth (OH) teacher to Trinity Lutheran, Hobart, IN; installed 8/30/15 by G. Nagy
Weber, Sarah E (S11) teacher to St Peter’s, Columbus IN; commissioned & installed 8/2/2015 by M. Teike
Weingart, Jenna (FG) teacher to Evansville Lutheran School, Evansville IN; installed 8/9/2015 by T. Wenig
Wells, Mackenzie (RF14) teacher to Our Savior, Louisville KY; commissioned & installed 8/16/2015 by C. Fausel
Weerts, Edward (NW) teacher emeritus 12/21/16
Weerts, Margaret (NW) teacher emeritus 12/21/16
Weston, Ashlea (MI) teacher to Bethlehem, Ossian IN; installed 8/16/2015 by R. Wurschmidt
Whitmore, Jennifer (IW) teacher candidate 1/1/17
Wickland, Trisha (NI) teacher to Immanuel, Seymour, IN; installed 8/14/16 by R. Blomenberg
Wilke, Alicia (FG) teacher to Redeemer, Kokomo, IN; installed 8/7/16 by W. Allison
Wren, Frederick V (NI) teacher to Emmanuel-St Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/13/2017 by R. Lessing

Change within District:

Albertin, Matthew Paul teacher candidate to Trinity Lutheran School, Elkhart IN; installed 8/20/2017 by S. Mielke
Beck, Julia teacher Concordia, Fort Wayne to teacher Lutheran Special Education Ministries (LSEM) to serve Ascension, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/20/2017 by J. Stube
Bobb, Donna, teacher candidate to Camel Lutheran, Carmel, IN; installed 3/10/13 by L. Brunette
Borcherding, Mark teacher/DCE Cornerstone, Carmel, IN to Our Shepherd, Avon, IN; installed 12/11/16 by D. Lepley
Brinkley, Richard teacher Bethlehem, Ossian to Kantor for Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Ossian IN; installed 8/13/2017 by R. Wurschmidt
Brune, Brittany teacher St Peter's, Fort Wayne to Suburban Bethlehem, Fort Wayne; installed 8/13/2017 by W. Mueller
Bultemeyer, Daniel principal Wyneken Memorial Lutheran, Decatur IN to Concordia, Fort Wayne IN as teacher; installed 8/16/2015 by D. Croucher
Bumbleburg, Sarah teacher candidate to Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour, IN; installed 8/12/16 by M. Jung
Buuck, Paul teacher, St. John, Kendallville, IN; to Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/20/15 by R. Lessing
Clark, Linda teacher candidate to Ascension, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/7/16 by J. Stube
DeGroot, Melissa, Deaconess, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN to Non Candidate
Eifert, Dr. Jonathan teacher candidate to Ascension, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/7/16 by J. Stube
Fedder, Megan, candidate teacher to Zion Lutheran, Decatur, IN; installed 8/9/15 by J. Voorman
Gavrun, Andrew teacher Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School, Decatur, IN; to principal; installed 5/24/16 by P. Brock
German, Sue teacher candidate (reinstated) to St. Paul, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/14/16 by P. Cage
Grelle, Brandon DCE Trinity, Crown Point IN to Holy Cross, Indianapolis; installed 9/5/2015 by J. Sattler
Grim, Rebecca teacher, St. John-Emmanuel, Monroeville, IN to Emmanuel-St. Michael, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/21/16 by R. Lessing
Hoffman, Lance teacher Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/6/16 by D. May
Huntington Jeffery principal Our Shepherd, Avon to teacher St John Lutheran School, Indianapolis IN; installed 8/6/2017 by T. Countryman
Keefer, Megan (Stites) teacher, St. John, Kendallville, IN; to St. Paul, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/9/15 by P. Cage
Klinker, Stephanie teacher St Peter-Immanuel, Decatur to teacher Ascension Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/20/2017 by J. Stube
LaBrash, Jessica teacher Emmaus, Fort Wayne IN to candidate 7/1/2017
LeBeau, LuAnn, teacher non-candidate to St. Peter-Immanuel Lutheran School, Decatur, IN; installed 8/7/16 by M. Moehring
Levitt, Alicia teacher Emmanuel St Michael, Fort Wayne IN to The Lutheran Schools Partnership, Fort Wayne IN; installed 7/16/2017 by R. Lessing
Lewandowski, Tera early childhood director/teacher Faith, DeMotte, IN to Immanuel, Valparaiso, IN; installed 8/28/16 by S. Bongard
Lewer, Elizabeth teacher Zion, New Palestine IN reinstated to roster 11/2014; installed 8/16/2015 by J. Taylor
Luepke, Melissa DCE candidate to Carmel Lutheran, Carmel, IN; installed 1/10/16 by L. Brunette
McBee, Cayleigh, teacher non-candidate to St. John, Kendallville, IN; installed 8/7/16 by R. Shriner
Meyer, Peter J teacher candidate to Bethlehem Lutheran School, Ossian IN; installed 8/13/2017 by R. Wurschmidt
Miller, Christine E teacher Trinity Crown Point IN to principal Trinity Lutheran School, Crown Point, IN; installed 8/13/2017 by S Henderson
Millwood, Theresa teacher Evansville Lutheran, Evansville IN to Cornerstone Lutheran, Carmel IN as ECE Director, installed 9/10/17 by L. Brunette
Murphy, Christopher L teacher Emmanuel-St Michael, Fort Wayne IN to Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne IN, installed 9/12/2017 by J. Gudel
Ponder, Erin DCE/teacher from St. John, LaPorte, IN to Redeemer, Kokomo, IN; installed 8/7/16 by W. Allison
Probst, David DCE, St. James, Lafayette, IN to Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour, IN; installed 8/14/16 by R. Blomenberg
Rehbert, Gregory A. teacher, Emmanuel Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, IN; to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, IN to serve as Director of Major and Planned Gifts; installed 12/13/15
Schaefer, Hannah teacher, Calvary, Indianapolis, IN to St. Peter’s, Columbus, IN; installed 7/31/16 by M. Teike
Schiefer, Staci non-candidate DCE to St Peter’s Columbus IN as assistant principal; installed 8/2/2015 by M. Teike
Scott, Aaron M teacher Holy Cross, Fort Wayne to Ascension Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/20/2017 by J. Stube
Staub, Jeremy J teacher Holy Cross, Fort Wayne to Emmanuel-St Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/20/2017
Stellwagen, Benjamin teacher Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour, IN to principal, Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour, IN; installed 3/17/17 by D. May
Thom, Mychal, principal Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN to head of school, Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 9/6/16 by J. Gudel
Voshell, Carolyn teacher Zion, Decatur IN to Wyneken Memorial Lutheran, Decatur IN; installed 8/12/2015 by P. Brock
Weber, Sarah teacher, St. Peter-Immanuel, Decatur, IN to Holy Cross, Fort Wayne, IN; installed 8/21/16 by T. Ahlersmeyer
Wendt, Paul, DCE Trinity, Crown Point to St. John, Kendallville, IN; 2/11/18
Winiger, Kristin teacher candidate to Evansville Lutheran School, Evansville, IN; installed 12/4/16 by T. Wenig
Wright, Stacy teacher candidate to Zion, Seymour, IN; installed 8/28/16 by J. Stuckwisch
Wurdeman, Shaina M. (Mitchell), Deaconess, Grace, Muncie, IN; to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (deployed); installed 1/23/18 by P. Grime
Zilz, Peggy teacher Suburban Bethlehem, Fort Wayne to ‘serving member congregation’ as Partnership Coordinator at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne IN; installed 8/27/2017 by T. Ahlersmeyer

Change in Status:

Adams, Stephanie DCE candidate resigned from roster 6/9/2017
Albertin, Daniel teacher Holy Cross, Fort Wayne, IN to emeritus 6/16/16
Albertin, Matthew teacher St. Paul, Munster, IN to candidate 7/1/16
Albertin, Paul teacher candidate to non-candidate status 1/27/16
Ashbaugh, Megan teacher St. Peter-Immanuel Lutheran School, Decatur, IN to non-candidate 7/1/15
Ayiku-Teye, Stephanie, Deaconess, Peace, Fort Wayne, IN to non-candidate 2/11/16
Barlau, Amanda teacher Luther Central, Brownstown, IN to candidate 7/1/16
Bleke, Renee teacher candidate to non-candidate status 2/17/16
Bornheimer, Alyssa teacher Emmanuel St. Michael, Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 7/1/16
Bothwell, Brian teacher candidate removed from roster 11/27/17
Breininger, Terry teacher Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne to emeritus 11/1/16
Brune, Pamela J. teacher, Suburban Bethlehem, Fort Wayne to emeritus 7/1/15
Bruns-Teske, Loralee L. teacher St. Paul, Munster to emeritus 7/1/15
Buuck, Amy L., teacher non-candidate-extended by COP 4/30/16
Buuck, Darlene teacher candidate to emeritus 1/10/17
Clark, Kristen teacher Holy Cross, Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 7/1/17
Collins, Jon teacher removed from roster 1/19/17
Converset, Michelle teacher Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 7/1/17
David, Brandon teacher candidate to Emmaus Lutheran, Indianapolis; installed 9/20/15 by R. Smith
Davidsmeyer, Diann teacher St. Peter’s, Columbus, IN to emeritus 7/1/16
Drier, Alicia teacher Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN; to non-candidate 7/31/16
Eberhart Jr., Robert teacher non-candidate to emeritus 3/1/16
Eichinger, Kenneth teacher St Paul, Bremen IN to emeritus 8/1/2017
Eisert, Pamela, principal St John, Lanesville IN to emeritus 8/1/2017
Erber, Phyllis L. teacher St. John, Lanesville, IN to emeritus 8/1/15
Erdmann, Denise teacher Our Shepherd, Avon, IN to candidate 7/1/16
Fedder, Megan teacher Zion, Decatur, IN to candidate 7/1/16
Finnegan, Heather teacher reinstated to roster as candidate 4/2016
Fitch, Ricky J. teacher/DCE non-candidate to emeritus status 1/23/16
Fluegge, Kathleen teacher Holy Cross, Fort Wayne, IN to emeritus 7/1/16
Foster, Sandra teacher candidate resigned from roster 12/22/16
Frick, Karl G. teacher St. Peter’s, Fort Wayne, IN to emeritus 6/30/15
Fritzler, Jessica teacher resigned from roster effective 7/31/13
Frush, Shawn teacher candidate resigned from roster 2/26/16
Geisler, Steven teacher removed from roster for not applying for inactive status effective 7/31/14
Grimmer, Christine A., Deaconess, Shepherd of the City, Fort Wayne, IN to non-candidate 6/30/15
Gudel, Justin, lay minister Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran, Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 7/1/15
Haines, Leslie Deaconess – resigned from roster 12/1/16
Harlow, Linda teacher candidate to emeritus 1/17/17
Hartman, Sheryl teacher Redeemer, Kokomo, IN to non-candidate 7/31/15
Hathaway, Mary teacher St. Paul, Fort Wayne, IN to emeritus 8/1/16
Heins, Janice teacher Cornerstone, Carmel to candidate 8/16/16
Heller, Jeannette E. A. Deaconess, Emmanuel (Soest), Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 7/31/16
Hencye, Lawrence teacher Trinity, Fort Wayne, IN to emeritus 1/1/17
Herbolzheimer, Molly, DCE candidate to non-candidate 5/1/2015
Hill, Lori teacher Zion, Seymour, IN; to non-candidate 8/1/16
Hill, Lori teacher candidate to emeritus 1/25/17
Jung, Matthew teacher Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour IN, removed from commissioned minister listing; ordained 7/25/2015
Kerr, Homer (Rick) principal St John, Indianapolis IN to emeritus 8/1/2017
Kopp, Amy L. teacher Bethlehem, Ossian, IN to non-candidate 7/1/15
Kopp, Tyler principal St Peter’s Lutheran, Fort Wayne IN to candidate 1/24/2017
Kumfer, Justin, Candidate to Non-Candidate
Kumfer, Justin, Non-Candidate to removed from commissioned minister listing; placed in Southeastern District as ordained
Kyler, Jeffrey B. teacher, White Creek Lutheran School, Columbus to non-candidate 8/1/15
LeBeau, LuAnn teacher candidate to non-candidate 1/28/16
Leighty, Kelli teacher non-candidate extended by COP 4/30/16
Lipka, Nancy teacher Zion, Seymour, IN to emeritus 7/31/17
Littmann, Aaron M DCE St Peter’s Columbus IN to Lutheran Outdoor Ministry of Texas, LaGrange TX (TX) 7/28/2017
Luepke, James E teacher Holy Cross Lutheran, Fort Wayne IN to emeritus 7/1/2017
Luster/Bartz (Monn) Melissa teacher St. John, Kendallville, IN to candidate 7/1/17
Majorins, Jeremiah teacher Emmanuel St. Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne to candidate 7/1/15
Martin, Meghan C teacher Emmaus, Fort Wayne IN resigned from roster 6/8/2017
McBee, Cayleigh teacher Emmaus, Fort Wayne IN to non-candidate 7/1/2015
McCormick, Julie teacher Our Savior, Louisville, KY to candidate 7/1/15
Meyer, Peter teacher Lutheran South Unity School, Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 7/1/16
Middaugh, Barbara teacher St. Paul, Bremen, IN to emeritus 7/1/16
Miller, Deborah L teacher Concordia, Fort Wayne, IN to emeritus 7/1/15
Minier, Beth teacher removed from roster 7/1/13
Mischnick, Walter principal Resurrection Lutheran Academy, South Bend, IN to emeritus 1/1/16
Moellering, Dianne teacher Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, IN to emeritus 7/1/16
Moses, Timothy J DCE Grace, Columbus IN to candidate 11/1/2016
Nimmer, Sarah teacher Emmaus, Fort Wayne, IN resigned from roster 12/22/16
Otten, Danae teacher St. John, Lanesville, IN to candidate 11/23/16
Oyler, Bertha teacher candidate to emeritus 12/23/16
Patterson, Judy teacher Our Hope Lutheran, Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 6/30/04
Paul, Amy teacher Wyneken Memorial, Decatur, IN to candidate 8/1/13
Penoske, Sandra teacher Immanuel, Seymour IN to emeritus 7/1/2017
Phifer, Jennifer teacher removed from roster for not applying for inactive status effective 7/31/14
Pride, Sandra teacher St. John, Indianapolis, IN to emeritus 8/1/16
Prokopf, Rachel teacher removed from roster 6/30/03
Pullman, Amanda teacher Central Lutheran School, New Haven, IN to candidate 7/1/15
Rehwaldt, Jon teacher removed from roster 7/1/13
Renken, Randolph, teacher serving members congregation, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne to emeritus 10/1/12
Rensner, Cheryl teacher Calvary, Indianapolis IN resigned from roster 8/1/2017
Reuille, Wanda P. teacher Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, IN to emeritus 7/23/15
Rueber, Bruce teacher candidate to emeritus 12/26/16
Rueber, Gloria teacher candidate to emeritus 12/26/16
Rust, Anna M teacher St. Peter’s, Columbus, IN to emeritus 7/1/15
Sagissor, Chelsea teacher candidate to non-candidate 1/19/16
Salo, Andrea teacher Ascension Lutheran, Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 7/1/17
Sattler, Mark DCE candidate resigned from roster 4/20/2017
Schafer, Katherine teacher non-candidate – extended by COP 4/30/16
Schatz, Greg DCE Mount Olive, Greenwood IN to candidate 8/19/2015
Schulenburg, Carl teacher Lutheran High School, Indianapolis to emeritus 7/1/14
Sievert, Amy teacher St. John, Seymour, IN to candidate 8/1/15
Simoneaux, Trisha teacher removed from roster 7/1/02
Smith, Barbara teacher Trinity, Indianapolis IN to emeritus 7/1/2017
Spieth, Renee teacher candidate – resigned from roster 2/17/16
Stelzer, Kenneth teacher candidate to emeritus 1/18/17
Strakis, Randall O teacher St James, Lafayette IN to emeritus 6/1/2017
Stratton, Rachel teacher Lutheran South Unity School, Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 8/1/16
Taylor, Jennifer teacher removed from roster for not applying for inactive status effective 6/30/2000
Tellman, Cheryl teacher non-candidate to emeritus 1/24/16
Thompson, Rachel D., Deaconess Candidate - resigned
Thorson, Jennifer (Phillips), Deaconess, St. John, Monroeville, IN; to candidate 7/1/15
Tucker, Katherine teacher Redeemer, Kokomo IN to emeritus 7/1/2015
Utecht, Rianne teacher Lutheran South Unity School, Fort Wayne IN to candidate 8/1/2017
VonDielingen, Jean teacher Immanuel, Seymour, IN to emeritus 8/1/16
Wade, Jennifer teacher St. Paul, Fort Wayne, IN to candidate 8/1/16
Waggy, Logan teacher Evansville Lutheran School, Evansville, IN to candidate 6/24/15
Wakeland, Cathie teacher non-candidate to emeritus 1/22/16
Wallace, Jeffrey teacher St John, Indianapolis to candidate 8/1/2017
Whitaker, Christian teacher removed from roster for not applying for inactive status effective 6/30/13
Wichman, Donald teacher Central Lutheran School, New Haven, IN to emeritus 7/1/15
Wischmeier, Henry teacher St. Paul, Columbus, IN to emeritus 7/1/16
Wright, Stacy teacher St. John, Seymour, IN to candidate 8/1/15

