

Convention Workbook - Part I



“Imagine ... Living as God’s Loved and Compassionate Community”

101st Michigan District Convention

Concordia University Ann Arbor

June 28–30, 2015

Section 1: Organizational Matters (Green)

Section 2: District Reports (Yellow)

Section 3: Overtures (Pink)

April 2015

Please read through the Workbook carefully. You will need this information in preparation for the Regional Meetings which will be held on successive Saturdays, April 18 and 25 (see below). Bring your Workbook with you to these meetings. Your Regional Vice President has sent you more information on your Regional Meeting.

Floor Committees will meet on Saturday, May 9 at the District Office. They will be considering overtures, found in Section 3, that have been submitted to the Convention.

Following the Regional Meetings and the Floor Committee Meetings, you will be receiving Convention Workbook - Part II. It will contain: (1) General Convention Information, (2) the Agenda, (3) any additional reports and updates, (4) slate of candidates for offices and boards as well as biographical material, and (5) the Resolutions for the Floor Committees. If you have any questions you may contact Julie Strobl at 734.665.3791 ext. 233.

Convention Workbook - Part II should reach you the first full week in June.

101st Michigan District Convention Regional Meetings

Saturday, April 18, 2015

Metro West

Guardian, Dearborn ▪ 9:00 a.m.– Noon

Saturday, April 25, 2015

Metro East

Hope, Warren ▪ 9:30 a.m.– 11:30 a.m.

North & East

St. John, Pinconning ▪ 12:30 p.m.– 3:00 p.m.

West

St. Matthew, Grand Rapids ▪ 9:00 a.m.– Noon



Michigan District

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

People of Hope...Vigorously Making Known the Love of Christ

Section 1 - Organizational Matters

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Congregations

North and East Region

#1 – Mackinaw Straits Circuit – Charles Burhop, Visitor
Cheboygan, St. John – Randy L. Johnson
DeTour Village, Redeemer –
Drummond Island, Drummond Island – Donald P. Nemecek
Engadine, Bethlehem – Arthur J. Bode
Germfask, Grace – Arthur J. Bode
Hawks (Rogers City), Faith – Jack D. Ferguson
Kinross, St. Paul –
Moltke (Rogers City), Immanuel – Eric W. Voigt
Newberry, Trinity –
Onaway, Holy Cross – Joshua C. Ketelsen
Rogers City, Peace – J. Derek Riddle
Rogers City, St. John –
Rogers City, St. Michael – Keith A. Schneider
Sault, St. Barnabas – Charles B. Burhop
Trout Lake, Trout Lake –
**Paradise, Paradise –

#2 – Alpena-Gaylord Circuit – Jason Mandley, Visitor
Alpena, Immanuel – James D. Erickson / Joshua M. Schultz
Harrisville, Faith – Dennis J. Neigh
Hubbard Lake, St. Paul – Joseph J. Llewellyn
Hillman, St. John – Jason L. Mandley
Lewiston, Bethlehem – Steven E. Thiel
Ossineke, Good Shepherd – Dennis J. Neigh
Posen, St. Paul –
Mio, Living Water –

#3 – Timberline Circuit – Dean Muhle, Visitor
AuGres, St. John – Frederick T. Cordts
Glennie, Our Savior –
Hale, St. Paul – Dean R. Muhle
Oscoda, Trinity – Timothy P. Azzam
Prescott, Faith – Daniel L. Jansen
Tawas City, Zion – Allen R. Stoll (IIP)
Whittemore, Good News Ministries –

#4 – Gladwin Circuit – Michael Schaedig, Visitor
Clare, Prince of Peace – Paul V. Young
Gladwin, Our Savior – James M. Krach
Harrison, St. Luke – Michael W. Schaedig
Houghton Lake, St. John – William C. Winter
St. Helen, Hope – Rodney L. Morrison, Jr.
Standish, Bethlehem – Matthew T. Dent
West Branch, St. John – Howard S. Travis

#5 – Midland Circuit – Michael Buchhorn, Visitor
Alma, Peace – Thomas C. Messer
Auburn, Grace – David H. Reed
Auburn, Zion – Michael G. Buchhorn/Seth R. Hemme
Midland, Messiah – Edward F. Doerner / Kurt A. Weber /
Tige A. C. Culbertson
Midland, Our Savior –
Midland, St. John – Daniel A. Kempin/Matthew M. Makela
Mt. Pleasant, Zion – Jonathon J. Bakker
**Mt. Pleasant, CMU Chapel (Mt. Pleasant, Zion) -
Sanford, St. Paul – Samuel B. Reith
Wheeler, Immanuel – Larry A. Warsinski
Midland, Lord of New Life – Kurt W. Eichinger
Brant, St. John – Timothy J. Behnke

#6 – Bay City Circuit – William Allwardt, Visitor
Bay City, Faith – Daniel C. Meckes
Bay City, Immanuel – Kevin C. Jones
Bay City (Amelith), St. John – Stephen P. Starke
Bay City (Monitor), Trinity – David F. Sherry
Bay City, Zion – William H. Allwardt
Essexville, Pilgrim – Theodore E. Voll (IIP)
Frankenlust (Bay City), St. Paul – Paul D. Theiss
Pinconning, St. John – David A. Jung

#7 – Thumb East Circuit – Kenneth Lueke, Visitor
Bad Axe, Our Savior – Kenneth D. Lueke
Kinde, St. Peter – Larry K. Loree, Sr
Forestville (Minden City), Trinity – Richard G. Wilson
Harbor Beach, Zion – Ronald C. Schultz
Palms, St. John – Henry J. Hales
Port Hope, St. John –
Port Sanilac, St. John – Leo G. Thoms
Sandusky, Peace – Richard L. Tino / James C. Tino
Marlette, Our Savior – David J. Sutton

#8 – Thumb West Circuit – Michael Allen, Visitor
Bach (Sebewaing), St. Peter – Michael L. Teuscher
Caseville, Good Shepherd – Steven M. Stolarczyk
Cass City, Good Shepherd – G. Stevens Bagnall
Kilmanagh(Sebewaing), St. John – Michael L. Teuscher
Linkville (Pigeon), St. Paul – Lee C. Wenskey
Sebewaing, Immanuel – Michael D. Boyer
Unionville, St. Paul –
Fairgrove, Grace –

#9 – Frankenmuth Circuit – Robert Gadeken, Visitor
Caro, St. Paul – Cameron K. Steele
Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz – Mark D. Brandt / Joel C. Kaiser /
Gary L. Bender / Caleb M. Adams
Millington, St. Paul – James R. Bruner / Kirk W. Abatelli
Munger, Trinity-St. James – Michael G. Stahl
Reese, Trinity –
Richville, St. Michael – Robert G. Gadeken / Wesley S. Gillaspie /
Lang Yang
Saginaw (Frankentrost), Immanuel – Mark A. Loest

#10 – Saginaw Circuit – William Hessler, Visitor
Bridgeport, Faith – William W. Hessler
Hemlock, St. Peter – William L. Morris
Hemlock, Zion – Paul A. Hauser
Owosso, St. Philip – Brian F. Heidt
Saginaw, Bethlehem – Michael P. Korte / Charles F. Buckhahn
Saginaw, Good Shepherd – John E. Langewisch (IIP)
Saginaw (Carrollton), Messiah – Phillip M. DeVries
Saginaw, Peace – C. Wm. Weis / Paul R. Hinz
Saginaw, Holy Cross – James F. Krueger
St. Charles, Nativity – Mitchell R. Vogeli
Saginaw, St. Mark – Edward A. Meyer
*Chesaning, Chesaning – Mitchell R. Vogeli

#11 – Flint North Circuit – Erik Cloeter, Visitor
Birch Run, Christ – Richard P. Hillenbrand
Birch Run, St. Martin – James D. Chinery
Clio, Messiah – Erik K. Cloeter
Flint, Christ the King – Brant A. Engel
Flint, United In Christ –
Flint, Our Savior – Randall P. Schultz
Flint, St. Paul – Jeffrey B. Walsh
Flushing, Holy Cross – Clifford F. Bira

#12 – Flint South Circuit – Dean Dumbrille, Visitor
Flint (Burton), Pilgrim – Daniel A. Wonderly
Fenton, Trinity – Dean G. Dumbrille
Goodrich, Christ – Kelly D. Todd
Grand Blanc, Faith – Todd A. Biermann / Jonathan J. Moyer /
Thomas E. Moyer / Robert G. Scott (SMP)
Linden, Hope – James E. Rolf
Swartz Creek, NewLife Community – Bradley J. Yops /
David E. Rossow (SMP)
Flint, Lamb of God – Paul M. Boerger

#13 – Lapeer Circuit – John Kaiser, Visitor
Davison, Trinity – Todd L. Frusti
Dryden, Holy Redeemer – Steven C. Helms
Flint, Calvary –
Flint, St. Mark – Gary L. Beck
Lapeer, St. Paul – John C. Kaiser / Andrew M. Johnson
North Branch, New Life in Christ –
Otisville, St. Timothy – David E. Weiss

* Mission
** Satellite Site

Metro East Region

#14 – Port Huron Circuit – Gerhardt Doroh, Visitor
Algonac, First – J. Robert Herrod
Armada, Our Saviour – M. Samuel Sherouse
Fair Haven, St. Peter – Steven R. Hoerr
Goodells, Hope –
Lexington, St. Matthew – Barry C. Sheldon
Port Huron, Faith – Stephen E. Schilke (IIP)
Port Huron, Trinity – Mark J. Madson
Richmond, St. Peter – Mark J. Haller
St. Clair, Immanuel – Alan J. Schwieger
Memphis, St. Andrew – Joshua T. Ball
Ray, (New Baltimore), Living Hope of Bay – Paul G. Werner
Marine City, Living Faith – Keith H. Dusheke
Marysville, Light of Christ – Paul G. Kruse

#15 – Macomb North Circuit – Edward Steeh, Visitor
Clinton Twp., St. Luke – Russell D. Johnson / Bert A. Thompson
Clinton Twp., Trinity – Kenneth M. Wise / Brian D. West /
Gary L. Richard
Macomb, Immanuel – Greg S. Griffith / Michael L. Heiden
Macomb, St. Peter – Kenneth C. Wagener / Matthew D. Baye /
Mark T. Wuggazer
Chesterfield (New Baltimore), Good Shepherd – David M. Ulm
New Baltimore, Christ – Barry L. Mueller
Ray Twp (New Haven), St. John – Edward J. Steeh