Out of District
Carlson, Matthew DCE Christ, Noblesville, IN to Trinity, Bemidji, MN (MNN) 8/1/16
Carnahan, Joshua teacher Lutheran South Unity, Fort Wayne, IN to Trinity, Bend, OR (NOW) 7/1/16
Cmeyla, William DCE candidate to Michigan District (MI) 8/1/2015
Creutz, Kevin principal Central Lutheran, New Haven, IN to Ohio District (OH) 1/31/18
DeGroot, Melissa, Deaconess, Non-Candidate to English District (EN)
Dietrich, Clifford teacher emeritus to Michigan District (MI) 12/8/16
Durkin, Mary teacher St John, Indianapolis IN to Southeastern District (SE) 8/1/2015
Elliot, Krista teacher St. John, Aurora, IN to St. John, Orange, CA (PSW) 7/1/16
Fedder, Megan teacher candidate to English District (EN) 7/1/16
Finnegan, Heather teacher candidate to South Wisconsin District (SW) 7/1/16
Flippo, Rachel teacher non-candidate to Trinity, Wisconsin Dells, WI (SW) 7/1/16
Foote, Henry teacher candidate to Zion, Beecher, IL (NI) 7/1/16
Fritz, Beverly A. teacher emeritus to Michigan District (MI) 3/7/16
Funke, Caleb DPM candidate to Iowa West District (IW) 3/22/17
Gray, Robin teacher non-candidate to Iowa East District (IE) 8/1/2015
Grew, Ralph A. teacher emeritus to Florida-Georgia District (FG) 1/1/17
Grimmer, Christine A. Deaconess candidate to South Dakota (SD)
Guse, Jonathan DCE Redeemer, Kokomo, IN to Central Illinois District (CI) 3/15/18
Hampton, Daniel, DCE Our Shepherd, Avon, IN to Rocky Mountain District (RM) 9/30/16
Heitman, Cheryl teacher emeritus to Missouri District (MO) 1/1/17
Heller, Jennette E. A., Deaconess candidate to Northern Illinois District (NI)
Herbolsheimer, Molly DCE non-candidate to South Wisconsin District (SW) 7/8/2015
Hoeppner, Beth A. teacher emeritus, resigned from roster 4/18/16
Hoeppner, David A. teacher emeritus, resigned from roster 4/18/16
Holle, Whitney teacher St. John, Kendallville, IN to Kansas District (KS) 7/1/16
Kemerling, Karla teacher candidate to Missouri District (MO) 9/1/2015
King, Carole R., Deaconess Candidate to Concordia Lutheran Ministries, Cabot, PA (EA)
Knudten, George teacher emeritus to Northern Illinois District (NI) 1/1/17
Knudten, Jacqueline teacher emeritus to Northern Illinois District (NI) 1/1/17
Kowalke, Julie principal St Peter-Immanuel, Decatur IN to teacher St Peter, Macomb MI (MI) 7/15/2017
Kuhl, Amanda (Pullman) teacher candidate to Mid-South District (MSD) 1/1/16
Kuker, Gerald, teacher emeritus to Northern Illinois District (NI) 9/8/15
Labahn, Kristen teacher non-candidate to Rochester Central Lutheran School, Rochester, MN (MNS) 7/1/16
Landes, Lydia teacher candidate to Southern District (SO) 7/1/16
Laubsch, Jennifer teacher Trinity, Elkhart, IN to St. John, Rochester, MI (MI) 7/1/16
Lutz, Jennifer teacher St. Peter, Fort Wayne, IN to Immanuel/Martin Luther School, Joplin, MO (MO) 7/1/16
Majorins, Jeremiah teacher candidate to Nebraska District (NEB) 1/10/17
Mayfield, Amanda teacher Central Lutheran, New Haven IN to Missouri District (MO) 7/1/2015
McBee, Cayleigh teacher St John, Kendallville IN to candidate Iowa West District (IW) 7/1/2017
Mischnick, Walter T. teacher emeritus to Texas District (TX) 1/1/17
Mueller, Kathryn teacher Calvary, Indianapolis IN to Nebraska District (NEB) 8/1/2015
Mueller, Matthew teacher Lutheran High School, Indianapolis IN to Nebraska District (NEB) 7/31/2015
Mueller, Paul E teacher St Peter, North Judson IN to Michigan District (MI) 7/8/2015
Noelker, James E teacher White Creek Lutheran School, Columbus IN to Lutheran HS Assoc of Greater Detroit, Detroit MI (MI) 7/1/2017
Otten, Danae teacher candidate to South Wisconsin District (SW) 12/22/17
Patterson, Judy teacher candidate to Florida-Georgia District (FG) 12/22/16
Paul, Amy teacher candidate to Rocky Mountain District (RM) 12/22/16
Rudzinski, Kevin teacher Immanuel, Seymour IN to St Paul’s Lutheran, Des Peres, MO (MO) 7/1/2017
Rupprecht, Paul certified lay minister emeritus to Pacific Southwest (PSW)
Sandfort, Melvin Thomas teacher emeritus to Missouri District (MO) 1/1/17
Schatz, Gregory DCE candidate to 1C A Mission Church of the LCMS, Columbus NE (NEB) 6/1/16
Schieber, Alisha M. Deaconess candidate to Northern Illinois (NI)
Schmidt, Tobias teacher non-candidate resigned from the roster of commissioned ministers 7/1/16 (ordained summer 2016 in MNS)
Schultz, John principal Trinity, Crown Point IN to North Wisconsin District (NW) 6/1/2015
Schultz, Ruth teacher Trinity, Crown Point IN to North Wisconsin District (NW) 7/1/2015
Schultz, Sara, Deaconess, Emmanuel (Soest), Fort Wayne, IN; to Christ, Jackson, MS (SO)
Schumacher, Gordon teacher emeritus to Central Illinois District (CI) 1/1/17
Shepherd, Loren teacher St Peter’s, Fort Wayne IN to Trinity Lutheran, Utica MI (MI) 7/1/2017
Sievert, Amy teacher candidate to Nebraska District (NEB) 7/1/16
Sievert, Daniel principal Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour, IN to Lutheran High Assoc. of NE Nebraska, Norfolk, NE (NEB) 7/1/16
Stelzer, Kenneth teacher emeritus to Texas District (TX) 3/22/17
Stork, Martha D. teacher non-candidate resigned from roster 1/24/16
Styf, Sarah teacher candidate to Concordia Lutheran High School, Tomball, TX (TX) 7/1/16
Swanson, Kimberly teacher non-candidate resigned from roster 1/22/16
Swem, Katherine teacher non-candidate to Michigan District (MI) 3/16/2015
Teeple, Gina K., Deaconess, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; to Peace, Fremont, IN (EN)
Thorson, Jennifer (Phillips), Deaconess, Candidate to Minnesota South
Uffmann, Matthew teacher St. Peter, North Judson, IN to St. John, Napa, CA (CNH) 7/1/16
Vicari, Mark teacher non-candidate to Rocky Mountain District (RM) 7/8/2015
Waggy, Logan teacher candidate to Nebraska District (NEB) 1/1/16
Wilcoxen, Lydia teacher Central New Haven IN to candidate Southern Illinois District (SI) 8/1/2017
Winningham, Kathryn teacher Trinity Lutheran, Indianapolis resigned from roster 4/20/16
Wood, Rachel (Hartman) teacher Concordia, Fort Wayne, IN to Our Savior, Aiea, HI (CNH) 8/1/16

Called to Glory

Hankel, Donald teacher emeritus 8/31/17
LeBeau, Edward W emeritus 3/28/17
Pasche, Raymond teacher emeritus 2/22/17
Richert, Fay Ronald, teacher emeritus 12/21/15
Schlegel, Orvin teacher emeritus 12/03/17
Soeken, Richard W., DCE emeritus 3/14/17
Sommer, Thomas C emeritus 5/24/17
Tietjen, Leroy teacher emeritus 2/06/18
Voge, Jean teacher emeritus 1/16/18
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wagner, Monica</td>
<td>teacher</td>
<td>3/25/17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wengert, Dean D.,</td>
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<td>Wentland, Katherine M.</td>
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<td>9/29/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Westrick, Earl J</td>
<td>emeritus</td>
<td>3/19/17</td>
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<td>Wilbert, Dr. Warren N.,</td>
<td>teacher emeritus</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CONGREGATIONS**

**NEW:**

_Bread of Life Lutheran Church, Georgetown, KY_, approved by BOD 5/27/17; chartered 9/10/17, witnessed by D. May.

**CLOSED:**

Fishers, Indiana, _Divine Savior_, final service, 2/15/2015, paperwork 9/1/15
Kendallville, Indiana, _Restoration_ final service, 12/31/2014, paperwork 12/28/16
Portage, Indiana, _Holy Cross_, merged with St. Peter, Portage 3/29/2017, paperwork 6/22/17
NEW TO SYNOD
2015-2018

ORDAINED:

Akey, Bradley (FW17)  Associate Pastor  Zion, Seymour
Burfiend, Daniel L. (FW16)  Pastor  New Hope, Ossian
Douglas, Matthew G. (SL16)  Associate Pastor  Our Shepherd, Avon
Ferry, Joseph (SL15)  Pastor  Southwest, Fort Wayne
Heckert, Peter (SL15)  Associate Pastor  St. James, Lafayette
Hetherington, Dale L (CQ17)  Associate Pastor  Faith, DeMotte
Jung, Matthew (FW15)  Chaplain/Teacher  Trinity High School, Seymour
Koziol, Jr., Stephen (FW16)  Pastor  Zion, Corunna
Krebs, Adrian J. (FW15)  Pastor  Lords of Life, North Vernon
Reifsteck, Joshua P. (SL15)  Associate Pastor  Calvary, Indianapolis
Satkowiak, Brett (SL16)  Associate Pastor  Trinity, Crown Point
Schultz, David M. A. (SL15)  Associate Pastor  St. Peter’s, Fort Wayne
Sheafer, Daniel M (FW15)  Associate Pastor  Emmanuel, Fort Wayne
Smith, Chad L. (FW15)  Associate Pastor  St. Paul’s, Fort Wayne
Steibbins, John T. (FW16)  Pastor  Faith, Louisville
Westfall, John H. (CQ17)  Pastor  St. Matthew, Delphi
Whittaker, Nathan (SL17)  Pastor  Mt. Calvary, Fort Wayne

COMMISSIONED:

Bader, Gretyl (S14)  Teacher  St. John, Kendallville
Becker, Hannah M. (CUC)  Deaconess  Bethesda Lutheran Comm., Fort Wayne
Becker, Peter (RF15)  Teacher  Central, New Haven
Bienz, Clinton (RF15)  Teacher  Lutheran South Unity, Fort Wayne
Bleke, Alyssa (MQ15)  Teacher  St. Paul, Munster
Boehme, Hannah (MQ17)  Teacher  Emmaus, Fort Wayne
Bosman, Bailey (MQ17)  Teacher  St. Paul, Munster
Buchholz, Aaron (S15)  Teacher  Concordia Lutheran High, Fort Wayne
Burant, David (MQ12)  Teacher  Evansville Lutheran Evansville
Carr, Brian (CQ15)  Teacher  Evansville Lutheran, Evansville
Cashmer, Leah (AA17)  Teacher  Lutheran High, Indianapolis
Claucherty, Kaila (AA15)  Teacher  Redeemer, Kokomo
Clandenin, Jennifer (CQ15)  Teacher  Emmanuel-St. Michael, Fort Wayne
Collins, Jon (CQ15)  Teacher  Emmanuel-St. Michael, Fort Wayne
Cotton, Dr. Patricia (CQ16)  DPM  Holy Cross, Fort Wayne
Cox, Corey (CQ15)  Teacher  Trinity, Elkhart
Driver, Emily (RF16)  Teacher  St. John, Indianapolis
Eck, Karen S. (FW17)  Deaconess  Faith, DeMotte
Falk, Ariana D. (CQ15)  Teacher  St. Paul, Munster
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Congregation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Felton, Faith (SP90)</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Concordia Lutheran High, Fort Wayne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graham, Amanda (CQ15)</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Central, New Haven</td>
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<td>Gross, Stephanie (S16)</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Redeemer, Kokomo</td>
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<td>Gruen, Allison (P13)</td>
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<td>Haese, Taylor (MQ16)</td>
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<td>Ascension, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Hedstrom, Laura</td>
<td>DPM</td>
<td>Trinity, Elkhart</td>
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<td>Koch. Adam E. (AA17)</td>
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<td>St. John-Emmanuel, Monroeville</td>
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<td>Jones, Samantha Lee (CQ15)</td>
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<td>Immanuel, Valparaiso</td>
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<td>Kearns, Megan (RF14)</td>
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<td>St. Peter-Immanuel, Decatur</td>
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<td>Keller, Abigail (RF15)</td>
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<td>Kesar, Ethan (S16)</td>
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<td>Lepley, Wendi (CQ13)</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Our Shepherd, Avon</td>
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<td>Martin, Meghan (CQ15)</td>
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<td>Emmaus, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Mulder, Nayva K. (FW14)</td>
<td>Deaconess</td>
<td>Lutheran Special Ed. Ministries</td>
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<td>Oedewaldt, Amber (IV15)</td>
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<td>Holy Cross, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Osborne, Madeline (NEB17)</td>
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<td>St. Paul, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Pankow, Lauren (S16)</td>
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<td>Pedde, Joshua (CQ16)</td>
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<td>Cornerstone, Carmel</td>
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<td>Rauch, Micah (MQ17)</td>
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<td>Schultz, Sara E. (FW16)</td>
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<td>Emmanuel (Soest), Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Sinclair, Brandon J (CQ15)</td>
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<td>Smith, Janet (CQ15)</td>
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<td>Emmanuel-St. Michael, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Stellwagen, Benjamin (CQ16)</td>
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<td>Teeple, Gina K. (FW16)</td>
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<td>Thoelke, Rebecca (RF17)</td>
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<td>Utecht, Rianne (S15)</td>
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<td>Lutheran South Unity, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Weber, Sarah E. (S11)</td>
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<td>St. Peter’s, Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wells, Mackenzie (RF14)</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Our Savior, Louisville</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CONGREGATIONS:**

*Bread of Life Lutheran Church, Georgetown, KY* 9-10-2017
Report of the Executive Counselor for Outreach and Human Care  
Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson  
June 14-15, 2018

God has blessed the Indiana District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod with great opportunities for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with friends, relatives, associates and neighbors. We are motivated to share the Gospel message with others by the Holy Spirit who helps us to appreciate the great blessing which God has given to us by calling us into faith in Christ Jesus. Conversion doesn’t happen without means. The Means of Grace, that is, the Word of God and Holy Baptism are the means that God uses to call people into true faith. The Word and Holy Communion are the means that God uses to keep people in true faith. God uses you and me as His hands, feet and mouth to help people (Human Care) and to share the Word of God (Outreach) with those whom we come into contact in our various vocations in life. This is a good Lutheran thing with which to be involved. Dr. Martin Luther once stated:

"For once a Christian begins to know Christ as his Lord and Savior, through whom he is redeemed from death and brought into His dominion and inheritance, God completely permeates his heart. Now he is eager to help everyone acquire the same benefits. For his greatest delight is in this treasure, the knowledge of Christ. Therefore he steps forth boldly, teaches and admonishes others, praises and confesses his treasure before everybody, prays and yearns that they, too, may obtain such mercy. There is a spirit of restlessness amid the greatest calm, that is, in God’s grace and peace. A Christian cannot be still or idle. He constantly strives and struggles with all his might, as one who has no other object in life than to disseminate God’s honor and glory among the people, that others may also receive such a spirit of grace and through this spirit also help him pray. For wherever the spirit of grace resides, there we can and dare, yes, must begin to pray."1

It is my hope and prayer that all of our church workers as well as congregants see the possibilities for human care and outreach all around them.

The Council for Congregational Outreach

I am happy to report that the Council for Congregational Outreach has worked hard in the last three years to promote evangelism and mission work in our district. Chairman of this council is Rev. Erich Fickel. Members of the council are: Rev. Timothy Sims, Rev. Jeffrey Alexander, Rev. Patrick Galligar, Mr. Paul Wendt, Mr. Mark Muehl, Mrs. Evelyn Benning, Mr. Dave Smith, Mrs. Claire Fickenscher, Mr. Wayne Meyer, and Mr. Matthew Helwig.

Each of the council members have served on at least one of the task forces appointed for the triennium of 2015-2018. I have been impressed by the passion that the council members have for sharing the message of Jesus Christ throughout the district. All have taken their work seriously and have been conscientious in completing their tasks.

The council at the suggestion of the Evangelism Task Force hosted an Evangelism Conference for the Indiana District as well as surrounding districts. Thanks must be given to Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Avon, for providing us with a site for the conference. The Evangelism Conference was held September 9 and 10, 2016. The conference was developed around the theme: “Coexist? Confessing Christ in a Contrary Culture.” The Keynote address was given by the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast, Jr. The Conference was well attended. A second Evangelism Conference will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Indianapolis, on September 7 and 8, 2018.

Again this triennium, a number of task forces were appointed. The task forces had virtual meetings and the only costs incurred by the district was a yearly subscription for Gotomeeting access. The task forces and their activities are:

**African Immigrant Task Force**

Members of the task force are: Rev. Dr. Curt Peters; Rev. Michael Barnes, Mr. Wayne Meyer, Mr. John Ater, and Deacon Don Henry

African Immigrant work is ongoing in the Indiana District in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Louisville, Kentucky and Indianapolis, Indiana.

The task force continues to work in identifying the location of African Immigrants within the district.

Rev. Dr. Curt Peters and Mr. John Ater highlighted theongoing work in South Sudan. Rev. Dr. Peters has been working to help instruct leaders of the independent Anglican Church of South Sudan which seeks to become a partner church with the LCMS. Rev. Dr. Peters and others taught leaders of the independent Anglican Church of South Sudan. Rev. Dr. Peters reports, “There were over sixty members of the ACSS who attended the sessions. These included two bishops (Paul Chol Deng and David Manyok Lual), three bishop-elects (Richard Deng Dau, Jacob Ngor Bol, and John Deng Ater), two vicars general (Abraham Makuei Reet, and Jacob Dhieu Garang), four archdeacons, a rural dean, and many pastors and lay leaders. Both men and women attended.”

**Asian Ministry Task Force**

Members of the task force are: Rev. Liwei Sui, Rev. Tich Luu, Rev. Udhay Raji, Mr. Mark Muehl, and Rev. Justin Herman.

The Asian Ministry Task Force met quarterly to encourage one another in the ministry of reaching out to Asian people and sharing the Gospel message of Christ with them. Also discussion was had on how to enable Asian people to be involved in reaching out to other Asian people.

**Black Ministry Task Force**

Members of the task force are: Deacon Cleveland Lewis, Mr. Mike Nicks, Mr. David Gullett Sr., Mr. Jim Boyd, and Rev. Delwyn Campbell.

The task force encouraged one another in the Christian faith. They also shared ideas on how to evangelize the communities surrounding the congregations represented by the members of the
task force. Discussion was had on how to overcome the perceived cultural differences in Lutheran churches that tend to hinder African American people from joining LCMS congregations. Encouragement was given for the work in Gary, Indiana.

**Campus Ministry Task Force**

Members of the task force are: Rev. Richard Woelmer, Rev. Seth Mierow, Rev. Justin Herman, Rev. Jacob Sutton, Deaconess Shaina Mitchell (Wurdemann), and Rev. Daniel Mackey.

The task force met face to face at their own expense to encourage one another in the Christian faith, share ideas on reaching out to students, and also to strategize on ways to reach out to high school students and their parents. Great interest in the changes at University Lutheran, West Lafayette, were discussed during this past triennium.

**Evangelism Task Force**


The evangelism task force worked on ways to improve awareness for the need of personal witnessing on the part of members of Indiana District congregations as well as the need for intentional congregational evangelism efforts. At the time of this report, it is intended that a resource piece which is still in development will be made available to the convention delegates encouraging both personal witnessing and evangelism.

**Hispanic Ministry Task Force**


The Hispanic Ministry Task Force met occasionally to encourage and assist one another in reaching out to Latinos who are un-churched in the Indiana District. A Hispanic Convocation was held at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana on January 11, 2017. All Hispanic leaders were invited to participate in a Gospel Seeds event held at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School on May 11, 2017. Rev. Carlos Hernandez led this event.

**Prison Ministry Task Force**

Task Force Members are: Rev. David Mommens, Mr. Pat Kyler, Rev. Dr. Jerry Winegarden, Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Pulse, Deaconess Intern Carole Terkula, Katherine Rittner, Rev. Philip Rittner, and Vicar Adam McDowell.

The prison ministry task force surveyed Indiana District pastors to ascertain which pastors were involved in prison and or jail ministry. This survey was completed in 2016. It was found that there is a great need for pastors to be involved in this outreach to the incarcerated.

Rev. Dr. Jerry Winegarden developed a spreadsheet listing the various prison and jail ministries located within the geographical region of the district. Then Dr. Winegarden determined where a Christian outreach of some form was occurring in the prisons and jails in the counties which
make up the Indiana District. The results showed that there are many counties where there is not an LCMS presence reaching out to incarcerated people.

Deaconess Intern Carole Terkula has written a devotional book entitled, “Christ in the Cellblock.” This is available for printing costs to anyone who would like to use it in reaching out to incarcerated people.

**Small Town/Rural Ministry Task Force**

Members are: Rev. Dan Dahling, Rev. Timothy Sims, Mr. Matthew Helwig, Mr. Dewey Allman, Mr. Dan Buchinger, Rev. Thomas Ludwig and Rev. Martin Keller.

A Small Town/Rural Ministry Convocation was held May 6, 2017. Seminary students from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne and Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, were invited to the convocation. Invitation was also made to pastors in the Indiana District as well as surrounding districts. The speakers for this conference were: Rev. Todd Kollbaum the Director of Small Town/Rural Ministry for our LCMS and district pastors serving in small town/rural ministry settings: Rev. Dan Dahling, Rev. Martin Keller and Rev. Randy Wurschmidt. The seminary students appreciated the insights shared concerning small town/rural ministry. This convocation was held at the Indiana District Training Center and was hosted by the Small Town/Rural Ministry Task Force.

**New Start Ministry Task Force**


The task force worked on developing a mission manual to help congregations as well as missionaries know how to deal with the nuts and bolts of establishing a mission congregation. The manual is still being developed.

**Revitalization Task Force**

Members of the task force are: Mr. David Smith, Mrs. Evelyn Benning, Rev. Douglas Christian, and Mr. Steve Lewer.

The task force has been improving material that I created to conduct revitalization work with district congregations. The task force has also discussed ways of encouraging congregations to either use “Indiana District Revitalization” materials or the materials that Rev. Dr. Mark Wood has produced for the synod, namely, the ReVitality material that is presently available.

**Senior Adult Ministry Task Force**

Rev. Lesley J. Fichtner, Rev. Roger Olson, Rev. Michael Wakeland, Mr. John Mueller, Rev. Richard Radtke, and Rev. Dr. Donald Sandmann.

The Senior Adult Ministry Task Force has been meeting regularly. Thanks to Rev. Mike Wakeland and Lutheran Life Villages for hosting the meetings.
The task force has worked to help pastors and congregations understand that senior adults (age 50 years and older) populate most of our congregations.

Two Senior Fest events were held in the last triennium. These fests were held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Seymour, April 22, 2016 and Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, April 23, 2016. Thanks to both congregations for allowing us to use their facilities and for all the help they gave in hosting these events. Special thanks to the Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer who was the keynote speaker at both events and who donated his mileage and speaker fee. The theme for the events was “God’s Gifts for Us – Heart, Mind and Soul.” The Senior Adult Task Force worked for many hours planning the event as well as overseeing the details of each event. I must thank them publicly for this because my mother took suddenly ill and I went to Florida to be with her and didn’t attend either event. Both of the events were well attended. The next Senior Adult Fest will be held September 29, 2018 at St. James Lutheran Church and School in Lafayette, Indiana.

L.E.R.T. Task Force

Mr. Doug Netherton, Mr. Frank Wolka, Mr. Mike Bultemeier, Rev. James Rodriguez, Rev. Matthew Woods, and Rev. Dr. Alan Scott.

L.E.R.T. teams have helped out in the recent disaster in Houston, Texas. Fortunately, there has been very few disasters in the Indiana District’s geographic area in the last three years. Nevertheless, the Indiana District L.E.R.T. leaders are prepared to help when there is a need.

Urban Ministry

A new task force this past triennium was formed to deal with the challenges of ministry in the urban settings within our Indiana District.


The task force has been working on developing a strategy that will help urban ministry congregations join into partnership with other congregations. The reality is that many urban congregations need people more than they need money.

The task force has also been working on a congregational self-assessment tool to encourage urban congregations to see the need of partnering with stronger sister parishes. The task force has developed this logo and theme for the work they are doing.
Parish Nurses:
The Indiana District Parish Nurse Co-Representatives are Janet Hitzeman and Lana Hille.

Two parish nurse convocations were held in the last triennium.

The first was held on October 12, 2015. In this convocation discussions were held outlining the connection between the Indiana District and the Parish Nurse and Health Ministry in the parish, the scope and standards for faith community nursing were reviewed; educational options were explored; various health ministry models were discussed and spiritual resources for visitation were offered.

The second gathering discussed all aspects of Alzheimer’s disease. Special attention was given to caregiver stress and compensatory strategies. This workshop was held on September 29, 2017.

Support
Listed below is the support given in the last triennium to help fund events as well as ministries administered by the Outreach and Human Care department.

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Senior Fest</td>
<td>April 22 &amp; 23, 2016</td>
<td>Seymour and Holy Cross, FTW</td>
<td>$538.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evangelism Conference</td>
<td>September 9-10, 2016</td>
<td>Our Shepherd, Avon</td>
<td>$1,108.58</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Ministry Seminar</td>
<td>May 6, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>$84.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Nurse Conference</td>
<td>September 29, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>$138.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1,870.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Start-Up grants April 2015 through March 2018
These grants were offered to help a newly forming congregation with the incidentals that are needed to begin the mission. A maximum per application of $7,500.00 could be awarded. It should be noted that the grants system has changed and the Start-Up grants are no longer available due to this change. Nevertheless, these starts did receive grants in the last triennium.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Congregation</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christ the King Lutheran</td>
<td>$7,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Cross Lutheran</td>
<td>$1,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,200.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Equipment Grant April 2015 through March 2018
Equipment grants awarded to help congregations with setting up a church office and for providing other equipment that is needed in starting a new mission. This has also bee phased out.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Congregation</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christ the King Lutheran</td>
<td>$1,430.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journey Lutheran</td>
<td>$4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,430.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Church Worker Grants April 2015 through March 2018
Church worker grants were offered to help pay for the new worker serving the mission. These grants also have been phased out by direction of the Board of Directors of the Indiana District. Recipients of these grants will continue to receive the grant until the duration of their grant is completed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cornerstone Lutheran, Fishers, IN</td>
<td>$57,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Peter Lutheran, Warsaw, IN</td>
<td>$43,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ the King Lutheran, Mooresville, IN</td>
<td>$43,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$145,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Building Grants April 2015 through March 2018**

Building grants were awarded to help missions build a building for worship and fellowship purposes. These grants also have been phased out and are no longer awarded. The recipients of these grants will continue to receive the grant until the duration of their grant is completed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cornerstone Lutheran, Fishers, IN</td>
<td>$28,334.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epiphany Lutheran, Westfield, IN</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$58,334.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Evangelism grants**

The Evangelism Outreach Grant [maximum of $10,000 per applicant] is given with the intention of assisting an Indiana District congregation with a NEW outreach effort in their community. These grants will continue to be awarded until the fund established to fund them is disbursed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, IN</td>
<td>$7,133.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Phillips Lutheran, Gary, IN</td>
<td>$3,679.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,812.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New Ministry Initiative Matching Grant**

The **New Ministry Initiative Matching Grant** [maximum of $100,000 per applicant] is given with the intention of assisting Indiana District congregations, Indiana RSOs, and Indiana District circuits with NEW outreach efforts in their communities. This grant has a required matching element to it. Money awarded in the grant must be matched by the recipient at a 100 percent rate. This grant will continue to be awarded until the fund established to fund it is completely disbursed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faith Lutheran, DeMotte</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornerstone Lutheran, Fishers, IN</td>
<td>$100,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Lutheran, Bloomington</td>
<td>$100,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity Lutheran, Darmstadt</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$275,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Continuing Campus Ministry** work supported by the Indiana District are:

University Lutheran serving Purdue University students – Rev. Justin Hermann

University Lutheran serving Indiana University students – Rev. Richard Woelmer (Please note that Faith Lutheran in Bloomington, substantially supports this ministry and Rev. Woelmer is called by Faith Lutheran in Bloomington.)

Grace Lutheran Church serving Ball State University students – Rev. Daniel Mackey
Lutheran Federation of Kentucky – serving University of Louisville students – Rev. Michael Boyd.

Indiana University-Purdue University – Fort Wayne students – Rev. Jeffrey Springer. (Please note that area pastors are voluntarily serving in this outreach, as does Rev. Jeffrey Springer.)

Butler University – Rev. Seth Mierow pastor of St. Peter Lutheran, Indianapolis has developed a Lutheran Campus ministry at Butler University and is also reaching out to I.U.P.U.I. (Indiana University/Purdue University in Indianapolis, Indiana).

The total amount of campus ministry support in the last triennium was: $516,089.87.

**Hispanic outreach** in Indianapolis received support in the last triennium of $120,064.00.

**African Immigrant outreach** in Fort Wayne received $78,500.00 over the last triennium.

**Chinese outreach** in Evansville also received $6,667.00

The total amount of support for all these events and ministries in the last triennium was $1,226,966.87.

Thanks so much for your support for this represents the collective work of the congregations of the Indiana District. Your prayers and offerings are much appreciated and are very important to our work together in supporting the various events and ministries shared with you in this report!

**Update on Missions:**

This past triennium we did not have the number of new mission starts that we had in the previous triennium. The need is still great for new mission starts. Population continues to increase in the majority of the counties which are included in the geographic region which we know as the Indiana District.

**Continuing Mission Work**

1. North Manchester Mission Start is still in progress. It has become primarily a campus ministry outreach to students at Manchester University.
2. Holy Cross Lutheran Mission, Scottsburg, is still being developed by the two circuits who launched this mission.
4. Journey Lutheran Ministries, Fishers, continues to grow steadily. Rev. Jon Van Sliedrecht is the mission pastor serving this parish.
5. Cornerstone Lutheran satellite located in Fishers, by the grace of God has seen tremendous growth. Rev. Scott Giger serves the satellite. Average attendance is over 400 a Sunday.
6. Christ the King Lutheran Church, Mooresville, continues to develop under the leadership of missionary Rev. Eric Ebb. The mission has purchased property and a church building.
7. Newburgh is being developed as a satellite campus under the leadership of the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, Evansville.
8. Bread of Life Lutheran, Georgetown, Kentucky, has recently chartered as a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. This mission congregation has also recently purchased property and a church building.

9. Resurrection Lutheran, Louisville, Kentucky, is being served by Rev. Dr. Curtis Peters. This mission continues to grow in average attendance.

10. At the time of this report, the Outreach Kentucky effort continues to gain slowly. The goal is to raise $150,000.00 before placing a missionary in Richmond, for this start. At the present time the total amount donated to this initiative has been $65,217.62.

Changes in the last triennium:

Life is full of change and so also change effects the Indiana District. Campus ministry at Ball State University recently went through a change as Deaconess Shaina Mitchell completed her work there due to a joyous event. Shaina married a seminary student Vicar Wurdeman and is now living in Missouri. Grace Lutheran has decided to apply for a Vicar to help with campus ministry at Ball State University. Vicarage placement is scheduled for April 24.

Rev. J. Brown who was serving students at Indiana University Purdue University at Fort Wayne (I.P.F.W.) accepted a call to the Texas District and concluded his gratis work for the Indiana District at I.P.F.W. Rev. Jeffrey Springer graciously volunteered to serve the students at I.P.F.W. Like Rev. Brown, Rev Springer is doing this on a voluntary basis. Thank you Rev. Springer for this volunteer work.

University Lutheran, West Lafayette, moved to a new location and facility. This affords University Lutheran a much better opportunity to reach out to students since the new location and facility are located directly across from the engineering complex at Purdue University.

Gary, Indiana, has undergone some important and exciting changes in the last triennium. The LCMS Office of National Missions placed Rev. Delwyn Campbell as a Strategic Mission Developer in Gary. We are thankful to the LCMS Office of National Missions for this placement. I have been working with and encouraging Rev. Campbell in his efforts to reach out to the community in Gary.

Also in Gary, Ascension Lutheran School started up and is ongoing. See Dr. Jon Mielke’s report for further information on this exciting venture.

Work with “Rebuilding the Breach Ministries, Inc.” (a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod) is ongoing. This is an outreach to help indigent men and women get back on their feet again. Mr. Mike Nicks is the Executive Director of this important mercy mission in Gary.

I have been trained by Rev. Dr. Mark Wood and am now a certified facilitator for the “Connect to Disciple” workshop and am also a coach in the ReVitality program that Rev. Dr. Mark Wood has developed for our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

In conclusion let me say that it has been a great joy and privilege for me to serve the pastors, called workers and congregational members who collectively are the Indiana District. God
willing I will continue to serve you as the Executive Counselor for Outreach and Human Care. I want to thank the Board of Directors of the Indiana District with whom I have had the privilege of working. Thanks to my colleagues in the Indiana District office and to the staff who work there as well. I appreciate your faithfulness and devotion to Christ Jesus and your diligence in your work. Once again the Council for Congregational Outreach has been a joy with whom to work. Your insight and wisdom is much appreciated. I also appreciate and thank Rev. Dr. Daniel May for his efforts in serving the Indiana District. A big thank you is given to all the volunteers who have served diligently and faithfully on the task forces that I have appointed. Let me also express my appreciation for my Administrative Assistant, Nancy Losher. She is a great help to me in keeping my schedule, making sure that grant monies and subsidies are processed in a timely manner and fielding phone calls. Thanks so much Nancy!
“God’s Plan Our Future & Hope”

INTRODUCTION

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future” (Jeremy 29:11).

The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod congregations throughout the United States and abroad commit themselves to strong programs of Christian education to people of all ages. In the Indiana District, this emphasis on Christian education is particularly strong.

I have repeatedly shared with principals, teachers, and Director of Christian Educators throughout the Indiana District that this district is a very missional district and a district with a rich history of Christian education. God has richly blessed the Indiana District with marvelous ordained, commissioned, and lay leaders.

The Indiana District is comprised of 82,000 plus members of 234 congregations in Indiana and north central Kentucky, walking and working together to carry out the Great Commission in our congregations, schools, communities, and the world. More than half of Indiana District congregations support preschools, elementary schools, and high schools.

Lutheran schools of the Indiana District are confronted with some of the similar concerns as other Lutheran schools across the nation – fewer students and financial challenges. Even so, the future for Lutheran schools shows much promise. Dedicated lay and professional servants are walking and working together to further spread the Gospel message of our Lord. Because of this dedication and commitment shown by our teachers, our Lutheran schools in the Indiana District are steeped in rich, Christian tradition and rooted deep in God’s Word, Luther’s Catechism, and the Lutheran Confessions.

During this triennium, I have been privileged to serve as the Executive for Christian education and ably supported by Amy Mews, administrative assistant to the Office of Education. The district also employs part-time Congregational Services Assistants. A CSA might be in active ministry or retired, male or female, professional or lay. What these Congregational Services Assistants have in common is a passion for Lutheran ministry and a willingness to serve when needed in the schools and congregations of our district.

This report documents information and trends of the programs of Christian education in the Indiana District during the triennium from 2015-2018, with additional data included in three exhibits:
Curriculum Consultant & NLSA Accreditation Advisor

Curriculum is essential and integral. At times, the same content between grade levels is taught or gaps exist due to the absence of communication among teachers. Textbooks and scope & sequence in textbooks are not curriculum. Textbooks, like other books used by teachers in classrooms, are simply a resource. Guaranteed curriculum is curriculum that is actually outlined, aligned and taught on a repeated basis. Having a position that provides insight, support, and guidance in the area of curriculum development and enhancement for teachers and students propels forward a sense of excellence and enhances teaching and learning.

The position, Curriculum Consultant and National Lutheran School (NLSA) Accreditation Advisor, will provide insight, support, and guidance for the Office of Education of the Indiana District. The position further encourages and assists administrators and teachers, thus equipping and empowering all to be skilled professional leaders as well as helping our Lutheran schools.

Mrs. Julie Dietrich has been providing encouragement and support in curricular mapping and National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) in a CSA role. The demand for support is increasing as more and more administrators and teachers request Christian service and support in the area of curriculum and curricular mapping. Moreover, the position of curriculum consultant and NLSA advisor will also support the Office of Education of the Indiana District.

The Board of Directors in their March 2018 meeting voted to extend a non-tenured Call to Mrs. Julie Dietrich as the curriculum consultant and NLSA advisor renewable based on budgeted dollars and education executive’s future vision for education. Julie will be installed in August of 2018.

School Ministry:

Early Childhood Education Programs

God has blessed the Indiana District with fifty-two (52) free standing preschools and daycares, and thirty-seven (37) preschools connected with our Lutheran elementary schools. Some of those preschools also provide childcare services for infants as young as six weeks. Of the eighty-nine (89) early childhood preschools, all provide Christian education for families with 3-year-old and 4-year-old children. Two (2) of the free standing preschools include Kindergarten as well. See Exhibit B, “Enrollment Summary 2015-2018”, for enrollment trends. During the last three years, early childhood enrollment in freestanding early childhood centers has declined from 2,525 to 2,410.
In addition, the Indiana District has continued with an Early Childhood Cabinet. Cabinet members are appointed for 2-year terms and represent each of the four regions of the Indiana District. Kathy Frank, Early Childhood Consultant for NLSA, is not appointed but serves each year while in the CSA role for the Indiana District. The Early Childhood Cabinet has been integral in assisting and supporting early childhood directors, teachers, and the Office of Education in the Indiana District.

The work of the Early Childhood Cabinet has been paramount in the equipping and empowering of early childhood directors and teachers. Listed below are several educational resources and services provided by the Cabinet:

- Indiana District Early childhood curriculum
- Early childhood assessment that aligns with the early childhood curriculum
- Regional workshops that provided training on the implementation of that curriculum as well as training for the assessment piece
- Planning and attending early childhood conferences
  - November 9-10, 2015 help with the All Church Worker Conference “One Spirit & Purpose”
  - June 13-14, 2016 at Lutheran High School, Indianapolis “Together We Can”
  - September 29-30, 2017 at the Indiana District Teachers’ Conference at Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne IN “It’s Still All About Jesus”
  - August 17-18, 2018 at Our Shepherd Lutheran, Avon IN “Jesus Knows Me, This I Love”
- Inform directors and teachers about National Lutheran School (NLSA) Accreditation and serve on accreditation teams
- Provide help, support and pertinent information for the early childhood centers throughout the Indiana District

The Early Childhood Cabinet not only has planned early child conferences but also held several workshops on implementing early childhood curriculum.

It is proper to recognize current and past Cabinet members who have faithfully served and have impacted early childhood education during this triennium. Current and past Cabinet members are listed as follows:

Current:

  Rachel Stults, Faith Preschool, Bloomington
  Angie Singer, Teacher at Zion, New Palestine
  Barb Bradtmueller, Director/Teacher at Peace, Fort Wayne
  Kathy Frank, CSA NLSA Early Childhood Consultant, Indiana District
  Amy Mews, Office of Education, Indiana District
  Dr. Jon Mielke, Superintendent Indiana District
Past:

Christine Behmlander, Kindergarten Teacher at St. Paul, Columbus, currently Director/Teacher at St Paul, Columbus

Tera Lewandowski, Director/Teacher at Faith, Demotte, currently Director/Teacher Immanuel Valpo

Cynthia Bishop, Director/Teacher, Redeemer Little Lambs, Highland

Ruth Southerland, Teacher at Zion, Seymour

Susie Hord, Director/Teacher at Immanuel, Valparaiso, now retired

Kristen Whirrett, Teacher at Ascension, Fort Wayne, currently stay-at-home mother

Kathleen Brandt, Director/Teacher at Little Wings Childcare, Indianapolis, currently at Zion, New Palestine

**Elementary Schools**

Congregations support forty-five (45) Lutheran elementary schools as the 2017-2018 academic year comes to a close. Most of these schools serve children in grades K-8, with thirty-seven (37) of them also supporting a preschool.

Currently, the total enrollment in grades K-8 in all the elementary schools of the Indiana District has decreased from **7362-7028** during this three-year period. See Exhibit B, “Enrollment Summary 2015-2018”, for enrollment trends. Maintaining and growing Lutheran schools is a high priority for the congregations. In spite of changing geographical areas, changes in socioeconomic status in communities around the Indiana District, health insurance rate increases for staff, and families with high personal debt, most congregations are able to maintain their commitment to offer a Lutheran education to the families of their congregations and communities.

**Lutheran High Schools**

In three of the four regions of the Indiana District, students and families are served by a Lutheran high school. These three schools and basic data about each are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name, Community</th>
<th>Year Started</th>
<th>2015-2016 Enrollment</th>
<th>2016-2017 Enrollment</th>
<th>2017-2018 Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran High School of Indianapolis</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
These three high schools all offer grades 9-12. They provide a comprehensive curriculum that enables graduates to enter the college or profession of their choice.