#16 – Macomb Northwest Circuit – Craig Meyer, Visitor
Romeo, Grace Fellowship – Eric W. Majeski
Shelby Twp.(Utica/Disco), Peace – David R. Klemm
Sterling Heights, Redemption –
Sterling Heights, St. Paul – Walter A. Keller
Troy, Faith – Warren B. Arndt / Paul W.Arndt / Antonio C. Boos /
Joseph A. Casiglia (SMP)
Utica, Trinity – Norman A. Koy / Shawn D. Fenske / Justin A. Krupsky
Washington, Our Redeemer – Jeffrey G. Draeger
Shelby Twp, Shepherd's Gate – Jonathan B. Trinklein / Craig M. Meyer /
Timothy R. Bollinger
Troy, All Nations – Khurram M. Khan / Amer M. Khan / Farrukh M. Khan
Imlay City, Family of Christ –
Troy, Faith Tamil – Arul J. Alexander

#17 – Oakland North Circuit – Kendall Schaeffer, Visitor
Clarkston, St. Trinity – Kendall L. Schaeffer
Lake Orion, Good Shepherd – Gary E. Koltz
Oxford, Holy Cross –
Rochester Hills, Crown of Life – Keith H. Lemley
Rochester (Brooklands), Gethsemane – Thomas F. Fischer
Rochester, Living Word – John E. Kassen
Rochester, St. John – Marc N. Schwichtenberg / Stephen D. Grafe
Waterford, St.Stephen – Chad M. Speller / Benjamin Bruns
Rochester Hills, Incarnate Word – Allen D. Lunneberg
Ortonville, Prince of Peace – James H. Van Dellen
Pontiac, St. Paul International – Dietrick A. Gladden
*Clarkston, The Gathering Place

#18 – Birmingham Circuit – Cary Richert, Visitor
Birmingham, Our Shepherd – R. William Roper (IIP) / Ray E. Scherbarth
/ Stephen W. Woodfin (SMP) / Mark R. Doede (SMP) /
Michael S. Vieregge (SMP)
Birmingham, Redeemer – Randall J. Schlak / Cary M. Richert
Birmingham, Our Savior Deaf –
Bloomfield Hills, Cross of Christ – Randy J. Miller
Huntington Woods, Hunt. Wds. – Peter S. Nickel
Royal Oak, St. Paul – David P. Schmidt
Troy, St. Augustine – Paul C. Monson
Warren, Holy Cross – Alan P. Eisinger / Matthew J. Canion

#19 – Macomb South Circuit – John Merrill, Visitor
Eastpointe, St. Peter –
Eastpointe, St. Thomas – Mark W. Hetzner / Richard A. VanBriggle (SMP)
Fraser, St. John – Bradley A. Smith / Aaron M. Richert
Roseville, Bethlehem – Jeffrey D. Frechette
Warren, Hope – John M. Duerr / Daniel C. Howard (SMP)
Warren, Peace – John W. Schwartz
Warren, Trinity – Ryan D. Reese
**Harper Woods, Genesis Center

#20 – Detroit East Circuit – Steven J. Essenburg, Visitor
Detroit, Bethany – Christopher R. Bodley
Detroit, Bethlehem East – Asaph A. James
Detroit, Charity – Steven J. Essenburg
Detroit, Historic Trinity – David Eberhard
Detroit, Mt. Calvary – James M. Hill
Detroit, Peace B Robert L. Mikkelson
Detroit, Resurrection – Scott E. Benjamin

* Mission
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Metro West Region

#21 – Detroit West Circuit – Eddie Morales, Visitor
Detroit, St. Philip – Marvin A. Griffin
Detroit, Berea –
Detroit, Iglesia Luterana –
Detroit, Nazareth –
Detroit, St. John – James M. Hill
Detroit, St. Stephen – Daniel W. Ramthun (SMP)
Detroit, Evergreen – William F. Danowski
Detroit, Greenfield Peace – Kenneth M. Spence
Detroit, Outer Drive Faith – Eddie Morales
Detroit, Redford – Raymond D. Parent
Dearborn, Atonement – Gary Rohwer
*Detroit, Family of God

#23 – Down River Circuit – Erwin Hutter, Visitor
Flat Rock, Community – Erik R. Schmidt
Southgate, Christ the King – Jason D. Cashmer / Terry L. Cashmer
Taylor, Our Redeemer – Erwin M. Hutter
Taylor, St. John – Richard A. Zeile
Trenton, St. Paul – Richard Blythe
Wyandotte, Trinity – Grayson D. Grenz
Allen Park, Mt. Hope – Brant A. Engel (IIP)
Lincoln Park, Calvary – Mark W. Arendell

#24 – Monroe Circuit – Bruce Lucas, Visitor
Waltz, St. John – Kurt S. Taylor/Jeffrey E. Wade
Newport, Christ Our Shepherd –
Monroe, Grace – Mark K. Witte
Monroe, Holy Ghost – Larry K. Loree, Jr. / Todd A. Seaver
Monroe (Ida), Immanuel – Bruce K. Lucas
Monroe, Trinity – Jeffrey E. Heimssoth/Daniel A. Potts
Lambertville, Christ the King – Timothy J. Loewe
Petersburg, St. Peter – Mark S. Flory

#25 – Dearborn Circuit – Randy Duncan, Visitor
Dearborn, Emmanuel – Joel R. Baseley / Paul A. Wolff
Dearborn, Guardian – Darryl L. Andrzejewski
Dearborn, Our Redeemer – Roderick D. Schultz
Wayne, St. Michael – Andrew D. Gruenhagen
Westland, Our Saviour –
Westland, St. Matthew – Kurt E. Lambart
Plymouth, Living Word – Randall S. Duncan
*Dearborn Heights, First Arabic

#26 – Kensington Circuit – Terry Nelson, Visitor
Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes – Mark D. Milatz / Benjamin W. Vogel
Highland, Faith – Terry A. Claus
Milford, Christ – Martin B. Dressler
South Lyon, Cross of Christ – Terry A. Nelson
White Lake (Union Lake), Cedar Crest B
West Bloomfield (Union Lake), St. Mark – Aaron H. Vergin
Walled Lake, St. Matthew – Paul M. Moldenhauer / Robert J. Nelson /
John F. R. Merrill
**Wixom, St. Matthew (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) – Robert J. Nelson
Waterford (Union Lake/Pontiac), Peace – Russell S. Tkac (SMP)

#27 – Livonia Circuit – Dean Davenport, Visitor
Westland, Salem – Timothy J. Brand
Farmington Hills, St. Paul – D. Andrew Becker
Farmington Hills, Prince of Peace – John A. Straub
Northville, St. Paul – Christopher D. Fairbairn
Livonia, Christ Our Savior – Dean M. Davenport / Robert F. Bayer /
Joel S. Eden
Redford, Hosanna-Tabor – Paul J. Undlin
Dearborn Heights, Immanuel –
Canton, Grace – Steven M. Newton

#28 – Milan Circuit – Jakob Heckert, Visitor
Britton, Emmanuel –
Saline, Christ Our King – Thomas L. Schroeder
Ypsilanti, Faith – James A. Waddell
Milan, St. Paul – Philip W. Penhallegon
New Boston, St. Paul – Joel M. Hollis (IIP)
Ann Arbor, St. Thomas –
Belleville, Open Arms –
Canton, Tabernacle of Praise – Bertram G. Lewis, Sr.

#29 – Ann Arbor Circuit – Larry Courson, Visitor
Ann Arbor, Divine Shepherd – Rodger L. Williams
Ann Arbor, St. Luke – Justin P. Rossow / Matthew C. Hein /
Daniel J. Flynn
**Ann Arbor, University Chapel (Ann Arbor, St. Luke) –
**Whitmore Lake, Living Water (Ann Arbor, St. Luke) – Daniel J. Flynn
Ypsilanti, Cross & Resurrection – Bryan K. Schindel
Ann Arbor, Peace – Larry G. Courson
Ann Arbor, St. Paul – Donald O. Neuendorf
**Ann Arbor, St. Paul (Earhart) (Ann Arbor, St. Paul)
Chelsea, Our Savior – Dale A. Grimm
Hamburg, St. Paul – Evan P. Gaertner
Pinckney, Trinity – Merelyn R. Snider (IIP)

#30 – Jackson Circuit – Joel Sarrault, Visitor
Adrian, Hope – Paul W. Herter
Adrian, St. John – Joel H. Sarrault
Brooklyn (Irish Hills), St. Mark –
Hudson, Our Saviour – Troy R. Neujahr
Jackson, Redeemer – Michael A. Geml
Jackson, Trinity – Eric I. Ekong / Michael B. Hanson
Addison, Lutheran Church of the Lakes – Steven E. Newberg
Adrian, St. Matthew – Daryl H. Etheridge
Blissfield, Blessed Savior – Daryl H. Etheridge
*Grass Lake, Grass Lake – Michael B. Hanson

* Mission
** Satellite Site

West Region

#31 – Petoskey Circuit – Todd Brunworth, Visitor
Bellaire, Hope – Wade M. Seaver
Boyne City, Christ – Peter W. Elliott
Charlevoix, Bethany – Daniel R. Fulmer
Gaylord, Trinity – Todd J. Brunworth
Grayling, Mt. Hope –
Kalkaska, St. Paul –
Mancelona, St. Matthew –
Petoskey, Zion – Matthew A. Peters

#32 – Traverse City Circuit – Mark Berlin, Visitor
Benzonia, Our Savior – Michael G. Belinsky
Elk Rapids, Grace – James C. Redmann
Good Harbor, St. Paul – Robert W. Wurst, Jr. / John F. Wurst
Glen Arbor, Bethlehem –
Interlochen, Redeemer – Mark E. Berlin / Jason C. Bauer, SMP
Leland, Immanuel – Lawrence K. Matro
Traverse City, St. Michael – James L. Nihiser
Traverse City, Trinity – Robert M. Zagore / Charles W. Webb

#33 – Manistee Circuit – Ainslie Wagner, Visitor
Arcadia, Trinity – Theodore W. Beiderwieden
Cadillac, Emmanuel – Joel A. Hess
Ludington, Peace – John G. Hansen (SMP)
Manistee, Trinity – Dennis D. Rahn
Mesick, Faith – M. Robert Low (IIP)
Manistee, Norwalk –
Onekama, Trinity – Ainslie B. Wagner
Scottville, Our Saviour – James E. Schroeder
Wellston, Beautiful Savior –
Ludington, St. John – Thomas V. Boehne
Pentwater, Lighthouse –

#34 – Big Rapids Circuit – John Bookshaw, Visitor
Baldwin, Grace – Daniel H. Fienen
Big Rapids, St. Peter – John Bookshaw
Fremont, Redeemer – James A. Schouweiler
Mecosta, Chapel/Lakes – Paul H. Schneider
Reed City, Trinity –
White Cloud, Christ – William J. Hooper

#35 – Capitol Circuit – Timothy Olson, Visitor
Charlotte, First – Timothy W. Olson
Holt, Messiah – Thomas W. Vanderbilt
Holt, St. Matthew – Dean R. Poellet
Howell, Heart of the Shepherd – Galen E. Grulke / John A. Hile
Lansing, Living Word –
Lansing, Our Savior – William R. Wangelin
Lansing, Trinity – G. Travis Downs
Lansing, Good Shepherd – Roger K. Straub
Leslie, Grace Fellowship – Michael R. Martin
*Holt, Rehoboth –
*Lansing, Trinity Sudanese –