Currently, the total enrollment in grades 9-12 in our three (3) Lutheran high schools of the Indiana District shows a slight decrease from **1,165** to **1,110** during this three-year period. See Exhibit B, “Enrollment Summary 2015-2018”, for enrollment trends.

**Accreditation**

Lutheran schools are constantly striving for excellence. Accreditation is one means by which quality of instruction can be measured. Many Lutheran schools that embody the Indiana District comply with State of Indiana, AdvancED, and National Lutheran School (NLSA) accreditations.

**National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA):**

Scott Schumacher, principal at St. Peter’s Lutheran in Columbus, IN, is the NLSA Indiana District Commissioner. Mr. Fred Weiss, retired principal from Concordia Lutheran High School, serves as an elementary and high school consultant for NLSA. Mr. Carl Schuleenburg, retired teacher from Indianapolis Lutheran High School, also serves as an elementary NLSA consultant for NLSA. Kathy Frank, retired preschool teacher and director, serves as the early childhood consultant for NLSA. All of them encourage and assist our schools through the National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) or AdvancED/NLSA dual accreditation processes.

National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) helps parents confirm their choice of a school because accreditation is an assurance of quality. Quality is determined through a rigorous self-study in which the school measures itself against indicators and standards covering all phases of a school’s operation.

A team of educators from other schools visit and validate the self-study and write a report that includes the school’s strengths and weaknesses and recommendations for areas of improvement. The visitation team also makes a recommendation to our NLSA District Commissioner. The school is reviewed by the District Accreditation Commission, and if that organization concurs with the recommendation, it is forwarded on to the National Commission for a final review and the decision about granting accreditation. To retain its accredited status, the school must report annually showing that adequate progress is being made on the school improvement recommendations.

Eleven (11) of the fifty-two (52) free standing preschools, forty-three (43) elementary, and all three (3) Lutheran high schools have achieved National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA).

The LCMS National Office is also in partnership with AdvancED. Lutheran schools seeking a dual accreditation status can engage in the AdvancED/NLSA dual accreditation process. The Indiana District takes an active role in assisting the LCMS National Office for Accreditation in this dual role.
Currently, our three (3) Lutheran high schools and five (6) Lutheran elementary schools have achieved that dual accredited (AdvancED/NLSA) status. To achieve that dual accredited status, the school must conduct an extensive, rigorous internal study coupled with an external review that is comprised of team members on the school premise for 2 ½ days trained and certified to observe classrooms, review and validate school documentation, and write an External Review Report that helps the institution gauge their enhancement of instruction over the next accreditation cycle.

See Exhibit C for NLSA accredited schools and AdvancED/NLSA accredited schools

**State of Indiana Accreditation:**

Thirty-two (32) of the forty-four (44) Lutheran elementary schools and three (3) Lutheran high schools located in the state of Indiana have obtained State of Indiana accreditation.

Once schools have obtained State of Indiana accreditation, schools must comply with State of Indiana legal standards and licensure requirements for administrators and teachers. Amy Mews and Jon Mielke, the Education Department for the Indiana District, maintain a positive and cooperative relationship with the key leaders of the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), especially their Departments of School Accreditation and Professional Standards (teacher licensure).

**Kentucky State Accreditation:**

The Indiana District have schools in both Indiana and Kentucky. In Kentucky, non-public schools are not “accredited,” rather are “certified” by the state when they document meeting standards required by that state. Our Savior Lutheran School in Kentucky has attained that status.

See Exhibit C for state accredited Lutheran schools in Indiana and Kentucky.

**Indiana Scholarship (Choice) Schools**

**Indiana Choice Scholarship (Voucher) Program:**

In May of 2011, Governor Daniels signed into Law, The Indiana Scholarship (Choice) Program.

The Indiana Scholarship (Choice) Program provides state dollars to eligible students by utilizing a portion of the state funds allocated for that child to follow them to the non-public school of their choice.

As of 2017-2018, three (3) Lutheran high schools and thirty-seven (37) Lutheran elementary schools are registered with the Department of Education and accepting new choice families. As a result, the Lord has blessed each of these schools with new students. At the beginning of the academic year of 2017-2018, five-hundred sixty (560) new CHOICE Scholarship students enrolled into a Lutheran school for the first time and were able to hear the Gospel message. A total number of 3,465 Lutheran School students are receiving Choice Scholarships as this triennium ends. See Exhibit B, “Enrollment Summary 2015-2018”, for enrollment trends. Three
(3) more schools plan on becoming a CHOICE school for the 2018-2019 academic year, bringing the number of schools accepting CHOICE Scholarships to a total of 43 out of the 47 eligible schools.

**Choice Scholarship Tax Credit Program:**

The Indiana Scholarship Tax Credit Program was enacted in 2009, but has been expanded as part of the 2011 Choice Bill. In conjunction with the Indiana Choice Scholarship (Choice) Program, these programs offer the opportunity for Indiana families to choose the school that best suits their children’s needs.

The Indiana Scholarship Tax Credit Program provides eligible lower income families with scholarships given by certified Scholarship Granting Organizations (or SGOs). Funding for these Scholarships will come from recognized Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGO’s). Donors are eligible to take advantage of a fifty percent (50%) credit against their Indiana state tax liability for contributions made to an SGO.

The Indiana District has the Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana. The Lutheran SGO of Indiana, Inc. has grown from working with 18 Lutheran schools in NE Indiana in 2012 to all of the 47 (elementary & high) Lutheran schools in the state this year. In the school year of 2016-17, we collectively raised $1,992,749.

As more schools see the benefit of SGO fundraising for their families, as more donors have found the varied benefits of supporting their schools with SGO dollars, and as existing donors increase their support every year, the popularity of the SGO program has snowballed beyond expectations.

What are the benefits of the SGO program? SGO scholarships are a part of the School Choice efforts in Indiana. While School Choice Scholarships (aka "Vouchers") are state funds re-directed to the school of choice for students, SGO scholarships are private donations encouraged by a generous state tax credit. Donors receive a 50% state tax credit in addition to the federal charitable deduction for their gifts to SGO scholarships, and donors can choose to support one or more of our Lutheran schools with their financial support.

SGO scholarships will prove to be more important than just a tax savings for donors; currently, SGO scholarships are an important pathway to a student receiving an Indiana Choice Scholarship. New students and students currently enrolled in our Indiana Lutheran schools can receive an SGO scholarship in one year and be eligible to receive a Choice Scholarship (Voucher) in future years without being in a public school prior.

In addition, and perhaps more importantly, SGO scholarship programs are providing the catalyst for our Indiana Lutheran schools to create systematic, purposeful fundraising plans that can carry forward from SGOs to other efforts. Should School Choice ever be dissolved, those schools that create philanthropic traditions now will be better positioned for success in the future.
In 2016-2017, 45 schools distributed $1,695,558.32 to 1,290 students. Only 38 of these schools received CHOICE Scholarship dollars in 2016-17, which shows that the SGO scholarship programs help all our schools, CHOICE and non-CHOICE located in the state of Indiana.

See Exhibit B for Choice Schools and Enrollment Data

**Colloquy Program**

The Teacher Colloquy Program began in 2001. A fund was established to help teachers take colloquy courses with the goal to have Lutheran Teachers obtain a better understanding of Law and Gospel.

The Colloquy Program consists of eight (8) three-credit hour classes in theology. Those eight 3 credit classes cost an average of $700.00 each, plus an approximate additional $150.00 for books and fees. Total cost is approximately $6,000.00.

In the initial years the Indiana District’s scholarship provided half of the cost. Currently the scholarship supplies approximately a third of the cost. This scholarship fund has become a budgeted item in the Indiana District and is dependent on the congregational support of the Indiana District.

In the last triennium, twenty-four (24) teachers have taken at least one colloquy course. Six (6) teachers have started the colloquy process in 2017. Thirteen (13) commissioned ministers have completed the coursework and have or are in the process of completing their final interview at one of the Concordia Universities.

During 2015-2017 we had 14 teachers receive a call upon completing colloquy and were commissioned.

- Janet Smith, Emmanuel-St Michael, Fort Wayne  
  Finished 2/2015  Commissioned & Installed 8/23/2015
- Jennifer Clendenen, Emmanuel-St Michael, Ft Wayne  
  Finished 3/2015  Commissioned & Installed 9/20/2015
- Jon Collins, Emmanuel-St Michael, Ft Wayne  
  Finished 2/2015  Commissioned & Installed 9/20/2015
- Amanda Graham, Central Lutheran, New Haven  
  Finished 2/2015  Commissioned & Installed 10/21/2015
- Corey Cox, Trinity, Elkhart  
  Finished 8/2015  Commissioned & Installed 11/15/2015
- Samantha Jones, Immanuel, Valparaiso  
  Finished 11/2015  Commissioned & Installed 12/27/2015
- Brandon Sinclair, Immanuel, Seymour  
  Finished 6/2015  Commissioned & Installed 1/12/2016
- Ariana Falk, St Paul, Munster  
  Finished 7/2015  Commissioned & Installed 3/6/2016
- Kaila Claucherty, Redeemer, Kokomo  
  Finished 1/2016  Commissioned & Installed 8/7/2016
- Ben Stellwagen, Trinity Lutheran HS, Seymour  
  Finished 8/2016  Commissioned & Installed 8/12/2016
- Casey Pflughoeft, Trinity, Crown Point  
  Finished 8/2016  Commissioned & Installed 11/20/2016
- Wendi Lepley, Our Shepherd, Avon  
  Finished 7/2013  Commissioned & Installed 12/11/2016
- Brian Carr, Evansville Lutheran, Evansville  
  Finished 10/2016  Commissioned & Installed 1/29/2017
- Katelyn Russell, Immanuel, Valparaiso  
  Finished 1/2017  Commissioned & Installed 4/2/2017

In addition we had 2 Directors of Parish Music Education complete colloquy and were commissioned.
In 2017, the number of scholarships awarded was fifty-three (53). A person normally receives 8 scholarships of $250, one for each of the required college level courses in the Colloquy program. In some cases they will receive the first course free, and in that case, they are allowed a scholarship to cover the actual cost of textbooks not to exceed $250. The amount of dollars awarded in 2017 to assist enrollees was $12,514.68.

**Teachers and Roster Status**

There are nine hundred thirty-one (931) administrators and teachers in our one hundred (100) Lutheran schools in the Indiana District. Four hundred thirty-nine (439) are called and four hundred ninety-two (492) are contracted. Twenty-nine (29) contracted teachers are synod trained but not on the roster of Synod at this time. 50.3% of our teachers have synod training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total Teachers</th>
<th>Commissioned</th>
<th>Commissioned</th>
<th>Lay</th>
<th>Full time</th>
<th>Part time</th>
<th>ECE</th>
<th>Elem &amp; HS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>39.31%</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>53.87%</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>39.60%</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>138</td>
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<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>47.85%</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>145</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>47.15%</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>680</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>696</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Schools Opened and Closed in the last Triennium**

Schools Opened:
2014  Immanuel Lutheran Child Care, Seymour IN (not reported last Triennium)
2017  Ascension Lutheran Christian School, Gary IN

Schools Closed:
2015  Bethlehem Lutheran PS, Greendale IN
2015  St Peter Lutheran PS, Brownstown becomes part of Lutheran Central School, Brownstown IN
2016  St Paul Lutheran PS, East Chicago IN
2016  Little Blessings Child Care, (Zion) Woodburn IN
2017  Faith Lutheran PS, Madison
Building Expansion Programs This Triennium

During this triennium, several congregations embarked on building expansions and upgrades.

Central Lutheran, New Haven:

Central Lutheran School in New Haven dedicated a new gymnasium and early childhood center on October 8, 2017. This building project began with a gift to Central by two brothers, James and Larry Nahrwold. The Nahrwold brothers’ estates established a trust that was used as seed money for this project. In fall of 2014, Central began to work with Design Collaborative on a master plan that included building a second gymnasium, an early childhood wing, an art wing, additional classrooms, and renovated office space.

Throughout the 2014-15 school year, Central worked on the master plan until a consensus plan was developed. In the fall of 2015, the school hired Klote and Associates to serve as their on-site advisor for a capital campaign. The “Thankful for Our Heritage; Committed to Our Future” campaign officially kicked off in February 2016, and Central was able to break ground in fall of 2016.

Construction moved at a quick pace and Central was able to start the 2017-18 school year in the new building. Central Lutheran has been blessed by many donors and does look forward to paying off the building in the next three years. Central Lutheran will be able to host concerts and plays as well as Indiana District and community events as a result of this project. Additionally, Central Lutheran has been able to see growth in their preschool and kindergarten programs. As the name of their campaign states, we are Thankful for Our Heritage and Committed to Our Future.

Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School, Fort Wayne

Emmanuel Lutheran Church completed the sanctuary restoration project, “Thus Far…” in April of 2017 (1 Samuel 7:12). The project consisted of two major components: external building maintenance and restoration of the sanctuary.

As part of the external building maintenance component all brick work was tuck pointed, repairs to the steeple and the cross on top of the steeple were completed, and a new slate roof was installed. The stained-glass windows were restored and new frames installed. In addition, repairs were made to the parking lot and a maintenance garage was built.

The restoration of the sanctuary included major upgrades to the lighting system, installation of a new audio/sound system and installation of a new organ. Interior walls of the sanctuary were repaired, as needed, and the sanctuary was re-painted. New carpet was installed and the existing pew cushions were recovered.

Total cost of the “Thus Far…” project was $3.5 million. External building maintenance component had a cost of $1.7 million and the cost for the restoration of the sanctuary was $1.8 million.
Lutheran High School, Indianapolis

Lutheran High School of Indianapolis will experience capital growth upon its completion of a one million dollar athletic field and track improvement. The newly installed synthetic turf field, all-weather track, and fan experience is part of a NEXT STEP campaign that will present new opportunities for the mission and impact of LHS in its college readiness community.

The origin of Lutheran High School in Indianapolis (1976) established a platform of growth as it saw more and more students begin to engage in the core principles of its mission. That growth has seen several calculated benchmark STEPS to encourage the sustainability of its impact in central Indiana.

- The First STEP was seen in relocating and building a new campus in 1991.
- The Second STEP was the completion of a building expansion that added to curricular, fine arts, and athletic space in 1998.

Now LHS is beginning its NEXT STEP by maximizing its usable space and installing synthetic turf, an upgraded all-weather track, and manageable fan facility in response to several growing programs. This next step will also include more financial support for students wanting to become a Saint and experience the excellence of academics within this Christian environment. Finally this growth campaign will help to solidify the permanent foundation of Lutheran High School as more families and businesses share in the ownership of the SAINTS commitment and mission of excellence.

To God by the Glory!

Suburban Bethlehem:

Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School are expanding their present facilities. The congregation is adding a new entrance/narthex area to the church, ground level church staff offices, a fellowship hall/kitchen area, youth room, meeting rooms, elevator, school science room, school music room, library, and expanded bathroom facilities. The new expansion will also connect the school and church buildings. The new facility will allow the congregation to accommodate anyone who has mobility issues and make it easier for all to move through the newly connected buildings on any of the floor levels. The new classrooms allow for continued growth in the school, including enhanced facilities. The building expansion positions the church to expand their outreach ministry to neighboring businesses and families. A new fellowship hall will offer more meeting areas for extended church activities during the day and evening.

St. John’s Lutheran, Lexington:

St. John’s Lutheran in Lexington, KY broke ground on a complete facility replacement on their current property in the spring of 2016. In the previous 4 years the congregation had a 35% increase in worship attendance, and a more than 200% increase in Sunday school programs for all ages. Between the increased attendance and current church offices being housed in a nearby home as well as the preschool’s need for new facilities, a case was made among the congregation for an expansion.
Plans were drawn up by an architect member of the congregation and approved by the membership for a new sanctuary with seating for about 300, an office facility with space for the current Senior Pastor and DCE along with room for future expansion, a fellowship hall and education wing for the church’s youth ministry, Sunday school and preschool’s needs.

The facility is being funded by a surprisingly successful capital campaign and is being built by the Lutheran Church Extension Fund’s Laborers for Christ. There have been construction delays, but the facility is expected to be complete by spring of 2018.

You can see photos and track progress at facebook.com/StJohnsLexBuildingOnOurFaith.

Please keep the process in your prayers.

St. James, Lafayette

For over 165 years, St. James Church and School has been spreading God’s word to the Lafayette, IN community and providing its students with a quality education rooted in God’s Word. In 2015, the current school building celebrated its one hundredth (100) birthday. During that time, over 1000 students have ascended its stairs to attend class and have heard God’s word in its historic sanctuary. While we celebrate the past with this milestone anniversary, we also look to the future.

Our old building was beginning to show its age and repair projects needed to be funded to preserve them. You do not have to look too closely to see noticeable signs of damage. The “Our Century of Faith Campaign” identified the need for new sanctuary roof replacement, new school building concrete steps replaced, new paint, tuck-pointing of exterior walls, and this summer, replacement of our sanctuary HVAC system, new sanctuary pews, additional security fencing around school property, and remodels of our six (6) main school restrooms. God has graciously provided for the proclamation of the Gospel through our buildings, and we are so thankful for the generous donations and prayers as we prepare for the future.

New School Start Initiatives during This Triennium

During this triennium, several congregations embarked on new school initiatives.

Evansville:

Trinity Lutheran in Darmstadt is preparing to open an early learning center. Under the leadership of Stu Tietz who serves LCMS congregations as a Genesis consultant, the congregation of Trinity Lutheran has completed the Genesis Study. The congregation voted to embark on opening an early learning center. The congregation of Trinity Lutheran has established a Call committee and is in search of a director/teacher.

Evansville Lutheran School and area LCMS churches have also begun a Genesis Study.

The focus of this study is to determine the feasibility for Lutheran preschools/daycares for the Evansville, Indiana area. Leaders have ordered a demographic study from the Indiana District LCEF office. Three zip code areas have been selected on which to focus their study.
Please keep their efforts in your prayers as they seek to discern God’s will for ministry to young children and their families in this area of the Indiana District.

**Roanoke:**

Faith Lutheran in Roanoke has opened an early learning (preschool) center.

**Ascension Lutheran Christian School, Gary, IN:**

In 1961-62, the congregations in Gary were operating a Lutheran school. Gary Lutheran School existed and enrolled 364 students. Gary Lutheran was owned and operated by five (5) of the six (6) Lutheran churches in the Gary community.

Gary Lutheran was an association school operating in three different locations. Two of the locations had kindergarten through one (K-1) or kindergarten through two (K-2) students.

Unfortunately, financial struggles, declining congregational membership, school enrollments, and changing socioeconomic status of families, Gary Lutheran closed in 1977.

**PASTORS OF GARY AND HAMMOND CIRCUITS PARTNER WITH OUR SAVIOUR, LUMIN AND INDIANA DISTRICT:**

On Tuesday, March 10th, 2015, Circuit Visitors (Pastors Raebel & Saatkamp) and pastors of both circuits engaged in discussion about the release of dollars that could be used from the closing of Hope Lutheran Church, Cedar Lake, IN. After some discussion and review of the original minutes from the Hope Lutheran Church Voter’s Meeting Minutes, the decision was made to use the allocated dollars to start a Lutheran elementary school at Our Saviour Lutheran. The opening of a kindergarten was planned for the fall of 2015. Because of low enrollment, the opening of the new school was delayed.

With much work and prayer, Ascension Lutheran Christian School opened in the fall of 2017. Working in concert with Lutheran Urban Mission Initiative, Inc. (LUMIN) and the Indiana District, local LCMS education and business advocates formed a nonprofit entity, the Lutheran School Corporation of Indiana, Inc. (LSCI), to own Ascension Lutheran Christian School. LSCI leased a school building from Our Saviour Lutheran Church (the former site of Gary Lutheran School which closed many years ago) and retained LUMIN to operate Ascension. Pastors, leaders, and faculty welcomed twelve (12) students in three grades – kindergarten and first (1st) and second (2nd) grade and celebrated its opening chapel service on August 16, 2017.

The faculty consists:

Principal, Dr. Suzette Zientara
Principal, Reverend John Albers
Kindergarten teacher, Marissa Mongold
First and second grade teacher, Holly Blossom.
The Indiana District Board of Directors and pastors in Circuits one (1) and two (2) have dispersed all funds for this initiative.

In addition, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod partnered with the Indiana District to place a Missionary At Large in the Gary area. Pastor Delwyn Campbell was extended a Divine Call to serve the congregation at St. John’s Lutheran in Gary, IN. Pastor Campbell also leads chapels, shepherds the faculty, parents, and students of Ascension Lutheran Christian School, and is outreaching into the community of Gary with the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

With a thankful heart to God our Father, and with much gratitude and appreciation for these pastoral leaders of both circuits (Gary and Hammond), for pastor Delwyn Campbell, for the faculty of Ascension Lutheran Christian School, for LUMIN, for the many lay leaders serving on the LSCI board that oversees this Lutheran school, and we, in partnership with each and with Jesus Christ, can bring Christian education to families and students in Gary, IN.

**Congregational Services Ministry:**

Effective October 1, 2011, Dr. Ebeling moved closer to full retirement when he voluntarily reduced his employment to .2 FTE. Responsibility for children’s and youth ministries, along with DCEs, was transferred to Dr. Jon Mielke. DCEs George Denholm (South) and Larry Hencye (North) are contracted by the Indiana District and serving as Congregational Services Assistants to work with DCEs in the District.

**Directors of Christian Education**

The District is blessed with 25 professional church workers who are commissioned as Directors of Christian Education, Directors of Family Life Ministries or Teachers serving a congregation. In addition, lay leaders who are employed by their congregations in the areas of children’s, youth, family, or senior adult ministries are invited to meet with the DCEs and this brings the number up to about 40 professional workers. Regional clusters meet 6-8 times a year to share ideas, join in Bible study, and encourage each other.

In the spring and fall each year, the DCEs and other professional church workers gather at a semi-annual DCE Conference for mutual support and an opportunity to learn from a guest presenter. The most recent conference was February 2018 near Toledo, Ohio. It was a tri-district event with DCEs/DFLM’s from the Ohio and Michigan Districts joining with the Indiana District. The conference featured Dr. Jacob Youmans, Associate Professor, Concordia University Texas, all three District Presidents, Reverend Mark Kiessling – Director of LCMS Youth Ministry, and Reverend, Dr. Ryan Peterson – Chaplain at Concordia University, Ann Arbor. The theme was “Faithful in a Faithless World”.

**Children’s Ministries**

Emphasis has been on encouraging, equipping, and meeting with congregations upon their invite to assist and encourage them with their Sunday school ministry. Resources and guidance have been offered to congregational leaders and teachers as well as ideas and affirmation.
Youth Ministries

Each fall, the DCEs of the District plan and carry out two events for the youth of the District. In mid-September, two identical Junior High Rallies are held on the same weekend. South congregations attend the rally held at Camp Lakeview; north congregations gather at Camp Lutherhaven.

On one weekend of November, the Indiana District Youth Gathering is held. Some years they have met at an Indianapolis hotel but in more recent years it has been at a church with an emphasis on community servant events.

Closing Comments

Let me take this opportunity to give my sincere appreciation and thanks to all who have given me help and guidance while serving the many congregations who support Christian education.

I thank the Board of Directors of the Indiana District, especially those who have reached term limits. Your support, guidance, and prayers for the ministry of the Indiana District are very important and very much appreciated.

I thank all who faithfully serve on the Council for Congregational Services, especially one who has reached term limits, Mr. Scott Schumacher.

I thank the Congregational Services Assistants who provide guidance and support in the areas of school and DCE ministry. School accreditation, DCE & Youth ministry, and strategic planning are vital and integral areas of ministry. With much gratitude and appreciation, I thank Scott Schumacher, Fred Weiss, Carl Schulenburg, Julie Dietrich, Kathy Frank, George Denholm, Larry Hencye, and Dave Reed.

I thank Amy Mews and the entire support staff of the Indiana District who faithfully serve and give tremendous assistance and encouragement to President May, Reverend Robinson, Ron Bleke, and myself. In partnership together, we encourage and assist congregations of the Indiana District.

I thank President May for his pastoral care, guidance, support and leadership.

As I have announced my retirement and will be leaving full time ministry in next few months, it has been a privilege to serve and be in ministry with all of you. The Indiana District is and will continue to be home for Judy and me. I will always keep the Indiana District in my prayers.
**CSA: Congregational Services Assistants**

Serving Lutheran Schools and Congregations in the Indiana District

**National Lutheran School Accreditation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Congregation Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scott Schumacher, District Commissioner</td>
<td>St Peter’s, Columbus, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Frank, Early Childhood Consultant</td>
<td>Concordia, Fort Wayne, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Weiss, Elementary Consultant</td>
<td>Concordia, Fort Wayne, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Schulenburg, Elementary Consultant</td>
<td>Zion, New Palestine, IN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Congregation CSA - DCEs and Youth**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Congregation Membership</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George Denholm</td>
<td>St Peter’s, Columbus, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Hencye</td>
<td>Trinity, Fort Wayne, IN</td>
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**Congregation CSA – Strategic Planning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Reed</td>
<td>Cornerstone, Carmel, IN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Indiana District Lutheran Schools Enrollment Summary

### 2015-2018

### Enrollment by Region and School Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ECE Free Standing</strong></td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ECE in Elementary Setting</strong></td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>595</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>total ECE Students</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K-8 Students</strong></td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3,248</td>
<td>3,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9-12 Students</strong></td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>5,019</td>
<td>5,134</td>
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<td>NW</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>418</td>
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<td><strong>ECE in Elementary Setting</strong></td>
<td>NW</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>total ECE Students</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K-8 Students</strong></td>
<td>NW</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>1,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9-12 Students</strong></td>
<td>NW</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1,787</td>
<td>1,948</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ECE Free Standing</strong></td>
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<td>703</td>
<td>804</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ECE in Elementary Setting</strong></td>
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<td>560</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>548</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>total ECE Students</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K-8 Students</strong></td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1,262</td>
<td>1,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9-12 Students</strong></td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>251</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>Central</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2,749</td>
<td>2,874</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SO</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>851</td>
<td>843</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECE Free Standing</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE in Elementary Setting</td>
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<td>total ECE Students</td>
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<td>1,044</td>
<td>1,030</td>
<td>1,014</td>
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<tr>
<td>K-8 Students</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>1,529</td>
<td>1,542</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-12 Students</td>
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<td>142</td>
<td>142</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>South</td>
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<td>2,715</td>
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<td></td>
<td>District</td>
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<td>2,571</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECE Free Standing</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4,132</td>
<td>4,282</td>
<td>4,226</td>
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<tr>
<td>K-8 Students</td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
<td>7,028</td>
<td>7,214</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-12 Students</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,110</td>
<td>1,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>12,270</td>
<td>12,670</td>
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### 2017-2018 Choice Schools in the Indiana District by Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>K-8 Students</th>
<th>9-12 Students</th>
<th>Total K-12 Choice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of Schools</td>
<td># CHOICE School Students</td>
<td>% of K-12 that are Choice Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Students</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Students</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total K-12 Choice</td>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Students</td>
<td>NW</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Students</td>
<td>NW</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total K-12 Choice</td>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Students</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Students</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total K-12 Choice</td>
<td>Central</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Students</td>
<td>SO</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Students</td>
<td>SO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total K-12 Choice</td>
<td>South</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Students</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Students</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total K-12 Choice Students</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>40</td>
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### Choice Scholarship History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Schools Accepting Vouchers</th>
<th>Choice Scholarship Enrollment</th>
<th>Number Voucher Students Returning from Previous Year</th>
<th>Retention Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>3,465</td>
<td>2,549</td>
<td>73.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>3,309</td>
<td>2,442</td>
<td>73.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>3,091</td>
<td>2,109</td>
<td>68.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voucher Students - District Summary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students in 2017-2018 who are receiving vouchers for the first year due to receiving an SGO last year</td>
<td>38.86% of new Choice students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>356</td>
<td>61.14% of new Choice students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of vouchers students new to our schools</td>
<td>560</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of New Voucher Students 2017-2018</td>
<td>26.44% of total Choice students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>916</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### HIGH SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Year Granted and Renewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seymour IN, Trinity Lutheran High School</td>
<td>2003, 2009, 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

**INDIANA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Year Granted and Renewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Columbus, White Creek</td>
<td>2004, 2010, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur, St Peter-Immanuel</td>
<td>2006, 2013, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur, Zion</td>
<td>2006, 2013, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne, Lutheran South Unity</td>
<td>2011, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location, Name</td>
<td>Years Granted and Renewed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location, Name</th>
<th>Years Granted and Renewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Columbus, St Paul Lutheran Preschool</td>
<td>2008, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeMotte, Faith Lutheran Preschool</td>
<td>2012, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne IN, Peace Lutheran Preschool</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne IN, Trinity Lutheran Preschool</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis, IN, Messiah Lutheran Preschool</td>
<td>2013, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington, KY, Lutheran School of Lexington</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ossian, New Hope Lutheran Preschool</td>
<td>2010, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seymour, Zion Lutheran School</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KENTUCKY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location, Name</th>
<th>Years Granted and Renewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lexington, KY, Lutheran School of Lexington</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location, Name</th>
<th>Years Granted and Renewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Columbus, St Paul Lutheran Preschool</td>
<td>2008, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne IN, Trinity Lutheran Preschool</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ossian, New Hope Lutheran Preschool</td>
<td>2010, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seymour, Zion Lutheran School</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACCREDITED BY THE STATE OF INDIANA

Avon, Our Shepherd
Brownstown, Lutheran Central
Columbus, St. Peter
Columbus, White Creek
Crown Point, Trinity
Decatur, St. Peter Immanuel
Decatur, Wyneken Memorial
Evansville, Evansville Lutheran
Fort Wayne, Ascension
Fort Wayne, Concordia
Fort Wayne, Concordia Lutheran HS
Fort Wayne, Emmanuel-St Michael
Fort Wayne, Emmaus
Fort Wayne, Holy Cross
Fort Wayne, Lutheran South Unity
Fort Wayne, St Paul
Fort Wayne, St. Peter’s
Fort Wayne, Suburban Bethlehem
Indianapolis, Calvary
Indianapolis, Holy Cross
Indianapolis, Lutheran High School
Indianapolis, St. John
Kendallville, St John
Kokomo, Redeemer
La Porte, St. John
Lafayette, St. James
Lanesville, St. John
Monroeville, St. John-Emmanuel
Munster, St. Paul
New Haven, Central Lutheran
North Judson, St. Peter
Seymour, Immanuel
Seymour, Trinity Lutheran HS
Valparaiso, Immanuel
Woodburn, Woodburn Lutheran
CERTIFIED BY THE STATE OF KENTUCKY
Louisville, Our Savior Lutheran

ACCREDITED BY AdvancED

Columbus IN, St Peter’s Lutheran School
Elkhart IN, Trinity Lutheran School
Fort Wayne, IN, Concordia Lutheran High School
Fort Wayne, IN, Holy Cross Lutheran School
Gary, IN Ascension Lutheran Christian School as a LUMIN School
Indianapolis, IN, Lutheran High School
New Haven, IN, Central Lutheran School
Seymour IN, Trinity Lutheran High School
Woodburn IN, Woodburn Lutheran School
Looking forward together as “One in Spirit and Purpose” to “God’s Plan our Future and Hope”

Council for Congregational Resources - Ronald Bleke

The two part role of the Council for Congregational Resources consists of advising and assisting in the management of the District’s financial resources. Advising, by offering input and suggestions related to District reports and policy issues as presented by the Executive for Finance in the three periodic Council meetings per year. At the request of the Executive, the Council members are asked to assist by participating in task forces or studies related to issues or projects in his areas of responsibility.

Council for Congregational Resources areas of accountability:

- District financial operations budgeting and reporting
- Indiana District Program of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund
- Stewardship Education and Resources
- Financial Aid for Church Workers
- Salary Guidelines for Church Workers
- District Archives

Current members of the Council for Congregational Resources:

Rev. Paul Shoemaker - Emanuel, New Haven – Chairman
Rev. Roger Rohde – St. Paul’s, Bremen
Rev. Philip Sievers - Living Christ, Plainfield
Rev. Eric Edwards - Faith, Bloomington
Sara Cunningham - Immanuel, Valparaiso
Kenneth Schilf - Holy Cross, Fort Wayne
Carl Schulenburg - Zion, New Palestine – Secretary
Jonathan Baumgartel - St. John (Sauers), Seymour
Jim Hensley – Trinity, Crown Point
Gary Lybarger - Emmanuel-Soest, Fort Wayne
Paul North – Emanuel, Tipton
Gerald Clow - St. Paul, Jonesville
We take this opportunity to thank all of these Council members for their faithful service in support of the Indiana District mission and ministry.

**Triennium in Review:**

**Indiana District Conference and Training Center**

- We were saddened to report the March, 2013 closing of the Church Resource and Supply Center at the 2015 Convention as an unfortunate event of the previous triennium.
- However, through the Lord’s guidance, we moved on to discover new possibilities for service in that space. With the financial assistance from a Lutheran Foundation matching grant, the transformation and updating of our first floor spaces has been a blessing with numerous opportunities to host a variety of meeting, training and social events sponsored by the District and other organizations in our Lutheran community.

**Financial Aid for Church Workers (New Church Worker Grants)**

The Indiana District program for Financial Aid continues for all eligible church workers who graduate from one of the synodical universities and are placed and installed in a rostered LCMS Church, School or RSO. This grant program is funded totally through the District Budget by Congregation support. The budgeted funding amount has been $90,000 in each of the past three years which is allocated to the qualifying recipients based on $500.00 times the number of years at a synodical institution.

The program has been reviewed by an appointed task force and is currently administered by the District Grants and Scholarships Committee with the following objectives:

- The plan is to continue the program of providing grants for our new church workers.
- The desire is to increase the amount of the grant payments to make a more meaningful contribution to provide the financial boost for student debt reduction and starting their career in a new location.
- The need is to develop the funding model that will allow a planned and consistent award amount that the new worker can count on when considering their choice of a career in full-time church work. Church worker grants will become a focus for planned giving as God’s faithful stewards use their estate gifts to prepare future church workers to tell the next generation about the good news of Jesus Christ.

**Congregation Closures**

Unfortunately, due to various circumstances, all of which are only in God’s control, we see the cycle of life playing out in congregations as well as in other aspects of our existence. Our prayer is that as congregations end, God’s Plan gives rise to our Future and Hope for new beginnings.

During this triennium three Indiana District congregations have closed, Restoration Lutheran – Kendallville, Holy Cross Lutheran – Portage and Trinity Lutheran – Ligonier. All three
congregations were faithful and true to their mission of sharing the Gospel message. Limited remaining and available assets were directed to the District as per the terms of their constitutions. As of this writing, we also have three congregations in Circuits 1 and 2 that are in various stages of closure and dissolution. All three will likely be completed in calendar year 2018 and remaining assets will be minimal at best.

In situations where it is not advantageous or cost effective for the District to receive and take ownership of a closed church property, it is better to have the congregation and the District work in harmony to honor their constitution’s terms for property disposal in case of closure by having the congregation leaders sign for the sale the property and assign the payment for the proceeds to the District.

- **Divine Savior Lutheran Church – Fishers, IN** – Closed February, 2015
  
  Divine Savior congregation was formerly with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) joined the Indiana District and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in 2013 and was last served by Rev. James Schulz. No assets were transferred to the District at closing

- **Trinity Lutheran Church – Ligonier, IN** - Closed October, 2016
  
  Trinity congregation was organized in 1965 and was served by former District President, Rev. Tim Sims, who also officiated the closing service. The Trinity property was going to be one of those situations referenced above. With District assistance and in cooperation with the remaining Trinity congregation leaders, the property was sold and receipt of the final closing proceeds was assigned to the District

- **Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Portage IN** – Closed December, 2016
  
  Holy Cross congregation was organized in 1961 and was last served by Rev. Tim Engle. As part of their plans and decision to close, the congregation sold their property, directed disbursements from the proceeds to several District mission and outreach initiatives and merged with St. Peter Lutheran – Portage

- **Restoration Lutheran Church – Kendallville, IN** – Closed December, 2014
  
  Restoration congregation was organized in 2000 and was last served by Rev. Robert Muller. With District assistance and cooperative efforts, the property was sold and all proceeds were used to cover outstanding financial obligations.

**2012 District Convention Resolution 4-05B: To Change the Planning and Budgeting Process**

We are continuing to honor the spirit and purpose of the 2012 Convention resolution for the Planning and Budgeting Process with some positive enhancements in planned effective use of donor restricted gifts and accumulated unrestricted net assets. Annual budgets since 2012 have and will continue to be balanced and focused on good stewardship and use of donor gifts and the support dollars received from District congregations.
**Lutheran Church Extension Fund**

Lutheran Church Extension Fund matters and responsibilities now fall under the LCEF District Vice President position and are not part of the District Finance Department and Financial Reporting. Former LCEF District Vice President, Steve Strauch, has been promoted to LCEF Regional Vice President – West Region and his replacement Thomas (TJ) Mattick will be reporting separately on the LCEF activities.

**Salary Guidelines**

District Salary Guidelines have been established and published by the majority of LCMS Districts to provide a guide for congregations as they consider compensation and benefit packages for all of their workers. The Salary Guidelines Committee, which is appointed by the Council for Congregational Resources, reviews the Indiana District Guidelines as well as those of surrounding districts on an annual basis. Changes are made in the compensation base pay and the guideline document to be consistent with changes in policies and laws and to be comparable with the surrounding districts which helps congregations with regard to worker consideration in placement and the calling process.

The Salary Guidelines are published on the District website approximately one year in advance to assist congregations with their budgeting and planning process. Congregations are encouraged to use the guidelines in their compensation packages, to apply them with consistency in the fair treatment of all employees, and to strive for an equitable compensation level for their workers.

**Archives**

The District archives consist of the various documents and resources that have been collected over the 56 years that the Indiana District has been organized. In addition, documents from the old Central District, formed in 1857 until the division of the Ohio and Indiana Districts in 1963, have been maintained as a permanent collection.

The archives area contains file boxes for all congregations in the district, so that congregations can send in information to be archived; bulletin and/or booklets for dedications, installations, ordinations, or anniversary services. These provide a good history of the congregation. We also have maintained a collection for the auxiliary organizations of the district.

The archives committee has worked with the Allen County Public Library in keeping on file an electronic copy of the pictures of the District history over the years. These pictures are now accessible on the ACPL (Allen County Public Library website at www.acpl.lib.in.us.) These are also accessible on the Indiana District website at [www.in.lcms.org](http://www.in.lcms.org). The District archives committee (under the direction of the District Executive for Finance) meets regularly and is charged with the collecting, organizing and maintaining of these District historical documents.

**Financial Reports**

The Financial Reports will be forthcoming following the completion of the fiscal year-end review and audit and will be available in the Supplemental Reports publication.
Report to the Indiana District Convention
Committee on Worship and Spiritual Care

The Committee on Worship and Spiritual Care in the Indiana District is purposed by the By-Laws of the District to provide leadership in matters of worship and spiritual care through “promoting a strong sense of responsibility and spiritual concern for all members of all congregations.” The committee fulfills this purpose by encouraging and supporting the liturgical, hymnal based, church music and pastoral care done in the congregations of the Indiana District. To that end, we have done the following over the past triennium:

The committee sponsored speakers at the fall 2016 Conference in Indianapolis to discuss and provide examples of Catechesis in the home for the families of our congregations. The session was well attended and well received.