#36 – St. Johns Circuit – E. Anthony Sikora, Visitor
Carson City, Calvary – Robert V. Riggs
DeWitt, Hope – E. Anthony Sikora/Lance D. Klamer
East Lansing, Ascension – David C. Winningham
Fowler, St. Paul – Paul M. Clark
Haslett, St. Luke – David A. Davis / A. Trevor Sutton
Portland, St. Andrew – Edward W. Filter
St. Johns, St. Johns – Bryan R. Salminen / Steven M. Massey
St. Johns (Riley), St. Peter – Quentin T. Nuttmann

#37 – Tri-River Circuit – Joseph Fremer, Visitor
Belding, Holy Cross – Robert V. Wagner
Greenville, Mt. Calvary – Jeffrey M. Wilhelm
Howard City, Bethel – Steven N. Frenz
Ionia, St. John –
Lowell, Good Shepherd – Joseph Fremer
Sand Lake, Resurrection – Lee H. Zabrocki (IIP)
Stanton, Hope – Steven Voelker (EN)

#38 – Muskegon Circuit – Dennis Lassanske, Visitor
Conklin, Trinity – Mark A. Oswald
Montague, St. James – John W. Brooks
Muskegon, Our Redeemer – Robert J. Conradt
Norton Shores (Muskegon), St. Mark – Mark E. Gilson
Muskegon, Trinity – Paul C. Appold
Nunica, St. Luke – Dennis L. Lassanske (IIP)
Shelby, St. Stephen – Thomas W. Bye
Whitehall, Faith – James F. Eggert (IIP)

#39 – Holland Circuit – Christopher Boehnke, Visitor
Coopersville, Grace – Joel F. Hoyer
Spring Lake, Lakeshore Fellowship – Christopher M. Boehnke
Grand Haven, St. John – Dieter E. Haupt
Holland, Christ Our Savior –
Holland, Zion – Ryan A. Winningham
Spring Lake, St. Matthew – Michael M. Goers
West Olive, United –

#40 – Grand Rapids N. Central Circuit – Mark Love, Visitor
Ada (Grand Rapids), St. Matthew – Robert B. Appold
Alpine Twp, Family of Christ – Mark A. Bowditch
Grand Rapids, Immanuel – Craig L. Bickel
Grand Rapids, Messiah – Thomas W. Bartzsch
Grand Rapids, Mt. Olive – Kenneth J. Bomberger
Grand Rapids, Our Savior – David C. Fleming / North P. Sherrill
Grand Rapids, St. James – James H. Blain
Rockford, St. Peter – Mark W. Love

#41 – Grand Rapids SW Circuit – Scott Sommerfeld, Visitor
Caledonia, St. Paul – Gary L. Siefert (IIP)
Grandville, Bethel – Robert C. Weidmayer
Hudsonville, New Hope – David J. Rufner
Jenison, Holy Cross – Scott G. Sommerfeld
Jenison (Allendale), St. John – James E. Metcalf
Kentwood, St. Mark – Michael W. Wentzel
Middleville, Good Shepherd – Terry W. Kenitz
Byron Center, Journey In Faith –

#42 – Battle Creek Circuit – David Sidwell, Visitor
Albion, St. Paul – Dennis W. Matyas
Battle Creek, St. Mark – Bradley B. Hubbard
Battle Creek, Redemption – Karl Streng
Battle Creek, St. Paul – Larry R. Gorlitz
Kalamazoo, Immanuel – David H. Sidwell
Kalamazoo, Zion – Timothy W. Seeber
**Kalamazoo, Solid Grounds (Kalamazoo, Zion) – Mark T. Couch
Marshall, Christ – David E. Boedecker
Marshall, Zion – Anthony R. Voltattorni
Paw Paw, Trinity – Eric A. Gledhill
Portage, St. Michael – Paul R. Naumann / Jason D. Toman, SMP
Three Rivers, St. Peter – Robert O. Bartz

#43 – St. Joseph Circuit – Michael Roth, Visitor
Berrien Springs, Trinity – Douglas M. Adams
Bridgman, Immanuel – Jon D. Bendewald
Buchanan, St. Paul – Daniel S. Barz (SMP)
Cassopolis, St. Paul – Paul M. Doellinger
Coloma, Salem – Andrew P. Menz
Glendora (Buchanan), Trinity – Jonathan Liebich
Niles, St. Paul – Carl W. Bassett / Joseph T. Liss (SMP)
St. Joseph, Trinity – Michael J. Roth / Anthony J. Gerber
Sawyer, Trinity – Randy D. Lett
Stevensville, Christ – Philip G. Quardokus / Martin P. Measel

#44 – South Central Circuit – Aaron Chittick, Visitor
Burr Oak, St. John – Kurt P. Kuhlmann
Centreville, St. Paul – David A. Grimm
Centreville (Sturgis), Salem –
Coldwater, St. Paul – Aaron B. Chittick
Colon, St. Paul – David A. Grimm
Hillsdale, St. Paul – L. Daniel Johnson / Scott E. Johnson
Quincy, Prince of Peace – Robert C. Eickmann
Sturgis, Trinity – Russell A. Peterson / Calvin J. Kolzow, Jr.
Union City, Our Savior – David A. Dodge

* Mission

** Satellite Site

Ministers of Religion - Ordained

Sole/Senior Pastors

Adams, Douglas M. – Trinity, Berrien Springs
Allwardt, William H. – Zion, Bay City
Andrzejewski, Darryl L. – Guardian, Dearborn
Appold, Paul C. – Trinity, Muskegon
Appold, Robert B. – St. Matthew, Grand Rapids
Arendell, Mark W. – Calvary, Lincoln Park
Arndt, Warren B. – Faith, Troy
Azzam, Timothy P. – Trinity, Oscoda
Bagnall, G. Stevens – Good Shepherd, Cass City
Bakker, Jonathon J. – Zion, Mount Pleasant
Ball, Joshua T. – St. Andrew, Memphis
Bartz, Robert O. – St. Peter, Three Rivers
Bartzsck, Thomas W. – Messiah, Grand Rapids
Bassett, Carl W. – St. Paul, Niles
Beck, Gary L. – St. Mark, Flint
Becker, D. Andrew – St. Paul, Farmington Hills
Behnke, Timothy J. – St. John, Brant
Beiderwieden, Theodore W. – Trinity, Arcadia
Belinsky, Michael G. – Our Savior, Benzonia
Bendewald, Jon D. – Immanuel, Bridgman
Benjamin, Scott E. – Resurrection, Detroit
Berlin, Mark E. – Redeemer, Interlochen
Bickel, Craig L. – Immanuel, Grand Rapids
Biermann, Todd A. – Faith, Grand Blanc
Bira, Clifford F. – Holy Cross, Flushing
Blain, James H. – St. James, Grand Rapids
Blythe, Richard J. – St. Paul, Trenton
Bode, Arthur J. – Bethlehem, Engadine/Grace, Germfask
Boedecker, David E. – Christ, Marshall
Boehne, Thomas V. – St. John, Ludington
Boehnke, Christopher M. – Lakeshore, Spring Lake
Boerger, Paul M. – Lamb of God, Flint
Bomberger, Kenneth J. – Mt. Olive, Grand Rapids
Bookshaw, John A. – St. Peter, Big Rapids
Bowditch, Mark A. – Family of Christ, Comstock Park
Brand, Timothy J. – Salem National, Westland
Brandt, Mark D. – St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
Brooks, John W. – St. James, Montague
Bruner, James R. – St. Paul, Millington
Brunworth, Todd J. – Trinity, Gaylord
Buchhorn, Michael G. – Zion, Auburn
Burhop, Charles B. – St. Barnabas, Sault Ste. Marie
Bye, Thomas W. – St. Stephen's, Shelby
Cashmer, Jason D. – Christ the King, Southgate
Chinery, James D. – St. Martin, Birch Run
Chittick, Aaron B. – St. Paul, Coldwater
Clark, Paul M. – St. Paul, Fowler
Claus, Terry A. – Faith, Highland
Cloeter, Erik K. – Messiah, Clio
Conradt, Robert J. – Our Redeemer, Muskegon
Cordts, Frederick T. – St. John, Au Gres
Courson, Larry G. – Peace, Ann Arbor
Danowski, William F. – Evergreen, Detroit
Davenport, Dean M. – Christ Our Savior, Livonia
Davis, David A. – St. Luke, Haslett
DeMeritt, Carl F. Jr. – St. Thomas, Ann Arbor
Dent, Matthew T. – Bethlehem, Standish
DeVries, Phillip M. – Messiah, Saginaw
Dodge, David A. – Our Savior, Union City
Doellinger, Paul M. – St. Paul, Cassopolis
Doerner, Edward F. – Messiah, Midland
Downs, G. Travis – Trinity, Lansing
Draeger, Jeffrey G. – Our Redeemer, Washington
Dressler, Martin B. – Christ, Milford
Duerr, John M. – Hope, Warren
Dumbrille, Dean G. – Trinity, Fenton
Duncan, Randall S. – Living Word, Plymouth
Dusheke, Keith H. – Living Faith, Marine City
Eberhard, David – Historic Trinity, Detroit
Ekong, Eric I. – Trinity, Jackson
Eichinger, Kurt W. – Lord of New Life, Midland
Eickmann, Robert E. – Prince of Peace, Quincy
Eisinger, Alan P. – Holy Cross, Warren
Elliott, Peter W. – Christ, Boyne City
Engel, Brant A. – Christ the King, Flint
Erickson, James D. – Immanuel, Alpena
Etheridge, Daryl H. – St. Matthew's, Adrian/Blessed Savior, Blissfield
Ferguson, Jack D. – Faith, Hawks
Fiene, Daniel H. – Grace, Baldwin
Filter, Edward W. – St. Andrew, Portland
Fischer, Thomas F. – Gethsemane, Rochester Hills
Fleming, David C. – Our Savior, Grand Rapids
Flory, Mark S. – St. Peter, Petersburg
Frechette, Jeffrey D. – Bethlehem, Roseville
Frentz, Steven N. – Bethel, Howard City
Fremer, Joseph – Good Shepherd, Lowell
Frusti, Todd I. – Trinity, Davison
Fulmer, Daniel R. – Bethany, Charlevoix
Gadeken, Robert G. – St. Michael, Richville
Gaertner, Evan P. – St. Paul, Hamburg
Geml, Michael A. – Redeemer, Jackson
Gilson, Mark E. – St. Mark, Muskegon
Gladden, Dietrick A. – St. Paul, Pontiac
Gledhill, Eric A. – Trinity, Paw Paw
Goers, Michael M. – St. Matthew, Spring Lake
Gorlitz, Larry R. – St. Paul, Battle Creek
Grenz, Greyson D. – Trinity, Wyandotte
Griffin, Marvin A. – St. Philip, Detroit
Griffith, Greg S. – Immanuel, Macomb
Grimm, Dale A. – Our Savior, Chelsea
Grimm, David A. – St. Paul, Centreville/St. Paul, Colon
Gruenhagen, Andrew D. – St. Michael, Wayne
Grulke, Galen E. – Heart of the Shepherd, Howell
Hales, Henry J. – St. John, Palms
Haller, Mark J. – St. Peter's, Richmond
Haupt, Dieter E. – St. John, Grand Haven
Hauser, Paul A. – Zion, Hemlock
Heidt, Brian F. – St. Philip, Owosso
Heimsoth, Jeffrey E. – Trinity, Monroe
Helms, Steven C. – Holy Redeemer, Dryden
Herrod, J. Robert – First, Algonac
Herter, Paul W. – Hope, Adrian
Hess, Joel A. – Emmanuel, Cadillac
Hessler, William W. – Faith, Bridgeport
Hetzner, Mark W. – St. Thomas, Eastpointe
Hill, James M. – Lutheran City Ministries/Mt. Calvary/St. John, Detroit
Hoerr, Steven R. – St. Peter, Fair Haven
Hooper, William J. – Christ, White Cloud
Hoyer, Joel F. – Grace, Coopersville
Hubbard, Bradley B. – St. Mark, Battle Creek
Hutter, Erwin M. – Our Redeemer, Taylor
James, Asaph A. – East Bethlehem, Detroit
Jansen, Daniel L. – Faith Prescott
Johnson, L. Daniel – St. Paul, Hillsdale
Johnson, Randy L. – St. John, Cheboygan
Johnson, Russell D. – St. Luke, Clinton Twp.
Jones, Kevin C. – Immanuel, Bay City
Jung, David A. – St. John, Pinconning
Kaiser, John C. – St. Paul, Lapeer
Kassen, John E. – Living Word, Rochester
Keller, Walter A. – St. Paul, Sterling Hgts.
Kempin, Daniel A. – St. John, Midland
Kenitz, Terry W. – Good Shepherd, Middleville
Ketelsen, Joshua C. – Holy Cross, Onaway
Khan, Khurram M. – All Nations, Troy
Klemm, David R. – Peace, Shelby Twp.