In order to communicate with church musicians, the committee have been gathering contact information through District congregations of their church musicians. Some of the things we have sought to publicize for the benefit of church musicians are Kantor Kevin Hildebrand’s organist videos (CTS-FW), as well as camps and workshops offered in the area, including the availability of free workshops offered by one of the organist members of the committee, Michael Hollman (Zion-FW).

To perpetuate and encourage the Church’s song, the committee has researched establishing a fund for aspiring church musicians, young musicians who might be moved to help become the future leaders of the Church’s song, as well as for current church musicians who desire enrichment, encouragement, assistance, inspiration, and additional resources to aid them in their tasks. Thanks to recent action by the District’s Board of Directors, monies have been added into the budget for providing such assistance.

Please look for future promotion of this in the District, and prayerfully consider gifts towards this effort, and sharing the news of this with your current or aspiring church musicians, organists, choir members, hand bell ringers, and any other members of your congregation who love the music of the Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Jacob Sutton, chairman
COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION MATTERS

REPORT TO THE 2018 INDIANA DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Indiana District Committee on Constitution Matters met quarterly either in person or by conference call over the past triennium with much of the work focused on reviewing congregational constitutions and bylaws for recommendation to the Indiana District Board of Directors for approval. This included first time review of constitutions for several new members of the Indiana District as well amendments to existing constitutions.

The following congregations’ documents were reviewed and forwarded to the Board of Directors, in chronological order:

- St. John, LaPorte
- Ascension, Fort Wayne
- New Life, Fort Wayne
- Zion, Columbia City
- Calvary, Bedford
- Zion, Woodburn
- Prince of Peace, Valparaiso
- St. James, Reynolds
- Zion, New Palestine
- Emmanuel, Leesville
- Holy Cross, Scottsburg
- Faith, Roanoke
- Trinity, Culver
- Emmanuel (Soest), Fort Wayne
- Redeemer, Highland
- Epiphany, Westfield
- Christ, Woodburn
- Concordia, Evansville
- Praise, Fort Wayne
- St. Peter (Fuelling), Decatur
- Messiah, Indianapolis
- Concordia, Louisville
- Bread of Life, Georgetown
- Our Shepherd, Avon
- Trinity, Fort Wayne
- Prince of Peace, Martinsville

As of the writing of this report in March 2018, the following constitutions were still under review:

- University, West Lafayette
- Trinity, Westville
- Our Savior, Gary
- Promise, Fort Wayne
- St. John, Rochester

The Committee reviewed the following issues and provided advice to congregations:

- The Committee requested direction from the District Board of Directors on which offices must be restricted to men. The office of Elder is always restricted to men and the office of President may be a woman but may not be an *ex officio* member of the Board of Elders if held by a woman.
- The Committee also advised congregations to follow Synod’s guidance on marriage and use of church facilities. Synod’s advice is to adopt doctrinal statements through the Voters Assembly but not to add these to the bylaws as specific language may need to be changed in the future.
- While congregations may allow voting membership to confirmed members under the age of 18, they need to comply with the age of majority laws in the State of Indiana and the
Commonwealth of Kentucky. As minors they can not be bound legally and so should restrain from voting on contracts, real estate issues or other matters that potentially may fall under the supervision of a court of jurisdiction.

- The Council on Congregational Outreach requested guidance on the setting of meeting locations, which was provided by the Committee.
- A procedural checklist was prepared to assist congregations in the steps needed to amend their constitution and bylaws. A similar checklist was developed for new congregations. These are available from the District President’s office.

The Committee is also responsible for maintaining the District bylaws so as to keep them in compliance with the Handbook of Synod. Several amendments will be submitted to the 2018 Convention at the request of the Secretary of Synod and after review by Synod’s Commission on Constitutional Matters. Additional proposed amendments submitted by circuits and congregations will be passed along the Convention without recommendation from the Committee.

Committee membership during the triennium included:

- **Ordained**
  - Pr. Brian Borger, St. Peter Mishawaka (beginning February 2017)
  - Pr. Ron Brauer, St. John LaPorte (July 2016 through October 2016)
  - Pr. Peter Brock, St. John (Bingen) Decatur (ex officio as Secretary of the District)
  - Pr. Chad Kendall, Trinity Lowell (committee member and chairman until July 2016)
  - Prof. Rick Nuffer, Zion Fort Wayne

- **Commissioned**
  - Matt Nieman, Immanuel Seymour
  - Rich Schwantz, Concordia Fort Wayne (secretary beginning July 2016)
  - Fred Willig, St. John Indianapolis

- **Lay**
  - Mark Franke, Ascension Fort Wayne (secretary until July 2016, chairman thereafter)
  - Norm Hedges, Our Shepherd Avon (attorney)

Submitted by:
  - Mark Franke, chairman
  - Rich Schwantz, secretary
MINISTERIAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Report to the 2018 Indiana District Convention

At its Convention in 1985, The Indiana District Ministerial Health Commission was established to “assist full time church workers and their families within the District in handling stress and strain in their lives.” Since that time a significant number of the District’s workers have used the service of the Commission.

Kinds of assistance have continued to include:

- Help for workers struggling with career decisions
- Help for workers and/or their family members in finding a Christian counselor
- Help for workers in extreme financial need

Three programs are current projects of the Commission:

**Ministerial Excellence Fund (MEF)**

In 2008, Lilly Endowment, Inc. offered an incentive to Christian denominations with a headquarters in Indiana to apply for funds to address the economic challenges facing pastors in Indiana. The aim was to increase the effectiveness of ministry by decreasing the stress on pastors and their families. The Indiana District-LCMS was one of sixteen denominations to be funded from 2009-2016. We received and distributed about $970,000 over seven years.

The project was managed by an appointed “MEF Steering Committee” of five people who served consistently and faithfully all seven years.

**Committee Members:**

Three laypeople
- Mr. David Reed, Carmel Lutheran Church, Carmel, chair
- Mr. Tom Steinmetz, Trinity Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
- Mrs. Susie Pflughoeft, Faith Lutheran Church, Demotte, IN

Two pastors
- Rev. Jason Taylor, Zion Lutheran Church, New Palestine
- Rev. Ken Mangelsdorf (Retired), Mishawaka, IN

Ex officio
- Dr. Dave Ebeling, Project Manager
- Rev. Dr. Dan May, District President

Support
- Mrs. Jan Koenig, Document Manager
- Mr. Larry Jung/Mr. Ron Bleke, Finance and Accounting

**Responsibilities**

1. Establish criteria for eligibility for awards.
2. Design application procedures and forms
3. Encourage sound financial planning practices for pastors and their families.
4. Assist and inform pastors and congregations considering making application
5. Advocate for pastors, their families, the congregations, and this grant.
6. Review applications; determine grant recipients
7. Monitor budget, expenditures, awards, evaluation
8. Approve annual reports to Lilly Endowment, Inc.

Ninety-one Indiana District pastors received one or more direct mini-grants for their families, usually in the range of $3,000-$5000. These were used for personal financial purposes, most often to reduce student loans. In addition, over 100 pastors, teachers and seminary students received reimbursement for tuition after completing Financial Peace University. Finally, about two dozen pastors received partial support to have a will prepared for their families.

When the end of the project came in December 2016, there were still some funds available that did not need to be returned to Lilly Endowment. Those were offered through 2017, to ordained and commissioned church workers. Any balance left in the fund on the last day of the past fiscal year (March 31, 2018) were transferred to the Ministerial Health Commission for use by the District president to assist called church workers in crisis.

The District is indebted to Lilly Endowment, Inc. and the five members of the steering commit for these gifts of time, talents, and treasures.

Caring for the Called

The 2015 Indiana District convention resolved the following:

“Resolved, that the Indiana District in convention express its support for all efforts of congregations, schools, and agencies to care for our workers and support them in their wellbeing, including the following components of holistic well-being: spiritual, financial, vocational, intellectual, relational, emotional, and physical; and be it further

“Resolved, that our congregations, schools, and agencies be encouraged to do all they can to support the holistic well-being of their ministers, focusing on intentional, strategic, practical efforts at preventing problems before they develop and resolving them before they become crises; and be it further

“Resolved, that our congregations, schools, and agencies be encouraged to support the holistic well-being of all their other workers as well; and be it finally

“Resolved, that the church’s workers of the Indiana District be encouraged to care for themselves in every aspect of holistic well-being so that they can continue to serve to the best of their ability with the gifts and strength that God supplies.”

“Caring for the Called” seeks to assist and support lay leaders and church workers as they seek to do the things that are encouraged in the 2015 resolution. “Caring for the Called” was begun in the summer of 2014, coordinated by the undersigned, who continues to do so. President Daniel May wrote at that time:

“The Lutheran Foundation in Fort Wayne is interested in the health and wellbeing of the church workers in the Indiana District! In light of that concern they have provided a part-time worker to coordinate with the District President in providing guidance to congregations in caring for their workers. Rev. Richard Koehneke (Retired Fort Wayne Pastor) has worked with the synod wellness programs and has served at Concordia Theological Seminary and the Indiana District in this area. He is a member of the Indiana
The following are the objectives of “Caring for the Called”:

1. To foster a culture of intentional, proactive, practical care and concern for the well-being of pastors, teachers, and other church workers
2. To communicate with key lay leadership groups regarding the need for care for their workers for the sake of the mission of the church
3. To encourage and assist congregations in establishing internal worker support systems oriented toward prevention, not only remediation
4. To offer resources for worker care; e. g., Grace Place, Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, Doxology, Concordia Health Plan Pastoral Support Network and Employee Assistance Program, PALS (for new pastors), and more
5. To follow up with church workers and lay leadership groups to encourage them to use these resources
6. To communicate with pastors and principals in a variety of ways at every step of the process in order to build trust and confidence.

Since November 2014, two-hour presentations have been given by the undersigned to lay leadership groups (boards of elders, church councils, and boards of directors) in 41 congregations in northeast Indiana. One-hour follow-up presentations have been given in 21 of those congregations. Individual consultations have been held with 53 pastors and 16 lay leaders. Follow-up work is ongoing.

Since last October, one-hour presentations have been given to 11 school faculties and three school boards in The Lutheran Schools Partnership in northeast Indiana. Three more school board presentations are on the calendar before the summer, and more presentations are in the process of being scheduled with faculties and boards. Individual consultations have been held with four principals as of this date. Follow-up work is ongoing.

The congregations and schools, pastors and teachers in northeast Indiana are grateful to The Lutheran Foundation for its financial support of “Caring for the Called”. In the coming months, at the recommendation of the Indiana District Ministerial Health Commission, funding from the District will enable “Caring for the Called” to expand into the Northwest Region of the District. The coordinator(s) will be trained by the undersigned.

Pre-Retirement Workshops

Four workshops, one in each region of the District, have been presented by Concordia Plans Services. The aim of the workshops was to provide workers with valuable information and insights so they can plan wisely for their retirement.

Resolutions Submitted to Convention

In an effort to promote a healthy lifestyle and the longevity of our church-workers, our commission is offering two resolutions to the Convention (Similar resolutions are under consideration in other Districts). One is called “Access to Healthy Food Environments” and the other is entitled “To Promote Worker Wellness within Circuits and Districts.” A part of this Commission’s purpose is to raise awareness to growing problems in the Church, and to propose solutions to these problems. These two resolutions tackle such problems as eating habits and the promotion of wellness at the grassroots levels of our District.
A pastor and a commissioned minister from each of the four regions in the district plus advisors make up the commission. The members are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>ORDAINED</th>
<th>COMMISSIONED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>Rev. Cory Wielert, Chair</td>
<td>Mrs. Kathleen Riffel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>Rev. Richard Koehneke</td>
<td>Mr. Dennis Herman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>Rev. David McClean, Secretary</td>
<td>Mrs. Melissa Luepke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>Rev. Edgar Keinath</td>
<td>Mrs. Nancy Franke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADVISORS**

Rev. Daniel May, President
Dr. Jon Mielke, Counselor for Christian Education
Dr. David Ebeling, Counselor for Congregational Services
Mrs. Debbie Teike
### CIRCUIT VISITORS
#### ELECTED 2018 CIRCUIT FORUMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circuit</th>
<th>Elected Name</th>
<th>Church</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hammond</td>
<td>Rev. Donald Stock</td>
<td>St. Paul Munster</td>
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<td>Gary</td>
<td>Rev. Richard Boshoven</td>
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<td>Valparaiso</td>
<td>Rev. Donald Williams</td>
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<td>LaPorte</td>
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<td>Rev. David Easterday</td>
<td>Lake George, Fremont</td>
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<td>Rev. L. Joe Fichtner</td>
<td>Our Hope, Huntertown</td>
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<td>Rev. Roy Olsen</td>
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<td>Our Redeemer, Lexington</td>
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<td>Louisville East</td>
<td>Rev. Charles Fausel</td>
<td>Our Savior, Louisville</td>
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FLOOR COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
2018 INDIANA DISTRICT CONVENTION

Committee 1 – Theology and Administration

Rev. Roger Rohde                       Paul Marinko
Rev. Benjamin Ahlersmeyer              Glenn Emley
Dan Kiel

Committee 2 – Outreach

Rev. David Easterday                   Paul Wendt
Rev. Steven Ensley                     Larry Koelper
                                            Matt Lee

Committee 3 – Education and Congregational Services

Rev. Daniel Dahling                    Scott Schumacher
Rev. David McClean                     Michael Brandt
                                            Rich Wilson

Committee 4 – Stewardship and Structure

Rev. Ralph Blomenberg                  Richard Schwantz
Rev. Charles Blakey                    Randall Prange
Mark Franke

Committee 5 – Elections

Rev. Scott Zeckzer                     Jacob Pennekamp
Rev. Jeffrey Stuckwisch                Bill Broecker
Don Scifres
1-01: To Authorize the Council of Presidents (Acting as the Board of Assignments) to Create a System for the Placement of Inactive—Candidate Members

Whereas, there is an increasing deficit in the number of graduating candidates required to meet the requests of congregations and other calling entities to fill vacant ordained and commissioned positions; and

Whereas, there is an extensive pool of both ordained and commissioned church workers on Inactive-Candidate status, many of whom are desiring a call; and

Whereas, there is currently no system in place for directly placing these educated, examined, called, and ordained/commissioned candidates into congregations who are seeking a candidate to fill a vacancy; therefore be it

Resolved, that, in accordance with Bylaw 3.10.1.4, the 2019 LCMS Convention authorize the Council of Presidents (acting as the Board of Assignments) to develop a system whereby any congregation or other calling entity that requests a graduating candidate (either ordained or commissioned) for a vacant position but does not receive a graduating candidate might then be able to receive a member on Inactive-Candidate status from the LCMS roster placed into that vacant position instead; and be it further

Resolved, that this system shall then be presented to the LCMS Board of Directors for final approval and for making any necessary changes to the Bylaws in accordance with Bylaw 7.1.2; and be it further

Resolved, that this system shall not be used in lieu of the placement of candidates from the seminaries, universities, and colleges of the synod, but rather that this system may be used only after such placements have been made in an effort to fill any remaining vacancies for which there were no graduating candidates available; and be it further

Resolved, that, due to the urgency both of filling vacancies and of moving qualified and capable rostered workers from Inactive-Candidate status to Active status, the Council of Presidents (acting as the Board of Assignments) and the Board of Directors shall have this system in place and ready to use following the spring 2020 placements; and be it finally

Resolved, that the 2018 Indiana District Convention submit this overture to the 2019 Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for consideration and action.

First Lutheran Church, Hanna
Louis Rosenbaum, President
Kimberly Werner, Secretary

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2 According to “More Pastoral Candidates Needed,” p.2, The Reporter, November 2017, There are only 90 seminary pastoral candidates for 2017 and 97 for 2018, down from an average of 240 per year.

3 2016 Handbook, “The Council of Presidents shall carry out such assignments as the Synod in convention may give to the council from time to time.”

4 2016 Handbook, “In exceptional circumstances and upon the express direction of a convention of the Synod, amendments [to the Bylaws] may be made by a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors.”
**1-02: To Memorialize the 2019 Synod Convention To Change the Intentional Interim Ministry Program Better to Reflect the Historic Missouri Synod Theology and Practice of the Call to the Holy Ministry**

Be it **Resolved**, that the Indiana District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, memorialize the Synod at its 2019 convention as follows:

**Whereas**, the practice of “Intentional Interim Ministry” has grown dramatically within the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in the last 30 years, and

**Whereas**, there are laudable goals for the practice, e.g., assisting congregations in dealing with unusual and/or traumatic circumstances at the end of a previous pastorate, as they prepare to call a new pastor, and

**Whereas**, such Intentional Interim Pastors have specialized training to assist congregations during such times of transition, and

**Whereas**, currently, Intentional Interim Pastors in the LCMS are issued a “non-tenured” Call, for a specified, contracted, limited duration, “the normal ‘non-tenured call’ for an intentional interim [being] 18 months” (LCMS Circuit Visitors Manual, 2015-2018, p. 31), and

**Whereas**, the parameters under which it is sometimes suggested that congregations consider thus “calling” an Intentional Interim Pastor are so broad that nearly every vacant congregation of the LCMS would be encouraged to consider this program prior to engaging the regular Call process, and

**Whereas**, Intentional Interim pastors are given “called” parish pastor status within the polity of the LCMS, including full voting rights in the Synod, and

**Whereas**, the practice of “temporary” or “non-tenured” Calls to the office of the Ministry was a common American abuse of the doctrine of the Call which the founding fathers of the LCMS rejected explicitly⁵, and

**Whereas**, the current practice of Intentional Interim Ministry within the LCMS contradicts this historic position of our Synod, therefore be it

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⁵ "Kromayer: ‘The preaching office may not be conferred by those who call through a contract for certain years or with the reservation to have the freedom to dismiss the freely called person. For God has nowhere granted or permitted those who call the right to make such a contract. Hence neither the one calling nor the one who is called may regard such a call or dismissal as divine.’” C.F.W. Walther, *The Church and the Office of the Ministry*, trans. by J.T. Mueller, ed. by Matthew C. Harrison (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2012), p. 308.

"From the beginning our Synod had to take a definite stand on this question. Among the conditions of membership in Synod, the following is listed: ‘Regular (not temporary) call of the pastor’…. This has been the consistent practice of our Synod since that time and has been stated again and again in official papers presented at conventions, and in our periodicals.” P.F. Koehneke, “The Call into the Holy Ministry”, in *The Abiding Word* (St. Louis, Concordia Publishing House, 1946), 1:380.
Resolved, that for use within our Synod, the term “Intentional Interim Ministry” be changed to “Intensive Vacancy Ministry”, and the term “Intentional Interim Pastor” be changed to “Intensive Vacancy Pastor” in Synod usage (website, publications, etc. of the synod and its districts) and be it further

Resolved, that such “Intensive Vacancy Pastors” are no longer issued “Divine Calls” by the congregations they serve, in keeping with the more common practice of “vacancy pastors”, and be it further

Resolved, that Intensive Vacancy Pastors, for purposes of the polity of the Synod, are considered “vacancy pastors”, specifically, that they do not have a vote in Synod (circuit forums, district conventions), but are “advisory” members of the Synod according to their roster status, and be it further

Resolved, that the parameters under which congregations are encouraged to consider Intensive Vacancy Ministry be reviewed, such that this ministry be suggested for truly exceptional circumstances, and be it finally

Resolved, that current Intentional Interim Pastors be commended and thanked for their service in the past to many congregations of the Synod, who have benefited from the Word and sacraments of God they have provided to those congregations, their specialized training, and their faithful, sincere love for God’s Church.

St. John’s Lutheran Church, Rensselaer
Kevin Black, President Marjorie Fredel, Secretary

Trinity, Goodland
Guy Shutt, Vice President Diane Costello, Secretary Pro Tem
1-03: To Reaffirm the Scriptural Teaching Concerning the Age of the Earth

Preamble

This overture reaffirms our Synod’s commitment to the clear and authoritative words of Genesis as the true and inspired Word of God. From the words and context of the first two chapters of Genesis the unmistakable conclusion must be drawn that the world was created in six twenty-four hour days. Any other interpretation must be regarded as doing violence to the natural reading of the text.

The overture is needed because evolutionary theory and concessions to Darwinism are threatening to confuse both teachers and students in our Synod. Though such overtures have been recognized in the past, the so-called “old-earth” creationist positions are gaining popularity. Such positions must be rejected because they necessitate death apart from being a consequence of sin which is contrary to Scripture (Gen. 2:17; 3:19). For this reason, it is important to reiterate our commitment to creation in six twenty-four hour days as indicated by the natural reading of the first two chapters of Genesis. Having reaffirmed our commitment to the Scriptures, the members of the Synod can encourage those who have become confused by Darwinism to hold fast to the comfort and certainty of God’s Word.

For all pastors and laity who wish to put forth this overture, the Denver Society of Creation encourages you to amend and improve the wording as you see fit. Recognize, however, that two elements must be maintained for this overture to be meaningful and effective. First, the meaning of the word “day” must remain a twenty-four hour cycle of light and darkness. Any concession on this point would make room for “old earth” positions. Second, once the meaning of day is maintained, the age of the earth, in terms of thousands of years rather than in terms of millions or billions of years, follows necessarily. This position cannot be amended or yielded.

The world and our flesh cannot fathom God’s power to speak the cosmos into existence from nothing. As Christians, we must stand on the clear words of Scripture without letting our reason rule over it. We hold every thought captive to Christ (2 Cor. 10:5). He alone is the author and finisher of our faith (Heb. 12:1). Reason must be governed by the Scriptures which alone are able to make us wise for salvation (2 Tim. 3:15). According to Jesus, the Scriptures cannot be broken (John 10:35). This is true despite how sinful men might mishandle the Word of Truth. But we should pray that the Lord would grant this unadulterated reading of the Scriptures among us also.

Whereas, the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, which is God’s Word, is the only rule and norm of faith and life (Ps. 119:105; John 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21; FC-SD Binding Summary, 3); and

Whereas, Christ’s words presuppose the inspiration and veracity of the five books of Moses (Matt. 17:3; 19:4-5; Mark 12:26; Luke 16:31; 24:44; John 5:46; etc.); and

Whereas, the first two chapters of Genesis teach that the world was made from nothing in six days; and
**Whereas**, there is no reason to believe from the context or some subtlety of meaning that “day” refers to a span of time longer than 24 hours (see Joel Heck, *In the Beginning, God* (St. Louis: CPH, 2011), 39-47); and

**Whereas**, Darwinism evolution presupposes death before and apart from sin which conflicts with the Scriptures’ clear teaching that death came as result of Adam’s sin (Rom 5:12; 1 Cor. 15:21); and

**Whereas**, St. Paul commands us to hold every human thought captive to Christ (2 Cor. 10:5); therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Indiana District memorialize the LC-MS in convention to reaffirm the Scriptural doctrine of creation from nothing in six days in conformity with the natural reading of Genesis; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Indiana District memorialize the LC-MS in convention to reaffirm the age of the earth in terms of thousands of years rather than in terms of millions or billions of years, so as to reject the erroneous doctrine of Darwinism and all related positions.

Indianapolis Central Circuit #15
Rev. Arthur Wehrmeister, Circuit Visitor Chissis Laut, Circuit Secretary

**1-04: To Promote Access to Healthy Food Environments at District Sponsored Events**

**Whereas**, obesity-related conditions make up several of the leading causes of death in the U.S.; and

**Whereas**, high rates of obesity are largely responsible for the United States’ declining health outcomes and rapidly rising healthcare costs; and

**Whereas**, 73% of LCMS pastors are overweight or obese, 9% have diabetes, 30% have high blood pressure, and 46% have high cholesterol according to the Pastoral Health Assessment; and

**Whereas**, public health research has demonstrated that the food environment impacts the choices consumers make; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Indiana District in convention designate the next triennium as a time to support church workers in their efforts to be healthy and to model healthy behaviors; and be it further

**Resolved**, that professional church worker gatherings such as professional church worker conferences, Circuit Visitor conferences, board and committee meetings, etc. offer food and beverage environments that offer limited access to high sugar, high fat and low nutritional value foods; and be it further

**Resolved**, that these gatherings promote access to healthier food choices by making a healthy meal option available at any district supported meal, and that snack stations at events offer water, fresh fruits, and healthy snacks; and be it finally
Resolved, that the District President be asked to develop a plan and strategy to implement this resolution, with the assistance of the Ministerial Health Committee and any other groups and individuals as he desires to utilize their services.

Ministerial Health Commission
Rev. Cory Wielert, Chairman
Rev. Richard Koehneke

1-05: To Promote Worker Wellness within Circuits and District

Whereas, Grace was given to the church and its members, including ordained and commissioned ministers, for “building up the body of Christ…to maturity, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ…” (Ephesians 4:7-16); and

Whereas, one of the privileges of the church is to celebrate church workers’ strengths and to share resources with brothers and sisters in need (1 Cor. 14:12; Acts 2:44-45, 4:34-35; 2 Cor 8:1-15); and

Whereas, rest was built into creation along with attending to God’s creation, especially the people of his creation; and in the pilot Church Worker Family Needs Assessment (CW-FNA) in the Pacific Southwest, Kansas and Ohio Districts, 47% of the 950 church workers who took the survey reported that they rarely or never invested appropriately in Sabbath rest or leisure; and

Whereas, the nearly 650 wives of pastors who have attended DOXOLOGY with their husbands include among their primary concerns: the stress of stereotypes, “two-fer” expectations, isolation, financial security, stress, the health of their husband, lack of quality time with their minister-husband, and having no pastor themselves; and

Whereas, circuit visitors are identified by the district president as those with the greatest awareness of the needs of ministers and spouses, and are readily available to workers when wellness concerns surface; and

Whereas, “a circuit is a network of congregations that ‘walks together’ for mutual care, support, advice, study, ecclesiastical encouragement, service, coordination, resources and counsel – all for the sake of greater congregational participation in God’s mission” (Synodical Bylaw 5.1.1); and

Whereas, in CW-FNA when programs in marriage enrichment, parenting and Sabbath rest were offered, many did not take advantage of them because they felt their work was more important than personal enrichment; and

Whereas, “the circuit visitor may appoint from member congregations of the circuit, with the approval of the district president, pastors, teachers, or laypersons to assist him in fulfilling his responsibilities.” (Synodical Bylaw 5.2.1); and

Whereas, the circuit visitor “shall seek to strengthen the spirit of cooperation among pastors, commissioned ministers, and congregations.” (Synodical Bylaw 5.2.3), “encourage, in a brotherly manner, the pastors of the circuit in their spiritual and family life.” (Synodical Bylaw
5.2.3.2), and further “endeavor to provide resources, opportunities, and assistance so God’s people can grow in their faith.” (Synodical Bylaw 5.3.1 (a); and

Whereas, the CW-FNA revealed that 30% of the men and 27% of the women of those who took the survey expressed a need for church worker related marriage retreats or conferences, and 27% of the men and 24% of the women expressed a need for small group Bible studies on various marriage topics; and

Whereas, the circuit forum aids in the process of keeping ministers and congregations “supportive of one another…and active in developing programs of the good…in considering and recommending new work, and in suggesting improvements for services and programming at the national and district levels…” (Synodical Bylaw 5.3.1); and

Whereas, the emphasis of circuit convocations “should be on inspiration, education, motivation, and mission and theological discourses…” (Synodical Bylaw 5.4.2 (a)); therefore be it

Resolved, that the district president and circuit visitors actively promote worker wellness through circuit pastoral conferences, other professional conferences, and visits to congregations; and be it further

Resolved, that circuit visitors include spouses in their visits with parish and RSO ministers; and be it further

Resolved, that circuit visitors and circuits consider organizing triennial workers wellness retreats for pastors and wives as well as commissioned ministers and spouses to be paid partially by congregations and RSOs, partially by districts, and partially by the ministers; and be it further

Resolved, that each circuit visitor consider creating a ministerial wellness standing committee from pastors, commissioned ministers, and spouses represented in his circuit; and be it further

Resolved, that circuits give consideration to developing creative ways of supporting one another so that each pastor may take a 3-6 month sabbatical on a rotating basis; and be it further

Resolved, that circuit convocations be organized around the theme of ministerial and congregational wellness; and be it finally

Resolved, that constructive, successful ministerial and congregational wellness programs generated at the circuit level be communicated to the district president and through him to the LCMS Office of National Mission (Synodical Bylaw 5.3.1)

Ministerial Health Commission
Rev. Cory Wielert, Chairman

Rev. Richard Koehneke
2-01: To Encourage the Usage of “Everyone His Witness”

Whereas, Holy Scripture reminds us that all Christians are witnesses; and

Whereas, witnessing is not easy for many Christians; and

Whereas, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has a fine program of instruction in how to witness entitled “Everyone His Witness” written by the Rev. Dr. Mark Wood; and

Whereas, all of our congregations in the Indiana District – LCMS could profit from witnessing instruction; therefore be it

Resolved, that all congregations in the Indiana District-LCMS be encouraged to utilize in the next triennium the “Everyone His Witness” resources.

Council for Congregational Outreach
Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson, Executive Counselor Evelyn Benning, Secretary

2-02: To Commend the Usage of “Connect to Disciple”

Whereas, Holy Scripture declares that God desires all men to come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved (1 Timothy 2:4); and

Whereas, Holy Scripture also declares that faith comes through the hearing of the Word of Christ (Romans 10:17); and

Whereas, Evangelism can be defined as the collective work of the congregation reaching out to the unchurched; and

Whereas, congregations can benefit from learning how to be intentional in Evangelism; and

Whereas, “Connect to Disciple”, by Rev. Dr. Mark Wood does a great job of helping a congregation be intentional in Evangelism; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District – LCMS congregations be urged to hold a “Connect to Disciple” workshop in the next triennium.

Council for Congregational Outreach
Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson, Executive Counselor Evelyn Benning, Secretary
2-03: To Encourage Indiana District – LCMS Congregations to Support the Upcoming Evangelism Conference

Whereas, Holy Scripture points out that God desires all men to come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved (cf. 1 Timothy 2:4); and

Whereas, training in evangelism is valuable for all people; and

Whereas, the evangelism task force and the Council for Congregational Outreach are planning and sponsoring an evangelism conference to be held September 7-8, 2018, at Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Indianapolis, Indiana; and

Whereas, all congregations of the Indiana District-LCMS could benefit by sending representatives to this conference; therefore be it

Resolved, that all Indiana District-LCMS congregations be encouraged to send representatives to this conference.

Council for Congregational Outreach
Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson, Executive Counselor

2-04: To Express Appreciation for All Who Donated to Outreach Kentucky

Whereas, it is always appropriate to thank the generosity of donors; and

Whereas, to date, individuals, congregations and one pastoral conference have donated $59,515.62 towards the $150,000 goal so that a missionary can be placed in Richmond, Kentucky to start a town and campus ministry outreach where there has never been an established Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Congregation; and

Whereas, the Office of National Missions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has donated $5,000.00 toward the production cost of the Outreach Kentucky Video; be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District – LCMS in convention express its thanks to the individuals, congregations, pastoral conference and the Office of National Missions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by rising and joining together in singing the Common Doxology.

Council for Congregational Outreach
Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson, Executive Counselor

Evelyn Benning, Secretary
2-05: To Reaffirm “Witness, Mercy, Life Together” as the Mission and Ministry Emphasis for the 2019-2021 Triennium

Whereas, our commitment together as LCMS congregations and workers is to walk together with the Word of God as our only norm and guide for doctrine and practice; and

Whereas, the current triennial emphasis of “Witness, Mercy, Life Together” established at our 2013 Synod convention has served the Synod well and has blessed congregations with a richer understanding of the nature and mission of the Church of Christ; and

Whereas, nine (9) of 35 districts submitted overtures to the 2016 convention suggesting mission and ministry emphases for the 2016-2019 triennium; and

Whereas, these submissions continue to focus on our life together, service to our community and to those in need, and reaching out with the Gospel; and

Whereas, these submissions have given special focus to ministering to families, people of different nations, and people of different races; therefore be it

Resolved, that the 2019 LCMS convention reaffirm the threefold emphasis of “Witness, Mercy, Life Together,” including the following six priorities:

- Plant, sustain, and revitalize Lutheran churches
- Support and expand theological education
- Perform human care in close proximity to Word and Sacrament ministries
- Collaborate with the Synod’s members and partners to enhance mission effectiveness
- Promote and nurture the spiritual, emotional, financial, and physical well-being of pastors and professional church workers
- Enhance early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, (along with university and campus ministries) and youth ministry; and be it further

Resolved, that a seventh priority be established:

- Strengthen and support the Lutheran family in living out God’s design; and be it finally

Resolved, that special focus be given toward

- Ministry to and with people of all nations and races
- Preaching and Bible study
- Visitation

Indianapolis Central Circuit 15
Rev. Arthur Wehrmeister, Circuit Visitor

Chrissi Laut, Secretary
2-06: To Thank God for the Office of National Mission’s MissionField USA Missionary Model

Whereas, the Office of National Missions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has been instrumental in the creation of the MissionField USA missionary model; and

Whereas, in particular the Rev. Dr. Steve Schave, the Rev. Roosevelt Gray and the Rev. Bart Day were very helpful in gaining and placing the Rev. Delwyn Campbell as a Strategic Mission Developer for Gary, Indiana; and

Whereas, Rev. Delwyn Campbell is by the grace of God furthering the Gospel message of Christ in Gary, Indiana; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District-LCMS in convention express thanks to the Office of National Missions by directing the secretary of the Board of Directors of the Indiana District-LCMS to write a letter on behalf of the Indiana District-LCMS expressing thanks to the Office of National Missions-LCMS for MissionField USA missionary model as well as thanks for the placing of Rev. Delwyn Campbell as the Strategic Mission Developer for Gary, Indiana.

Council for Congregational Outreach
Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson, Executive Counselor
Evelyn Benning, Secretary

2-07: To Express Our Thanks to God for the Blessings of the New Building for University Lutheran, West Lafayette, Indiana

Whereas, God urges us through the Psalmist to “Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!” (Psalm 97:12); and

Whereas, it is a truth as Solomon also says, “Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.” (Psalm 127:1); and

Whereas, God has blessed University Lutheran Church with a new facility which is a place where God’s Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are rightly administered and where students from Purdue University can study, enjoy fellowship and hear the Gospel of Christ Jesus; be it

Resolved, that thanksgiving to God be given for all who have worked to enable this building to be purchased and remodeled so that more students might be reached with the Good News of salvation through faith in Christ Jesus; and be it further

Resolved, that thanksgiving be shown to God for His blessings upon this building by the passing of this resolution.

Council for Congregational Outreach
Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson, Executive Counselor
Evelyn Benning, Secretary
2-08: To Commend the Indiana District Lutheran Early Response Teams (L.E.R.T.)

Whereas, it is always appropriate to give thanks to God the many blessings that He provides; and

Whereas, THE Lutheran Early Response Teams (L.E.R.T.) are a blessing in the Indiana District – LCMS; and

Whereas, THE Indiana District L.E.R.T. teams have been active in disaster response wherever there is a need, most notably in helping out following hurricane destruction in Houston, Texas; be it

Resovled, that the Indiana District –LCMS in convention publicly with the passing of this resolution thank the members of the Lutheran Early Response Teams for all that they do in helping people out in distressed situations.

Council for Congregational Outreach
Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson, Executive Counselor Evelyn Benning, Secretary
3-01: TO COMMEND, AFFIRM, AND ENCOURAGE THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH EFFORTS IN THE GARY COMMUNITY

Whereas, in the early 60’s through the mid-1970’s an association Lutheran school once existed and was operated by multiple LCMS congregations in the Gary community to teach young adults and children about Jesus; and

Whereas, changing demographics, declining membership, and socioeconomic status of and around the Gary area made it more challenging for these congregations to sustain Christian instruction through the operation of a Lutheran school; and

Whereas, Word and Sacrament ministry continues to exist and continues to be made available to congregational members that embody these LCMS congregations in the Gary community; and,

Whereas, schools of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have been established to encourage, support, equip, and empower parents in their duty and responsibility to bring their children up “in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4); and

Whereas, the Indiana District has and continues to have a strong presence in the Gary community and surrounding areas with Word and Sacrament ministry and, now with the beginnings of Ascension Lutheran Christian School, have an opportunity for Christian education at Our Saviour Lutheran; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District continue to affirm, encourage, and assist the efforts of pastors in Circuit one (1), Circuit (2) and the Lutheran School Corporation (LSCI) of Indiana in their effort to bring Christian education to students at Ascension Lutheran Christian School; and be it

Resolved, that thanks be given to our Heavenly Father for the blessing that Ascension Lutheran Christian School is to the congregation of Our Saviour Lutheran and surrounding Gary community.

Indiana District Council for Services
Dr. Jon Mielke, Executive Counselor
Jaymes Hayes, Secretary

3-02: To Thank God and Continue Support for Ascension Lutheran Church School in Gary, IN

Whereas, Ascension Lutheran Christian School is a Gospel-based school lifting up the students, the families, and the City of Gary, Indiana; and

Whereas, the school strives to be an effective Christian outreach ministry to and with the people of the community, along with the network of hundreds of LCMS schools throughout the United States; and

Whereas, the Lutheran School Corporation of Indiana, Inc., (LSCI) was formed for the purposes of opening and gathering support for Ascension and similar Lutheran schools in other communities throughout the state; and

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Whereas, Lutheran Urban Mission Initiative, Inc. (LUMIN) has set a high standard for effective, Christ-centered, results-oriented urban education; and

Whereas, LSCI has selected LUMIN as a partner to operate Ascension Lutheran Christian School in Gary; and

Whereas, LUMIN has a network of schools that enjoy system-wide accreditation; and

Whereas, Our Savior Lutheran Church in Gary, Indiana, hosts Ascension Lutheran Christian School in a facility ideally suited for the school’s purposes and located in a community eager to respond to the ministry of a Christian day school; and

Whereas, numerous individuals and congregations throughout the NW Indiana region, the Indiana District, and nation have provided financial support for the beginning of this ministry; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District in convention gathered thank our Heavenly Father for the blessings of Ascension Lutheran Christian School, its principal, faculty, staff and volunteers; and be it finally

Resolved, that the member congregations of the Indiana District, their pastors, other leaders and members, continue to support this ministry and additional Gospel-based outreach to, for, and with the people of Gary and surrounding communities.

Circuit #3 – Valparaiso
Rev. Donald Williams, Circuit Visit

3-03: TO COMMEND THE WORK OF LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD LUTHERAN SCHOOLS AND ALL THOSE WHO SERVE IN THEM

Whereas, schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have predated some congregations within our own Indiana District; and

Whereas, Christian teachers in our schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod strive to teach young adults and children about Jesus through instruction and witness; and

Whereas, schools of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have been established to encourage, support, equip, and empower parents in their duty and responsibility to bring their children up “in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4); and

Whereas, schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod strive to connect the congregation to the community they serve through daily instruction, activities, and programs; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District give thanks to our Heavenly Father for the blessings of schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and those who serve therein; and be it further

Resolved, that thanks be given to those who have faithfully served and continue to faithfully serve the church in these LCMS schools; and be it
Resolved, that the member churches, schools, and recognized service organizations of the Indiana District encourage church workers and parents to embrace the responsibility and privilege of nurturing the lambs that He has placed into our care with joy and thanksgiving as we do so with the study of His Word and prayer at the forefront of all we think, say, and do.