Koltz, Gary E. – Good Shepherd, Lake Orion
 Korte, Michael R. – Bethlehem, Saginaw
 Koy, Norman A. – Trinity, Utica
 Krach, James M. – Our Savior, Gladwin
 Krueger, James F. – Holy Cross, Saginaw
 Kruse, Paul G. – Light of Christ, Marysville
 Kuhlmann, Kurt P. – St. John, Burr Oak
 Lemley, Keith H. – Crown of Life, Rochester Hills
 Lett, Randy D. – Trinity, Sawyer
 Lewis, Bertram B. Sr. – Tabernacle of Praise, Romulus
 Liebich, Jonathan A. – Trinity, Buchanan
 Loest, Mark A. – Immanuel, Saginaw
 Llewellyn, Joseph J. – St. Paul, Hubbard Lake
 Loewe, Timothy J. – Christ the King, Lambertville
 Loree, Larry K., Jr. – Holy Ghost, Monroe
 Loree, Larry K., Sr. – St. Peter, Kinde
 Low, M. Robert – Faith, Mesick
 Lucas, Bruce K. – Immanuel, Monroe
 Lueke, Kenneth D. – Our Savior, Bad Axe
 Lunneberg, Allen D. – Incarnate Word, Rochester Hills
 Madson, Mark J. – Trinity, Port Huron
 Majeski, Eric W. – Grace Fellowship, Romeo
 Mandley, Jason L. – St. John, Hillman
 Martin, Michael R. – Grace, Leslie
 Matyas, Dennis W. – St. Paul, Albion
 Meckes, Daniel C. – Faith, Bay City
 Menz, Andrew P. – Salem, Coloma
 Messer, Thomas C. – Peace, Alma
 Metcalf, James E. – St. John, Jenison
 Meyer, Edward A. – St. Mark, Saginaw
 Mikkelson, Robert L. – Peace, Detroit
 Milatz, Mark D. – Shepherd of the Lakes, Brighton
 Miller, Randy J. – Cross of Christ, Bloomfield Hills
 Moldenhauer, Paul M. – St. Matthew, Walled Lake
 Monson, Paul C. – St. Augustine, Troy
 Morales, Eddie – Outer Drive Faith, Detroit
 Morris, William L. – St. Peter, Hemlock
 Morrison, Rodney L. – Hope, St. Helen
 Mueller, Barry L. – Christ, New Baltimore
 Muhle, Dean R. – St. Paul, Hale
 Naumann, Paul R. – St. Michael, Portage
 Neigh, Dennis J. – Good Shepherd, Ossineke / Faith, Harrisville
 Nelson, Terry A. – Cross Of Christ, South Lyon
 Neuendorf, Donald O. – St. Paul, Ann Arbor
 Neujahr, Troy R. – Our Saviour, Hudson
 Newberg, Steven E. – Lutheran Church of the Lakes, Addison
 Newton, Steven M. – Grace, Canton
 Nickel, Peter S. – Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods
 Nihiser, James L. – St. Michael's, Traverse City
 Nuttmann, Quentin T. – St. Peter, St. John's
 Olson, Timothy W. – First, Charlotte
 Oswald, Mark A. – Trinity, Conklin
 Parent, Raymond D. – Redford, Detroit
 Penhallegon, Philip W. – St. Paul, Milan
 Peters, Matthew A. – Zion, Petoskey
 Peterson, Russell A. – Trinity, Sturgis
 Poellet, Dean R. – St. Matthew, Holt
 Quardokus, Philip G. – Christ, Stevensville
 Rahn, Dennis D. – Trinity, Manistee
 Redmann, James C. – Grace, Elk Rapids
 Reed, David H. – Immanuel, Sebawaing
 Reese, Ryan D. – Trinity, Warren
 Reith, Samuel B. – St. Paul, Sanford
 Riddle, J. Derek – Peace, Rogers City
 Riggs, Robert V. – Calvary, Carson City
 Robinson, Richard E. – Holy Cross, Detroit
 Rohwer, Gary E. – Atonement, Dearborn
 Rolf, James E. – Hope, Linden
 Roth, Michael J. – Trinity, St. Joseph
 Rufner, David J. – New Hope, Hudsonville
 Salminen, Bryan R. – St. John, St. Johns
 Sarrault, Joel H. – St. John, Adrian
 Schaedig, Michael W. – St. Luke, Harrison
 Schaeffer, Kendall L. – St. Trinity, Clarkston
 Schindel, Bryan K. – Cross & Resurrection, Ypsilanti
 Schlak, Randall J. – Redeemer, Birmingham
 Schleicher, John C. – Christ Our Savior, Holland
 Schmidt, David P. – St. Paul, Royal Oak
 Schmidt, Erik R. – Community, Flat Rock
 Schneider, Keith A. – St. Michael, Rogers City
 Schneider, Paul H. – Chapel of the Lakes, Mecosta
 Schouweiler, James A. – Redeemer, Fremont
 Schroeder, James E. – Our Saviour, Scottville
 Schroeder, Thomas L. – Christ Our King, Saline
 Schultz, Randall P. – Our Savior, Flint
 Schultz, Roderick D. – Our Redeemer, Dearborn
 Schultz, Ronald C. – Zion, Harbor Beach
 Schwartz, John W. – Peace, Warren
 Schwichtenberg, Marc N. – St. John, Rochester
 Schwieger, Alan J. – Immanuel, St. Clair
 Seaver, Wade M. – Hope, Bellaire
 Seeber, Timothy W. – Zion, Kalamazoo
 Sheldon, Barry C. – St. Matthew, Lexington
 Sherouse, M. Samuel Jr. – Our Saviour, Armada
 Sherry, David F. – Trinity, Bay City
 Sidwell, David H. – Immanuel, Kalamazoo
 Sikora, E. Anthony – Hope, DeWitt
 Smith, Bradley A. – St. John, Fraser
 Snider, Merelyn R. – Trinity, Pinckney
 Sommerfeld, Scott G. – Holy Cross, Jenison
 Speller, Chad M. – St. Stephen, Waterford
 Spence, Kenneth M. – Greenfield Peace, Detroit
 Stahl, Michael G. – Trinity-St. James, Munger
 Starke, Stephen P. – St. John, Bay City
 Steeh, Edward J. – St. John, (New Haven) Ray Twp.
 Steele, Cameron K. – St. Paul, Caro
 Stolarczyk, Steven M. – St. Paul, Unionville
 Straub, John A. – Prince of Peace, Farmington Hills
 Straub, Roger K. – Good Shepherd, Lansing
 Strenge, Karl N. – Redemption, Battle Creek
 Sundaradhas, Arul J. A. – Faith Tamil, Troy
 Sutton, David J. – Our Savior, Marlette
 Taylor, Kurt S. – St. John, New Boston
 Teuscher, Michael L. – St. John/St. Peter, Kilmanagh/Bach
 Theiss, Paul D. – St. Paul, Bay City
 Thiel, Steven E. – Bethlehem, Lewiston
 Thoms, Leo G. – St. John, Port Sanilac
 Tino, Richard L. – Peace, Sandusky
 Todd, Kelly D. – Christ, Goodrich
 Travis, Howard S. – St. John, West Branch
 Trinklein, Jonathan B. – Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Twp.
 Ulm, David M. – Good Shepherd, Chesterfield
 Undlin, Paul J. – Hosanna-Tabor, Redford
 Van Dellen, James H. – Prince of Peace, Ortonville
 Vanderbilt, Thomas W. – Messiah, Holt
 Vergin, Aaron H. – St. Mark's, West Bloomfield
 Vogeli, Mitchell R. – Nativity, St. Charles
 Voigt, Eric W. – Immanuel, (Moltke) Rogers City
 Voltattorni, Anthony R. – Zion, Marshall
 Waddell, James A. – Faith, Ypsilanti
 Wagner, Ainslie B. – Trinity, Onekama
 Wagner, Robert V. – Holy Cross, Belding
 Walsh, Jeffrey B. – St. Paul, Flint
 Wangelin, William R. – Our Savior, Lansing
 Warsinski, Larry A. – Immanuel, Wheeler
 Weidmayer, Robert C. – Bethel, Grandville
 Weis, Carl Wm. – Peace, Saginaw
 Weiss, David E. – St. Timothy, Otisville
 Wenskay, Lee C. – St. Paul, Pigeon
 Wentzel, Michael W. – St. Mark, Kentwood
 Werner, Paul G. – Living Hope of the Bay, Ray
 Wilhelm, Jeffrey M. – Mt. Calvary, Greenville