Indiana District Council for Services
Dr. Jon Mielke, Executive Counselor                     Jaymes Hayes, Secretary

3-03: TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE USE OF THE TEACHER COLLOQUIY PROGRAM

Preamble: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has established a teacher Colloquy program to provide the necessary class work for those teaching in our Lutheran schools to obtain Lutheran doctrinal training, to receive their Lutheran teacher diploma and be eligible for roster status in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The Indiana District affirms and acknowledges this teacher Colloquy program.

Whereas, the Colloquy program provides opportunity for teachers to receive their Lutheran teaching diploma and be on the roster of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; and

Whereas, a significant number of teachers have enrolled in the Colloquy program since the inception of the program; and

Whereas, approximately one third of the teachers in the schools of the Indiana District are eligible for the Colloquy program; and

Whereas, over the past four trienniums, seventy-four (74) teachers have enrolled into the Colloquy program, sixty-six (66) teachers have completed all course work and forty-six (46) of those sixty-six (66) have been commissioned and are now on the roster of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and

Whereas, the Indiana District has made it a priority to support the Colloquy program through scholarship money; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District continue to affirm and support the Colloquy program through scholarship funds for teachers who desire to enroll and graduate from this program; and be it further

Resolved, that Indiana District congregations and association schools continue to encourage the use of the Colloquy program for their teachers.

Indiana District Council for Services
Dr. Jon Mielke, Executive Counselor                     Jaymes Hayes, Secretary
3-05: TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE USE OF MULTIPLE COLLOQUY PROGRAMS FOR PARISH WORKERS

Preamble: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has established multiple Colloquy programs to provide the necessary class work for those serving in our Lutheran congregations to obtain Lutheran doctrinal training and be eligible for roster status in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The Indiana District affirms and acknowledges these multiple Colloquy programs.

Whereas, more congregations are raising up workers from amidst their membership; and

Whereas, most of these lay parish workers are teaching doctrine directly and indirectly in many aspects of their ministry; and

Whereas, the Colloquy programs provide opportunity for contracted lay parish workers to receive doctrinal training and be on the Commissioned Minister roster of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and

Whereas, two Directors of Parish Music (DPM) have completed the Colloquy Program and are commissioned as well as two Directors of Christian Education (DCE’s) and one Director of Family Life Ministry (DFLM) from the previous triennium, and two Director of Parish Ministry (DPM) are currently enrolled during this triennium; and

Whereas, a number of lay parish workers have enrolled since the inception of the program; and

Whereas, the Indiana District has made it a priority to support the LCMS Colloquy programs through scholarship money; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District continue to affirm and support the Colloquy programs through scholarship funds for lay parish workers who desire to enroll and graduate from these programs; and be it further

Resolved, that the Indiana District congregations and association schools continue to encourage the use of these Colloquy programs for their lay parish workers.

Indiana District Council for Services
Dr. Jon Mielke, Executive Counselor
Jaymes Hayes, Secretary

3-06: TO COMMEND, AFFIRM, SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY THROUGHOUT THE INDIANA DISTRICT

Whereas, the teaching of the faith is a necessary responsibility and function of the family, in partnership with the congregation, and

Whereas, Luther’s Small Catechism exhorts the heads of households to teach each chief part and section to their family in a simple way, and
Whereas, a role of the congregation is to encourage and assist the heads of households in their responsibility and task of leading their family in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and

Whereas, the “Family Friendly Partners Network” (FFPN) facilitated by Dr. Ben Freudenburg, Director of the Concordia Center for the Family and Family Ministry Professor at Concordia University, Ann Arbor, has trained leaders of seventeen congregations in the Indiana District to provide such encouragement and assistance, be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District in convention express its support for congregations to encourage and assist the heads of households to be leaders of faith formation in the home; and be it further

Resolved, that the Indiana District in Convention encourage and assist all congregations of the Indiana District to seek ways to emphasize the role of the head of the household in teaching the faith; and be it further

Resolved, that the Indiana District continue to support congregations who participate in family ministry initiatives; and be it finally

Resolved, that the Indiana District establish a Family Life Ministry Cabinet under the Executive Counselor for Christian Education to support and coordinate the ministries and workers of the District in family life ministry.

Congregations of the two Indiana District Family Friendly Partners Networks

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FFPN-IN: 2011-2014</th>
<th>FFPN-FW, 2015-2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Ebeling, coordinator</td>
<td>Brian Horning, coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith, Bloomington</td>
<td>Ascension, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Grace, Columbus</td>
<td>Emmanuel, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Trinity, Crown Point</td>
<td>Holy Cross, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Our Savior, Louisville</td>
<td>Our Hope, Huntertown</td>
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<td>Calvary, Indianapolis</td>
<td>St. John Bingen, Decatur</td>
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<td>Messiah, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Grace, Lafayette</td>
<td>Zion Friedheim, Decatur</td>
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<td>Zion, New Palestine</td>
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<td>St. Peter, North Judson</td>
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<td>Zion, Seymour</td>
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Indiana District Council for Services
Dr. Jon Mielke, Executive Counselor
Jaymes Hayes, Secretary
3-06: To Encourage Congregations to Send Members to the 2018 Senior Adult Fest

Whereas, the Senior Adult Task Force has been working diligently to provide a Senior Fest to be held September 29, 2018, at St. James Lutheran Church, in Lafayette, Indiana; and

Whereas, all seniors (people aged 50 years and above) are invited to attend this Senior Fest; and

Whereas, the majority of our Lutheran congregations in the Indiana District LCMS have senior adults as congregational members; be it

Resolved, that all congregations be encouraged to send members to this upcoming Senior Fest.

Council for Congregational Outreach
Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson, Executive Counselor Evelyn Benning, Secretary
4-01: To Return Trinity Lutheran Church, Culver, IN to the South Bend Circuit

Preamble

Trinity Lutheran Church of Culver, Indiana, Inc., while serving our Lord Jesus and His Mission together with the congregations of the Indiana District, respectfully requests to return to its former and geographically correct partnership with the congregations and pastors of Circuit 5 (Northwest – South Bend).

Whereas, Trinity Lutheran Church in Culver, Indiana, was for many years a member in good standing of Circuit 5 (Northwest – South Bend); and

Whereas, Trinity was officially transferred to Circuit 11 (Central – Lafayette) to accommodate a dual parish arrangement with a congregation in the Lafayette Circuit; and

Whereas, this dual parish arrangement has been dissolved for some years, and each congregation is now served by its own pastor; and

Whereas, Trinity congregation and its pastor are again participating with the congregations and pastors of Circuit 5 (Northwest-South Bend) for mutual encouragement and partnership in the growth of the Lord’s Kingdom, both here on earth and in heaven; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in convention return Trinity Lutheran Church to the Christian partnership and fellowship they share in Circuit 5 (Northwest – South Bend).

Trinity Lutheran Church, Culver
Robert Brocker, Chairman

Don Freese, Secretary Pro-Tem

4-02: To realign Indianapolis Circuits, forming 4 Circuits from 3

Whereas, God, in His mercy, has caused great growth in the number of congregations in the area presently consisting of the three Indianapolis Circuits of the Indiana District LCMS; and

Whereas, great changes have taken place, geographically and otherwise since the present Circuits were created by previous District action; and

Whereas, the congregations of the three Circuits have agreed to the changes proposed in this overture; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District in convention form the Indy North Circuit consisting of
Messiah Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
Journey Lutheran Ministries, Fishers
Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Carmel, Fishers and Downtown
Christ Lutheran Church, Noblesville
Epiphany Lutheran Church, Westfield
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Westfield; and be it further
Resolved, that the Indiana District in convention reconfigure the Indy East Circuit consisting of
Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Indianapolis
Christ Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
Trinity Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
Faith Lutheran Church, Greenfield
Zion Lutheran Church, New Palestine
St. John Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
Ascension Lutheran Church, Beech Grove
St. Mark Lutheran Church, Shelbyville; and be it further

Resolved, that the Indiana District in convention reconfigure and rename the Indy Central Circuit to be the Indy South Circuit consisting of
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Greenwood
Concordia Lutheran Church, Greenwood
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
Calvary Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
Emmaus Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
Our Savior Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, Indianapolis
1st Timothy Lutheran Church, Indianapolis; and be it further

Resolved, that the Indiana District in convention reconfigure the Indy West Circuit consisting of
Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Avon
Peace Lutheran Church, Greencastle
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Terre Haute
Christ Lutheran Church, Brownsburg
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Mooresville
Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Crawfordsville
Living Christ Lutheran Church, Plainfield
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Martinsville; and be it finally

Resolved, that the Indiana District in convention elect Circuit Visitors from these four Circuits instead of the three Circuits who held Circuit Forums last Fall, using the names recommended to the Convention by the congregations represented in this resolution.

Indianapolis Central Circuit 15
Rev. Arthur Wehrmeister, Circuit Visitor Chrissi Laut, Circuit Secretary

Indianapolis West Circuit 14

Indianapolis East Circuit 13

St. Peter’s Ev. Lutheran Church, Indianapolis Phil Deuser, President Dave Kroger, Vice President
4-03: TO JOIN TOGETHER IN SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF OUR LORD

Whereas, the mission field in Indiana is full and ripe and we have the wonderful news of the saving Gospel and

Whereas, Christian stewardship is an important free and joyous response to this Gospel for the child of God and God’s people, the church, in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes; and

Whereas, part of the “covenant of love relationship” we share as members of the synodical family is to support our common work together; and

Whereas, the Indiana District has faithfully performed its stewardship responsibility in managing the funds which flow from our congregations; and

Whereas, most but not all of our congregations have found the joy, privilege and responsibility of participating fully in this effort and

Whereas, the district has always and will always seek to reach all areas of our geographic district with the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Urban, suburban, small town and rural) therefore be it

Resolved, that we commend the congregations who know the blessing of generously providing support for the dynamic mission of the church in Indiana and Northern Kentucky, and be it further

Resolved, that we encourage all of our congregations to share in prayerful and financial support of our district and synod, and be it further

Resolved, that we all pray for and faithfully take part in “God’s plan, our future and hope” and be it finally

Resolved, that in all efforts, we thank our heavenly Father for so generously supplying the needs of those who faithfully “bring the whole tithe (and more) into the storehouse.”

Council for Congregational Resources
Rev. Paul Shoemaker, Chairman Carl Schulenburg, Secretary
4-04: To Amend Indiana District Bylaw 2.67 Concerning Tenure

Whereas, several districts of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod limit the number of terms a district president may serve (e.g., Michigan, Northern Illinois, Nebraska, Rocky Mountain, English . . . ); and

Whereas, Indiana District Bylaw 2.67 currently states:

2.67 Tenure

a. The District President may be reelected without limitation to the number of terms.

b. Regional Vice-Presidents, Circuit Visitors and all elected members of the B.O.D. (with the exception of the District President), Councils and Committees shall be limited to three successive three-year terms of office.

c. Appointment to fill one-half or more of a term shall be regarded as a full term under limited tenure rules (H.B. 3.2.4.2 b)

d. There shall be no limitation upon the number of terms a person may serve in an appointed position. (H.B. 1.10.10.1), and

Whereas, all elected offices of the Indiana District except the office of the district president are limited to three successive three-year terms of office; therefore be it

Resolved, that the 2018 Convention of the Indiana District Lutheran Church-Missouri amend bylaw 2.67 as follows:

2.67 Tenure

 a. The District President may be reelected without limitation to the number of terms.

b. a. The District President, Regional Vice-Presidents, Circuit Visitors and all elected members of the B.O.D. (with the exception of the District President), Councils and Committees shall be limited to three successive three-year terms of office.

c. b. Appointment to fill one-half or more of a term shall be regarded as a full term under limited tenure rules (H.B. 3.2.4.2 b)

d. c. There shall be no limitation upon the number of terms a person may serve in an appointed position.

Aurora Circuit Forum, September 26, 2017
The Rev. Richard Kolaskey, Chair                                      The Rev. Aaron West, Secretary
4-05: To Study the Governance and Structure of the Indiana District

Whereas, the last major review and “overhaul” of our Indiana District’s By-laws, structure and governance was completed at the A.D. 2000 District convention, and

Whereas, many who serve in the elected and called offices of the Indiana District, and as employees of the District, may travel long distances for face to face meetings at ever increasing cost in mileage, time, and other resources, especially due to the large geographic area of our District, and

Whereas, modern computing, internet capabilities, and cloud-based secure document services (among many tools) make possible much more flexibility and open up more possibilities for how our District Office and administrative responsibilities might be carried out efficiently and in a cost-effective way, and

Whereas, we should as Christian brothers and sisters in Christ look out for the health, well-being, time, energy, and resources of all of our District Officers, employees, pastors, circuit visitors, and all elected to serve on various boards and committees, and their families, therefore be it

Resolved, that the 2018 Indiana District convention direct the District Board of Directors to study the governance of our District in the next triennium with the goal that recommendations for improvements to the District’s governance and structure be published prior to the 2021 Indiana District Convention, and be it further

Resolved, that this study should include collegial study, consultation, and discussion with the pastor’s conferences of the District, and with the Circuit Visitors of the District, and be it further

Resolved, that this study include making recommendations to the next convention regarding the continued feasibility of the current location of the District Office, and whether a centralized office location is even necessary; restructuring the duties of the Office of District President such that he may continue as a called parish pastor; and the re-organization of the current Council structure and make-up, but not limited to these points, and be it finally

Resolved, that the 2018 Indiana District convention, upon approval of this resolution, express our thanks to all of our District Officers and employees for their dedicated service to Christ and His Kingdom in our District, by rising and singing the hymn “Now Thank We All Our God” (LSB #895).

Indianapolis West Circuit
Trinity Lutheran Church, Goodland
Guy Shutt, Vice President Diane Costell, Secretary Pro-tem
4-06: To Amend By-law 2.71c and 2.105

Rationale: In order to provide more organizational flexibility for the District Board of Directors, so that they may more easily follow the best practices of oversight and organizational accountability; and in order to follow the pattern of the Board of Directors of the Synod (Synod By-law 3.3.4.4) the following Resolution is proposed:

Resolved, that Indiana District By-law 2.71c be amended as follows: He shall serve as Chairman a member of the B.O.D. He or his representative shall serve, ex officio, as an advisory member of all Councils and Committees.

Resolved, that Indiana District By-law 2.105 be amended as follows:

Organization

The District President shall be the Chairman of the B.O.D. The B.O.D. shall elect its own chair and vice-chair. The District Secretary shall be the secretary of the B.O.D.

Trinity, Goodland
Guy Shutt, Vice President Diane Costell, Secretary Pro-temp

4-07: To Replace Circuit Visitor with Circuit Counselor

Whereas, the Synod in its last convention voted to change the historical title of “Circuit Counselor” to the term “Circuit Visitor”; and

Whereas, the title “Circuit Counselor” carries with it a certain gravitas that engenders respect and appreciation for the one asked to serve in that role; and

Whereas, the title “Circuit Counselor” indicates the multi-faceted duties and responsibilities of that office, including visitation, counseling of parishes and pastors, the directing of vacance ministries, the assistance in the calling of new church workers, etc.; and

Whereas, the title “Circuit Visitor” implies in the main that the Visitor would on occasion drop by or make a scheduled visit without indicating the associated ministry that is his responsibility; be it therefore

Resolved, that the Synod in Convention be asked to reconsider its previous action and be encouraged to return to said office its historical title and luster by reestablishing the title “Circuit Counselor”; and be it further

Resolved, that in all its documents, correspondence, and By-laws the title “Circuit Visitor” be replaced with the title “Circuit Counselor.”

Louisville East and Louisville West Circuits
Rev. Bruce Kischnick, Secretary
4-08: To Appoint a Task Force on Apportionment of Mission Offerings to Synod

Whereas, since its founding the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has endeavored to provide the necessary funding for the training of pastors, teachers, and other church workers through its seminaries, and the Concordia College /University System; and

Whereas, the Missouri Synod also endeavors to provide the necessary funding for the sending of missionaries into our Lord’s Harvest; and

Whereas, in order to provide such funding, the districts of the Missouri Synod traditionally set their mission offering apportionment at 70/30; that is, 70% of mission offerings were forwarded to the Synod, with 30% of mission offerings designated for use in the district; and

Whereas, prior to 2000 the Fiscal Conference of the Indiana District – consisting of one lay delegate and one pastoral delegate from each congregation of the district – apportioned 65% of its Mission Offering to the Synod, with 35% designated for use in the district; and

Whereas, in 2017 the Indiana District Board of Directors now apportions 22% of its Mission Offerings to the Synod, with 78% designated for use in the district; and

Whereas, in recent years it has been necessary for Synod’s missionaries to raise their own funding before they may enter their calling; and

Whereas, in recent decades the Synod/District funding of our two seminaries and our Concordia’s has become virtually nil; and

Whereas, the 2017 budget of the Indiana District is no longer governed by the Fiscal Conference of one lay delegate and one pastoral delegate from each congregation, but from 2003-2011 the Fiscal Conference consisted of the district’s 24 Circuit Counselors/Visitors (pastors), the three chairmen of the District Councils (usually pastors), and the Board of Directors (six pastors, four commissioned workers, and four laity; i.e., 37 of 41 were rostered church workers), and from 2012-2017 the Board of Directors sets the mission apportionment for the district; therefore be it

Resolved, that the 2018 Indiana District Convention direct the District President to appoint a Task Force on Apportionment to review and provide recommendations to the District Board of Directors concerning the district’s apportionment of its mission offerings; and be it further

Resolved, that the Task Force on Apportionment give recommendations to the District Board of Directors to re-establish a fiscal conference with increases the representation and counsel of the laity; and be it finally

Resolved, that, in anticipation of the review and recommendations of the Task Force on Apportionment, the congregations of the Indiana District be encouraged to increase their mission offerings using the District’s “Remittance Advice form,” giving special consideration of seminary education (Acct. 207 – Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne; and Acct 231 – Concordia Seminary, St. Louis), and the work of our called missionaries (Acct 1020 – Foreign Missions).

Addendum: Indiana District Remittance Advice form
4-09: To Provide Financial Support for Indiana District Seminarians

Whereas, one of the objectives of Synod is to “recruit and train pastors, teachers, and other professional church workers” (Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, III:3); and

Whereas, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, and Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, have announced plans to cover all tuition costs in partnership with the seminarian’s district and home congregation; and

Whereas, the Indiana District does not presently grant any scholarships to any seminarian thus preventing any partnership between The Indiana District and the seminaries; and

Whereas, seminarian indebtedness has substantially increased, thus necessitating a financial partnership for the sake of our seminarians between the seminaries, the district, and the seminarian’s home congregation; therefore be it

Resolved, that The Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in convention direct that the District President and Board of Directors meet with representatives of both seminaries to develop a partnership agreement to ensure that all seminarians (residential, fulltime pastoral ministry and deaconess students) of The Indiana District attend tuition free; and be it further

Resolved, that the Board of Directors of The Indiana District be authorized to implement this partnership agreement and award scholarships to seminarians; and be it finally

Resolved, that the pastoral and lay delegates of the 2018 Indiana District Convention, District staff, Board of Directors, and Council members encourage Indiana District congregations and her members to provide financial support of Indiana District seminarians by increasing their yearly pledge to the district, restricted gifts, endowments and estate gifts.