Williams, Rodger L. – Divine Shepherd, Ann Arbor
Wilson, Richard G. – Trinity, Minden City
Winningham, David C. – Ascension, East Lansing
Winningham, Ryan A. – Zion, Holland
Winter, William C. – St. John, Houghton Lake
Wise, Kenneth M. – Trinity, Clinton Twp.
Witte, Mark K. – Grace, Monroe

Wonderly, Daniel A. – Pilgrim, (Burton) Flint
Wurst, Robert W. – St. Paul, Cedar
Yops, Bradley J. – New Life Community, Swartz Creek
Young, Paul V. – Prince of Peace, Clare
Zagore, Robert M. – Trinity, Traverse City
Zeile, Richard A. – St. John, Taylor

Associate Pastors

Abatelli, Kirk W. – St. Paul, Millington
Adams, Caleb M. – St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
Arndt, Paul W. – Faith, Troy
Baseley, Joel R. – Emmanuel, Dearborn
Baye, Matthew D. – St. Peter, Macomb
Bayer, Robert F. – Christ Our Savior, Livonia
Bender, Gary L. – St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
Bollinger, Timothy R. – Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Twp.
Boos, Antonio C. – Faith, Troy
Boyer, Michael D. – Immanuel, Sebawaing
Bruns, Benjamin R. – St. Stephen, Waterford
Buckhahn, Charles F. – Bethlehem, Saginaw
Cashmer, Terry L. – Christ the King, Southgate
Culbertson, Tige A. C. – Messiah, Midland
Eden, Joel S. – Christ Our Savior, Livonia
Fairbairn, Christopher D. – St. Paul, Northville
Fenske, Shawn D. – Trinity, Utica
Flynn, Daniel J. – St. Luke, Ann Arbor
Gillaspie, Wesley S. – St. Michael, Richville
Grafe, Stephen D. – St. John, Rochester
Hanson, Michael B. – Trinity, Jackson
Heiden, Michael L. – Immanuel, Macomb
Hein, Matthew C. – St. Luke, Ann Arbor
Hemme, Seth R. – Zion, Auburn
Hile, John A. – Heart of the Shepherd, Howell
Hinz, Paul R. – Peace, Saginaw
Iqbal, Vincent – St. Paul, Battle Creek
Johnson, Scott E. – St. Paul's, Hillsdale
Kaiser, Joel C. – St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth

Khan, Farrukh M. – All Nations, Troy
Klamer, Lance D. – Hope, DeWitt
Kolzow, Calvin J. Jr. – Trinity, Sturgis
Krupsky, Justin A. – Trinity, Utica
Lambart, Kurt E. – St. Matthew, Westland
Makela, Matthew M. – St. John, Midland
Massey, Steven M. – St. Johns, St. Johns
Measel, Martin P. – Christ, Stevensville
Mehdi-Khan, Amer – All Nations, Troy
Merrill, John F. R. – St. Matthew, Walled Lake
Meyer, Craig M. – Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Twp.
Moyer, Jonathan J. – Faith, Grand Blanc
Nelson, Robert J. – St. Matthew, Walled Lake
Richard, Gary L. – Trinity, Clinton Twp.
Richert, Aaron M. – St. John, Fraser
Richert, Cary M. – Redeemer, Birmingham
Rossow, Justin P. – St. Luke, Ann Arbor
Scherbarth, Ray E. – Our Shepherd, Birmingham
Schultz, Joshua M. – Immanuel, Alpena
Seaver, Todd A. – Holy Ghost, Monroe
Sherrill, North P. – Our Savior, Grand Rapids
Sutton, A. Trevor – St. Luke, Haslett
Thompson, Bert A. – St. Luke, Clinton Twp.
Vogel, Benjamin W. – Shepherd of the Lakes, Brighton
Wade, Jeffrey E. – St. John, New Boston
Wagener, Kenneth C. – St. Peter, Macomb
Weber, Kurt A. – Messiah, Midland
West, Brian D. – Trinity, Clinton Twp.
Wuggazer, Mark T. – St. Peter, Macomb
Yang, Lang – St. Michael, Richville

Assistant Pastors

Gerber, Anthony J. – Trinity, St. Joseph
Johnson, Andrew M. – St. Paul, Lapeer
Moyer, Thomas E. – Faith, Grand Blanc
Potts, Daniel A. – Trinity, Monroe

Tino, James C. – Peace, Sandusky
Webb, Charles W. – Trinity, Traverse City
Wolff, Paul A. – Emmanuel, Dearborn
Wurst, John F. – St. Paul, Cedar

SMP Pastors

Barz, Daniel S. – St. Paul, Buchanan
Bauer, Jason C. – Redeemer, Interlochen
Casiglia, Joseph A. – Faith, Troy
Doede, Mark R. – Our Shepherd, Birmingham
Hansen, John G. – Peace, Ludington
Howard, Daniel C. – Hope, Warren
Liss, Joseph T. – St. Paul, Niles
Ramthun, Daniel W. – St. Stephen, Detroit

Rossow, David E. – NewLife, Swartz Creek
Scott, Robert G. – Faith, Grand Blanc
Tkac, Russell S. – Peace, Waterford
Toman, Jason D. – St. Michael, Portage
VanBriggle, Richard A. – St. Thomas, Eastpointe
Vieregge, Michael S. – Our Shepherd, Birmingham
Woodfin, Stephen W. – Our Shepherd, Birmingham

Intentional Interim Pastors

Eggert, James F. – Faith, Whitehall
Holls, Joel M. – St. Paul, New Boston
Langewisch, John E. – Good Shepherd, Saginaw
Lassanske, Dennis L. – St. Luke, Nunica
Roper, R. William – Our Shepherd, Birmingham

Schilke, Stephen E. – Faith, Port Huron
Siefert, Gary L. – St. Paul, Caledonia
Stoll, Allen R. – Zion, Tawas City
Voll, Theodore E. – Pilgrim, Essexville
Zabrocki, Lee H. – Resurrection, Sand Lake

Campus Pastors

Couch, Mark T. – Zion / WMU Campus, Kalamazoo

District Administration

Kasper, Robert E. – Congregation Ministry Facilitator
Maier, David P. E. – District President
Walther, Galan D. – Congregation Ministry Facilitator
Wolfram, Richard J. – Congregation Ministry Facilitator

Other

Bodley, Christopher R. – MAL in Detroit for A2E
Dunseth, Thomas W. – Mill Neck Deaf Ministries, Mill Neck, NY
Essenburg, Steven J. – MAL to Mission, Detroit
Heise, Matthew W. – Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb
Hillenbrand, Richard P. – Frankenmuth
Rahn, Robert L. – Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb
Rockemann, Larry W. – Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb
Ruhl, Michael R. – Center for United States Missions, Pinckney

Foreign Missionaries

Erber, David M. – Nigeria
James, Roger B. – South Asia
Mahlburg, Steven C. – Asia (to be installed in March 2015)
Matro, Lawrence K. – Oceania
Rudowske, Richard C. – Botswana
Wiesenaue, Stephen C. – Asia

Lutheran High Schools

Cullen, D. Lee, Jr.
Lange, Thomas M.
McDonald, Gilbert K.
Mueller, John F.

Concordia University Ann Arbor

Bush, John L.
Penhallegon, Philip W.
Peterson, Ryan R.
Rathje, John R.
Schulz, Charles R.

Chaplains

Cox, Ronald L. – LCMS World Missions, Armed Forces Chaplain
Mueller, Peter L. – U.S. Army
Schinkel, John A. – Monroe
Stauffer, W. Roger – Midland
Townes, Richard A. – U.S. Navy
Wollberg, Jeffrey N. – Battle Creek

Inactive Status

Candidates

Gizynski, Richard G. – Oak Park
Grannis, Michael J. – Belleville
Martin, Frank H. – Carleton
Masih, Afzal – Grand Rapids
Murray, Daniel P. – Westland
Potter, Jeffrey R. – Kalispell, MT
Roland, Ronald B. – Chesterfield
Talsma, Dale – Ft. Wayne, IN
Urvan, John R. – Eastlake, OH
Washington, Oliver G. – Detroit

Non-Candidates

Heiney, Timothy M. – Big Rapids
Krause, Daniel L. – Lake Ann
Maas, Korey – Hillsdale
McVey, Daniel J. – Howell
Prout, David L. – Troy
Richter, James F. – Belleville
Rockrohr, Carl E. – Ft. Wayne, IN
Schmitt, Frederick A. – Sterling Heights
Stephan, Luke F. – Ann Arbor

Emeriti

Ackerman, James L. – Warren
Adams, Curtis W. – Bay City
Ahlschwede, Dale C. – Birch Run
Allan, Kenneth H. – Portage
Allen, Michael S. – Essexville
Allmann, Robert F. – Merrill
AuBuchon, Stanley R. – Monroe
Aumann, Roger F. – Canton
Avers, Harold A. – Grosse Pointe Farms
Baerwolf, Robert D. – Evart

Bahr, Albert W. – Unionville
Balzer, James G. – Sturgis
Barkow, Roland R. – Three Rivers
Batsky, Thomas E. – St. Joseph
Bernthal, Kenneth G. – Gaylord
Besler, William – Alpena
Betke, Norman E. – Gladwin
Beyer, Charles E. – Bay City
Bickel, Eldor F. – Germantown
Boecler, Paul A. – Grand Rapids

Boerger, Charles F. – Rochester
 Boerger, John A. – Grand Ledge
 Bogda, David W. – Three Rivers
 Brammeier, Arnold H. – Detroit
 Brazinsky, Thomas R. – Baroda
 Brelje, Larry E. – Kalamazoo
 Brinley, George W. – St. Johns
 Brown, Robert E. – New Era
 Brueckner, Peter R. – St. Clair Shores
 Buckert, Mark P. – Marietta, GA
 Burgess, David F. – Sterling Heights
 Burow, E. Paul – Macomb
 Carey, Ralph W. – Grandville
 Chadwick, Robert L. – Grand Blanc
 Clemons, Daniel F. – Alto
 Collin, Richard W. – Ewart
 Cordes, Darowin E. – Manistee
 Cottam, Bertrand J. – Grand Blanc
 DeMeritt, Carl F. Jr. – Ypsilanti
 Doroh, Gerhardt A. – Columbus
 Edenfield, Harry N. – Brownstown
 Eggers, Robert M. – Saginaw
 Eichberger, Timothy M. – Port Huron
 Eilers, Gregory J. – Port Hope
 Elowsky, Earl W. – Hillman
 Evanson, E. Dale – Waterford
 Filbert, Bernhard W. – Louisville, KY
 Fitzgerald, Michael N. – Frankenmuth
 Fleming, James E. – Rochester Hills
 Fluegge, Wilton H. – Macomb
 Fritz, Jeffrey M. – Roseville
 Fuhlbrigge, Karl A. – Monroe
 Gatz, William A. – Jackson
 Gerberding, Kieth A. – Southgate
 Gerke, Robert A. – Grand Rapids
 Gohn, David P. – Flat Rock
 Grafe, William C. – Orchard Lake
 Graupner, Herbert H. – Muskegon
 Graves, K. Frank – Grand Rapids
 Gray, Barton C. – Alpena
 Grimm, Gerald E. – Macomb Twp.
 Gruetzner, James M. – West Bloomfield
 Guettler, Ronald H. – Royal Oak
 Haenftling, James F. – Mancelona
 Hagenow, Martin J. – Hemlock
 Hakes, David E. – Reese
 Hamilton, George O. – Zeeland
 Headapohl, Gary D. – Garden City
 Heckert, Jakob K. – Ann Arbor
 Heins, John L. – Saline
 Henneman, Harry C. – Algonac
 Hensler, David H. – Clio
 Herzog, John A. – Chesterfield Twp.
 Hinz, Clarence R. – Clinton Twp.
 Hinze, Dennis A. – Clinton Twp.
 Hoese, Terry E. – Grand Rapids
 Hoesman, C. William – Frankenmuth
 Hoft, Thees C. – Clinton Twp.
 Hollender, David E. – Caro
 Hoogerhyde, Richard S. – Newaygo
 Huber, David G. – Plymouth
 Janetzke, Douglas K. – Midland
 Jungkuntz, Theodore R. – Ann Arbor
 Kaarre, David M. – Williamsburg
 Kast, Edward L. – Saginaw
 Keat, James D. – Leslie
 Kilmer, Eric S. – Marlette
 Kilponen, Roger R. – Ann Arbor
 Kinne, Lawrence A. – Farmington Hills
 Kirchhoff, Donald G. – Ann Arbor
 Kleimola, Dale M. – Jackson
 Koehler, Charles J. – Traverse City
 Koeppen, Robert D. – Midland
 Koessel, Eugene H. – Roseville
 Koke, Louis I. – Midland
 Kopper, Glenn P. – Holt
 Kostizen, Erwin – Highland
 Krause, Fred C. – Trufant
 Kroll, Micheal D. – East Lansing
 Kromer, John C. – Mullett Lake
 Krueger, Dale B. – Kalamazoo
 Krugler, Richard A. – Rochester Hills
 Kuhl, Charles W. – Sebewaing
 Kuhn, Donald A. – Dundee
 Laeder, Richard P. – Lansing
 Larsen, Peter E. – Ann Arbor
 Lochner, Daniel E. – Canadian Lakes
 Loesel, Andrew E. – Pinconning
 Lubeck, Thomas M. – Livonia
 Lutz, Michael J. – Shelby Twp.
 Maier, Paul L. – Kalamazoo
 Mann, Dennis C. – Monroe
 Mann, Robert H. – Port Huron
 Marshall, Robert H. – Riverview
 Melinat, Theodore C. – Pinconning
 Merrell, William D. – Waterford
 Merrill, John E. – Roseville
 Monson, John R. – Troy
 Mues, Robert D. – Grand Rapids
 Mundt, Richard E. – Hemlock
 Nehring, Gary L. – Albion
 Neisch, Waldemar O. – Flushing
 Otten, William H. – Rochester Hills
 Otto, Rodney D. – Grand Rapids
 Pankratz, Adolph W. – Stevensville
 Panning, John F. – Holland
 Paulson, Warren L. – Ypsilanti
 Pflug, Mark R. – Greenville
 Pohanka, John C. – Midland
 Pollatz, Paul A. – Garden City
 Pollatz, Raymond R. Jr. – Stanwood
 Ramthun, Marvin W. – Lapeer
 Rauh, John W. – Wentzville, MO
 Reich, Arthur W. – Goodrich
 Reusch, Jon W. – West Bloomfield
 Roberts, Robert R. – Bay City
 Rossow, Richard H. – Prudenville
 Ruediger, Paul G. – Rose City
 Rynearson, Rodney R. – Frankenmuth
 Sattelmeier, Glenn O. – Rochester Hills
 Schemm, Milton R. – Troy
 Schleicher, John C. – Austin, MN
 Schoof, Armond D. – Monroe
 Schreiber, John R. – Coopersville
 Schroeder, Kenneth O. – Frankenmuth
 Schroeder, Roy P. – East Lansing
 Schudlich, Gerald E. – Manistee
 Schultz, Robert J. – Freeland
 Schulz, Michael P. – Oxford
 Seng, Dan L. – Battle Creek
 Shackell, Maurice G. – Marshall
 Shuta, Richard J. – Ann Arbor
 Smith, Robert W. – Frankenmuth
 Spaeth, David M. – Alpena
 Stahlhut, Stephen C. – Linden
 Staudacher, Theodore L. – Lake Leelanau
 Stier, Lewis W. – St. Clair Shores
 Sting, Raymond P. – Cass City
 Teske, Walter W. – Ludington
 Thomas, Raymond K. – Jackson
 Traugott, Frederick W. – Macomb
 Trosien, Carl F. – Hemlock
 Turanski, Ted N. – Lake City
 Turner, James W. – Farmington Hills

Veitengruber, Donald P. – Greenville
Verity, Timothy M. – Grand Rapids
Vinecourt, Bruce E. – Lambertville
Wachholz, Dean C. – Saline
Waidelich, Carl W. – Rochester
Wargo, Paul E. – Harsens Island
Weber, James E. – Frankenmuth
Wendt, Ernest C. – Fenton
Wentzel, Wayne H. – Grand Blanc
Wernecke, John W. – Bay City
Westphal, Leroy R. – Midland
White, Harry W. – Birch Run
Witt, Lynn F. – Lexington
Witto, Lawrence E. – Fenton
Wuggazer, Duane T. – Rochester Hills
Zeile, Theodore A. – Frankenmuth
Zielke, Kenneth E. – Coldwater
Zimmerman, Mark E. – Spring Lake
Zimmerman, Russell E. – Bay City

Ministers of Religion - Ordained Roster Changes

March 2012 - March 2015

Pastors Who Entered the District

Adams, Caleb M. (St. Louis) to Associate Pastor, St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
Appold, Paul C. (Northern Illinois District) to Pastor, Trinity, Muskegon
Bartz, Robert O. (Northern Illinois District) as Emeritus
Barz, Daniel (Ft. Wayne) to SMP Pastor, St. Paul, Buchanan
Becker, D. Andrew (Kansas District) to Pastor, St. Paul, Farmington Hills
Behnke, Timothy J. (Ohio District) to Pastor, St. John, Brant
Blythe, Richard J. (Missouri District) to Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Trenton
Bodley, Christopher R. (Florida-Georgia District) to Missionary-at-Large in Detroit for A2E
Bruns, Benjamin (English District) to Associate Pastor, St. Stephen, Waterford
Bye, Thomas W. (South Wisconsin District) to Pastor, St. Stephen's, Shelby
Chittick, Aaron B. (St. Louis) to Pastor, St. Paul, Coldwater
Cottam, Bertrand J. (English District) as Emeritus
Dent, Matthew T. (English District) to Pastor, Bethlehem, Standish
Doede, Mark R. (St. Louis) to SMP Pastor, Our Shepherd, Birmingham
Dressler, Martin B. (St. Louis) to Pastor, Christ, Milford
Dusheke, Keith H. (Nebraska District) to Pastor, Living Faith, Marine City
Eden, Joel S. (St. Louis) to Associate Pastor, Christ Our Savior, Livonia
Eggert, James F. (Florida-Georgia District) to Assistant Pastor, Trinity, St. Joseph
Ekong, Eric I. (St. Louis) to Senior Pastor, Trinity, Jackson
Fiene, Daniel H. (Central Illinois District) to Pastor, Grace, Baldwin
Fulmer, Daniel R. (Florida-Georgia District) to Pastor, Bethany, Charlevoix
Gerber, Anthony J. (St. Louis) to Assistant Pastor, Trinity, St. Joseph
Gizynski, Richard G. (Northern Illinois District) as Candidate
Gladden, Dietrick A. (St. Louis) to Sole Pastor, St. Paul, Pontiac
Gledhill, Eric A. (Missouri District) to Senior Pastor, Trinity, Paw Paw
Grannis, Michael J. (Minnesota South District) as Candidate
Griffin, Marvin A. (Atlantic District) to Sole Pastor, St. Philip, Detroit
Heiden, Michael L. (St. Louis) to Associate Pastor, Immanuel, Macomb
Hein, Matthew C. (North Wisconsin District) to Associate Pastor, St. Luke, Ann Arbor
Heiney, Timothy M. (Kansas District) to Missionary in Guinea, West Africa
Holls, Joel M. (English District) to IIP, St. Paul, New Boston
Hooper, William J. (St. Louis) to Sole Pastor, Christ, White Cloud
Howard, Daniel C. (St. Louis) to SMP Pastor, Hope, Warren
Hubbard, Bradley B. (North Wisconsin District) to Senior Pastor, St. Mark, Battle Creek
Johnson, Andrew M. (St. Louis) to Assistant Pastor, St. Paul, Lapeer
Johnson, Russell D. (Southern Illinois District) to Senior Pastor, St. Luke, Clinton Twp.
Johnson, Scott E. (Ft. Wayne) to Associate Pastor, St. Paul's, Hillsdale
Kenitz, Terry W. (Nebraska District) as Emeritus
Klamer, Lance D. (Ft. Wayne) to Associate Pastor, Hope, DeWitt
Koltz, Gary E. (St. Louis) to Pastor, Good Shepherd, Lake Orion
Krach, James M. (Southeastern District) to Pastor, Our Savior, Gladwin
LeClair, Edward P. (St. Louis) to Pastor, St. Peter's, Three Rivers
Liebich, Jonathan (New England District) to Pastor, Trinity, Buchanan
Liss, Joseph T. (Ft. Wayne) to SMP Pastor, St. Paul, Niles
Llewellyn, Joseph J. (St. Louis) to Pastor, St. Paul, Hubbard Lake
Maas, Korey (Pacific Southwest District) as Candidate
Mackowiak, John E. (Florida-Georgia District) to IIP, St. Paul, New Boston
Madson, Mark J. (St. Louis) to Pastor, Trinity, Port Huron
Mann, Dennis C. (Ohio District) as Emeritus
Massey, Steven M. (Pacific Southwest District) to Associate Pastor, St. Johns, St. Johns
Matyas, Dennis W. (St. Louis) to Pastor, St. Paul, Albion
Meyer, Jonathan D. (Indiana District) as Candidate
Miller, Randy J. (Mid-South District) to Pastor, Cross of Christ, Bloomfield Hills
Moyer, Thomas E. (Southern Illinois District) to Assistant Pastor, Faith, Grand Blanc
Murray, Daniel P. (Ohio District) as Candidate
Nemec, Donald (Wyoming District) to Drummond Island, Drummond Island
Nuttman, Quentin T. (Kansas District) to Pastor, St. Peter, St. John's
Peters, Matthew A. (Ohio District) to Pastor, Zion, Petoskey
Peterson, Russell A. (English District) to Senior Pastor, Trinity, Sturgis
Peterson, Ryan R. (Missouri District) to Campus Pastor at Concordia University Ann Arbor
Potts, Daniel A. (St. Louis) to Assistant Pastor, Trinity, Monroe
Rathje, John R. (Missouri District) to Dean of Students at Concordia University Ann Arbor
Richard, Gary L. (Ohio District) to Associate Pastor, Trinity, Clinton Twp.
Riddle, J. Derek (Central Illinois District) to Pastor, Peace, Rogers City
Riggs, Robert V. (Ohio District) to Pastor, Calvary, Carson City
Rockemann, Larry W. (Northern Illinois District) to Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb

Rolf, James E. (Ft. Wayne) to Pastor, Hope, Linden
 Rossow, David E. (Ft. Wayne) to SMP Pastor, NewLife, Swartz Creek
 Rossow, Justin P. (Texas District) to Associate Pastor, St. Luke, Ann Arbor
 Schultz, Joshua M. (Ft. Wayne) to Associate Pastor, Immanuel, Alpena
 Schultz, Robert J. (IIP, Nativity, St. Charles) to IIP, Emmanuel, Britton
 Schwichtenberg, Marc N. (Northern Illinois District) to Senior Pastor, St. John, Rochester
 Scott, Robert G. (Ft. Wayne) to SMP Pastor, Faith, Grand Blanc
 Seaver, Todd A. (English District) to Associate Pastor, Holy Ghost, Monroe
 Stier, Lewis W. (Indiana District) as Candidate
 Sutton, A. Trevor (St. Louis) to Assistant Pastor, St. Luke, Haslett
 Sutton, David J. (Ft. Wayne) to Pastor, Our Savior, Marlette
 Tino, James C. (Florida/Georgia District) to Assistant Pastor, Peace, Sandusky
 Tkac, Russell S. (Ft. Wayne) to SMP Pastor, Peace, Waterford
 Toman, Jason D. (St. Louis) to SMP Pastor, St. Michael, Portage
 Townes, Richard A. (South Dakota District) to U.S. Navy Chaplain
 VanBriggle, Richard A. (St. Louis) to SMP Pastor, St. Thomas, Eastpointe
 Vanderbilt, Thomas W. (Mid-South District) to Pastor, Messiah, Holt
 Vergin, Aaron H. (Ft. Wayne) to St. Mark's, West Bloomfield
 Vieregge, Michael S. (St. Louis) to SMP Pastor, Our Shepherd, Birmingham
 Vogeli, Mitchell R. (St. Louis) to Pastor, Nativity, St. Charles
 Wade, Jeffrey E. (St. Louis) to Associate Pastor, St. John, New Boston
 West, Brian D. (Texas District) to Associate Pastor, Trinity, Clinton Twp.
 Wurst, John F. (Minnesota North District) as Candidate

Changes Within the District

Adams, Douglas M. (Pastor, Emmanuel, Britton) to Pastor, Trinity, Berrien Springs
 Bagnall, G. Stevens (Senior Pastor, St. Luke, Clinton Twp.) to Pastor, Good Shepherd, Cass City
 Bakker, Jonathon J. (Associate Pastor, Zion, Mt. Pleasant) to Senior Pastor, Zion, Mt. Pleasant
 Bartz, Robert O. (Emeritus) to Pastor, St. Peter, Three Rivers
 Blythe, Richard J. (Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Trenton) to Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Trenton
 Boerger, Paul M. (IIP, Lamb of God, Flint) to Pastor, Lamb of God, Flint
 Bush, John L. (Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Trenton) to Director of Donor Relations, Concordia University Ann Arbor
 Carrier, John S. (Pastor, Trinity, Port Huron) to IIP, Family of Christ, Imlay City
 Collin, Richard W. (Emeritus) to IIP, Christ, White Cloud
 Cox, Ronald L. (Pastor, Lighthouse, Pentwater) to Chaplain, LCMS World Missions to the Armed Forces
 Cullen, D. Lee (Pastor, St. Paul's, New Boston) to Principal/Teacher, Lutheran High School South, Newport
 DeMeritt, Carl F. (IIP, Trinity, Monroe) to IIP, St. Mark, Brooklyn
 Doroh, Gerhardt A. (Emeritus) to Vacancy Pastor, Living Faith, Marine City
 Dunseth, Thomas W. (MAL - Deaf Ministry) to Mill Neck Deaf Ministries, Mill Neck, NY
 Eggert, James F. (Assistant Pastor, Trinity, St. Joseph) to IIP, Faith, Whitehall
 Eickmann, Robert E. (Candidate) to Pastor, Prince of Peace, Quincy
 Erickson, James D. (Associate Pastor, Immanuel, Alpena) to Senior Pastor, Immanuel, Alpena
 Grafe, Stephen D. (Pastor, Messiah, Holt) to Associate Pastor, St. John, Rochester
 Grannis, Michael J. (Candidate) to Pastor, Berea, Detroit
 Griffith, Greg S. (Associate Pastor, Immanuel, Macomb) to Senior Pastor, Immanuel, Macomb
 Haller, Mark J. (Senior Pastor, St. Peter's, Eastpointe) to Pastor, St. Peter's, Richmond
 Heimsoth, Jeffrey E. (Pastor, St. Peter, St. Johns) to Administrative Pastor, Trinity, Monroe
 Heise, Matthew W. (Missionary to Russia) to Executive Director, Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb
 James, Roger B. (Pastor, Zion, Marshall) to Missionary, South Asia, LCMS World Missions
 Johnson, Randy L. (MAL, New Buffalo Mission) to Pastor, St. John, Cheboygan
 Kenitz, Terry W. (Emeritus) to Pastor, Good Shepherd, Middleville
 Khan, Amer M. (Administrative Pastor, All Nations, Troy) to Associate Pastor, All Nations, Troy
 Khan, Khurram M. (Associate Pastor, All Nations, Troy) to Administrative Pastor, All Nations, Troy
 Laeder, Richard P. (Emeritus) to IIP, St. John, Ionia
 Lambert, Kurt E. (Senior Pastor, St. Matthew, Westland) to Associate Pastor, St. Matthew, Westland
 Lange, Thomas M. (Candidate) to Lutheran High School Westland, Westland
 Langewisch, John E. (Associate Pastor, Messiah, Midland) to IIP, St. Peter, Richmond
 Langewisch, John E. (IIP, St. Peter, Richmond) to IIP, Good Shepherd, Saginaw
 Lassanske, Dennis L. (Emeritus) to IIP, St. Luke, Nunica
 Lett, Randy D. (Associate Pastor, St. Peter, Richmond) to Pastor, Trinity, Sawyer
 Loesel, Andrew E. (Emeritus) to IIP, St. Paul, Hubbard Lake
 Loree, Jr., Larry K. (Pastor, Holy Ghost, Monroe) to Administrative Pastor, Holy Ghost, Monroe
 Loree, Sr., Larry K. (Pastor, St. Stephen, Shelby) to Pastor, St. Peter, Kinde
 Mackowiak, John E. (Non-Candidate) to IIP, Our Savior, Lansing
 Makela, Matthew M. (Assistant Pastor, St. John, Midland) to Associate Pastor, St. John, Midland
 Mikkelson, Robert L. (Emeritus) to Pastor, Peace, Detroit
 Moritz, Ronald C. (IIP, Trinity, Paw Paw) to IIP, Zion, Petoskey
 Morris, William L. (Administrative Pastor, Immanuel, Alpena) to Senior Pastor, St. Peter, Hemlock
 Martin, Michael R. (Chaplain, Lansing) to Pastor, Grace, Leslie
 Penhallegon, Philip W. (Concordia University Ann Arbor) to Pastor, St. Paul, Milan
 Reith, Samuel B. (Senior Pastor, Zion, Mt. Pleasant) to Pastor, St. Paul, Sanford

Richert, Aaron M. (Lutheran High School Northwest) to Associate Pastor, St. John, Fraser
 Robinson, Richard E. (Candidate) to Pastor, Holy Cross, Detroit
 Roper, R. William (IIP, Trinity, Monroe) to IIP, St. Peter, St. Johns
 Roper, R. William (Emeritus) to IIP, Our Shepherd, Birmingham
 Schilke, Stephen E. (Emeritus) to IIP, Trinity, Port Huron
 Schilke, Stephen E. (Emeritus) to IIP, Faith, Port Huron
 Schmidt, David P. (Associate Pastor, St. John's, New Boston) to Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Royal Oak
 Schmidt, Erik R. (Associate Pastor, Community, Flat Rock) to Administrative Pastor, Community, Flat Rock
 Schneider, Keith A. (Emeritus) to Pastor, St. Michael, Rogers City
 Schroeder, Martin L. (IIP, St. Mark, Battle Creek) to IIP, St. Mark, Kentwood
 Schultz, Ronald C. (Senior Pastor, Grace, Monroe) to Pastor, Zion, Harbor Beach
 Siefert, Gary L. (Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Battle Creek) to IIP, St. Paul, Caledonia
 Sikora, E. Anthony (Sole Pastor, Hope, DeWitt) to Senior Pastor, Hope, DeWitt
 Smith, Bradley A. (Associate Pastor, St. John, Fraser) to Senior Pastor, St. John, Fraser
 Solum, David R. (Assistant Pastor, Chapel of the Lakes, Mecosta) to Associate Pastor, Chapel of the Lakes, Mecosta
 Speller, Chad M. (Project Compassion) to Pastor, St. Stephen, Waterford
 Spence, Kenneth M. (Candidate) to Pastor, Greenfield Peace, Detroit
 Stoll, Allen R. (Emeritus) to IIP, Zion, Tawas City
 Sutton, A. Trevor (Assistant Pastor, St. Luke, Haslett) to Associate Pastor, St. Luke, Haslett
 Van Dellen, James H. (Emeritus) to Pastor, Prince of Peace, Ortonville
 Verity, Timothy M. (Grand Rapids) to IIP, Trinity, Reed City
 Voll, Theodore E. (Emeritus) to IIP, Pilgrim, Essexville
 Voltattorni, Anthony R. (Pastor, Bethlehem, Standish) to Pastor, Zion, Marshall
 Waddell, James A. (Non-Candidate) to Pastor, Faith, Ypsilanti
 Wagener, Kenneth C. (Associate Pastor, St. Peter, Macomb) to Senior Pastor, St. Peter, Macomb
 Walsh, Jeffrey B. (Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Flint) to Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Flint
 Wangelin, William R. (Associate Pastor, Holy Cross, Jenison) to Senior Pastor, Our Savior, Lansing
 Weidmayer, Robert C. (Assistant Pastor, Bethel, Grandville) to Sole Pastor, Bethel Grandville
 Wentzel, Michael W. (Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Ann Arbor) to Senior Pastor, St. Mark, Kentwood
 Wunningham, Ryan A. (Associate Pastor, Zion, Holland) to Senior Pastor, Zion, Holland
 Witte, Mark K. (Associate Pastor, Grace, Monroe) to Senior Pastor, Grace, Monroe
 Wolff, Paul A. (Non-Candidate) to Assistant Pastor, Emmanuel, Dearborn
 Wuggazer, Mark T. (Assistant Pastor, Redeemer, Birmingham) to Associate Pastor, St. Peter, Macomb
 Wurst, John F. (Candidate) to Assistant Pastor, St. Paul, Cedar
 Wurst, Robert W. (Sole Pastor, St. Paul, Cedar) to Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Cedar
 Yops, Bradley J. (Sole Pastor, NewLife Community, Swartz Creek) to Senior Pastor, NewLife Community, Swartz Creek
 Young, Paul V. (Emeritus) to Pastor, Prince of Peace, Clare

Transferred to Other Districts

Adler, David L. (Candidate) to Texas District
 Astrowski, Leonard A. (Pastor, Grace, Fairgrove) to Central Illinois District
 Athey, James B. (Candidate) to North Wisconsin District
 Barber, Robert G. (Candidate) to Northwest District
 Bennett, Robert H. (Administrative Pastor, Trinity, Reese) to Indiana District
 Carrier, John S. (IIP, Family of Christ, Imlay City) to Nebraska District
 Creeden, Anthony M. (Associate Pastor, Christ Our Savior, Livonia) to Rocky Mountain District
 Daniel, David E. (Pastor, United in Christ, Flint) to Northern Illinois District
 Fandrey, James E. (Executive Director, Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb) to Nebraska District
 Ferry, Charles D. (Pastor, St. Mark, West Bloomfield) to English District
 Giger, Scott W. (Associate Pastor, St. Luke, Ann Arbor) to Indiana District
 Gnewuch, Carl M. (Senior Pastor, Our Shepherd, Birmingham) to Southeastern District
 Gray, Roosevelt (Mission Director, Michigan District, Ann Arbor) to Missouri District
 Hahn, Daniel A. (Senior Pastor, Immanuel, Sebawaing) to Eastern District
 Hoover, Chad E. (Pastor, St. Paul, Kalkaska) to Indiana District
 Hopkins, Paul G. (Pastor, St. Michael, Rogers City) to Central Illinois District
 Jorg, R. Blaine (SMP Pastor, Faith, Whitehall) to Eastern District
 Kaufmann, Reinald W. (SMP Pastor, Living Word, Plymouth) to English District
 Koschmann, Nicholas W. (Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Trenton) to Northwest District
 Lahrman, William C. (Pastor, St. Luke, Nunica) to Indiana District
 LeClair, Edward P. (Pastor, St. Peter, Three Rivers) to Missouri District
 Lorenz, Gregory M. (Associate Pastor, St. Peter, Macomb) to Texas District
 Love, Mark W. (Pastor, St. Peter, Rockford) to Ohio District
 Mackowiak, John E. (IIP, Our Savior, Lansing) to Florida-Georgia District
 Mackowiak, John E. (IIP, St. Paul, New Boston) to Indiana District
 Maske, Steven R. (Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Flint) to Northern Illinois District
 McCloskey, David A. (Non-Candidate) to SELC District
 Meyer, John W. (Emeritus) to Nebraska District
 Meyer, Jonathan D. (Candidate) to Texas District
 Meyer, Mel M. (IIP, Trinity, Berrien Springs) to Indiana District
 Moritz, Ronald C. (IIP, Zion, Petoskey) to Minnesota South District
 Morris, George W. (Associate Pastor, Faith, Bay City) to Minnesota North District

Mullen, Nicholas A. (Associate Pastor, St. Matthew, Grand Rapids) to Northern Illinois District
 Northend, William A. (Associate Pastor, Faith, Grand Blanc) to California/Nevada/Hawaii District
 Olsen, Roy C. (Associate Pastor, Our Savior, Lansing) to Indiana District
 Pape, Richard E. (Emeritus) to Eastern District
 Putz, David L. (Pastor, St. Peter, Kinde) to Indiana District
 Ransdell, Charles E. (Pastor, Faith, Port Huron) to Southeastern District
 Rippy, Sean L. (Candidate) to Northwest District
 Roemke, James A. (Pastor, Good Shepherd, Middleville) to South Wisconsin District
 Ross, Daniel C. (Associate Pastor, Good Shepherd, Saginaw) to Kansas District
 Schroeder, Martin L. (IIP, St. Mark, Kentwood) to Southeastern District
 Schultz, Jeremy J. A. (Pastor, St. Paul, Royal Oak) to Missouri District
 Smith, Kelly D. (Pastor, St. Mark, Brooklyn) to California/Nevada/Hawaii District
 Solum, David R. (Associate Pastor, Chapel of the Lakes, Mecosta) to Indiana District
 Werth, Luther A. (Emeritus) to California/Nevada/Hawaii District
 Westra, John (Emeritus) to Northern Illinois District
 Williamson, Kenneth L. (Pastor, Calvary, Carson City) to Northwest District
 Wright, Larry D. (Pastor, Our Savior, Midland) to Indiana District
 Yakimow, Scott E. (Candidate) to Northwest District
 Zwonitzer, Rodney E. (Senior Pastor, Emmanuel, Dearborn) to Missouri District

Inactive

Inactive – Candidate Status

Athey, James B. (Charlevoix) 9/30/2012
 Barber, Robert G. (Byron Center) 6/30/2012
 Gorlitz, Larry R. (St. Cloud, MN) 4/28/2013
 Grannis, Michael J. (Belleville) 1/9/2015
 Martin, Frank H. (Carleton) 11/25/2012
 Masih, Afzal (Grand Rapids) 3/31/2012
 Potter, Jeffrey R. (Reed City) 2/9/2013
 Washington, Oliver G. (Detroit) 3/26/2012

Inactive – Non-Candidate Status

Doenges, Joseph C. (St. Clair) 2/10/2013
 Heiney, Timothy M. (Big Rapids) 1/6/2015
 Krause, Daniel L. (Lake Ann) 8/13/2013
 Maas, Korey D. (Hillsdale) 4/9/2014
 McCloskey, David A. (Harbor Beach) 9/30/2012
 Prout, David L. (Troy) 7/31/2013
 Richter, James F. (Belleville) 12/31/2014
 Rockrohr, Carl E. (Ft. Wayne, IN) 1/5/2015

Inactive – Emeritus

Adams, Curtis W. (Coldwater) 11/30/2012
 Allen, Michael S. (Essexville) 7/26/2013
 Baerwolf, Robert D. (Ewart) 8/30/2013
 Batsky, Thomas E. (St. Joseph) 10/8/2013
 Bogda, David W. (Three Rivers) 8/15/2012
 Brazinsky, Thomas R. (Baroda) 9/30/2012
 Buckert, Mark P. (Saginaw) 12/31/2014
 Burgess, David F. (Sterling Heights) 4/30/2014
 Clemons, Daniel F. (Alto) 6/30/2014
 Collin, Richard W. (Manton) 4/27/2014
 DeMeritt, Carl F. (Ypsilanti) 8/31/2014
 Doroh, Garhardt A. (Columbus) 12/8/2013
 Eilers, Gregory J. (Port Hope) 6/30/2014
 Fitzgerald, Michael N. (Frankenmuth) 5/6/2012
 Gatz, William A. (Jackson) 7/29/12
 Gerke, Robert A. (Grand Rapids) 5/31/2013
 Gohn, David P. (Flat Rock) 8/1/2012
 Hoft, Thees C. (Clinton Twp.) 10/15/13
 Hoogerhyde, Richard S. (Newaygo) 7/31/2012
 Kilmer, Eric S. (Marlette) 7/29/2012
 Kilponen, Roger R. (Ann Arbor) 10/31/2014
 Koehler, Charles J. (Traverse City) 9/3/2014
 Kopper, Glenn P. (Hudsonville) 2/28/2013
 Kroll, Michael D. (East Lansing) 12/31/2012
 Laeder, Richard P. (Lansing) 12/11/2013
 Lassanske, Dennis L. (Muskegon) 6/30/2012
 Loesel, Andrew E. (Pinconning) 9/2/2014
 Lubeck, Thomas M. (Livonia) 6/30/2014
 Lutz, Michael J. (Shelby Twp) 7/29/2013
 Marshall, Robert H. (Riverview) 1/26/2015
 Merrell, William D. (Waterford) 1/6/2013
 Mikkelson, Robert L. (Herron) 12/31/2012
 Mundt, Richard E. (Hemlock) 8/31/2014
 Pape, Richard E. (Milford) 8/31/2012
 Pflug, Mark R. (Greenville) 1/12/2013
 Pollatz, Paul A. (Garden City) 5/1/2013
 Reusch, Jon W. (West Bloomfield) 5/6/2013
 Roper, R. William (Jackson) 2/23/2014
 Schilke, Stephen E. (Bay City) to Emeritus 7/28/2013
 Schleicher, John C. (Austin, MN) 3/31/2015

Schreiber, John R. (Coopersville) 6/8/2014
Schultz, Robert J. (Freeland) 5/31/2014
Schulz, Michael P. (Oxford) 7/31/2014
Shuta, Richard J. (Ann Arbor) 6/30/2012
Stahlhut, Stephen C. (Linden) 5/23/2013
Stier, Lewis W. (St. Clair Shores) 2/17/2015
Sting, Raymond P. (Cass City) 11/7/2013
Trosien, Carl F. (Hemlock) 6/29/2014
Verity, Timothy M. (Grand Rapids) 12/8/2014
Voll, Theodore E. (West Branch) 1/5/2014
Wernecke, John W. (Bay City) 3/26/2014
Westra, John (Holland) 8/31/2012
Young, Paul V. (Beaverton) 7/31/2013

Resigned From Roster

Becerra, Roberto A. (Sawyer) 5/6/2013
Doenges, Joseph C. (St. Clair) 1/28/2014
Fanning, Corliss A. (Bloomfield Hills) 7/24/2014
Golec, James E. (Sterling Heights) 1/28/2014
Kenny, Douglas G. (Petoskey) 11/5/2012
Knoerr, Rodney H. (Marshall) 3/27/2014
Sgambelluri, Carlo A. (West Branch) 6/26/2013

Reinstated To Roster

Rippy, Sean L. (Boise, ID) 9/18/2012

Removed From Roster

Ajak, Simon A. (Lansing) 3/25/2014
Stadelman, Alan R. (Lansing) 7/12/2012

Called To Glory

Dostert, William A. (Mears) 1/2/2015
Etzel, Lenhart E. (Flint) 5/29/2012
Goltz, Gordon K. (Grand Rapids) 7/6/2013
Griffin, Mark A. (Detroit) 4/18/13
Grother, Louis W. (Kalamazoo) 7/12/2014
Harms, Gerald E. (Grand Blanc) 11/22/2014
Long, Stephen F. (Milford) 12/3/2013
Mabry, Gilbert R. (Daly City, CA) 2/15/2014
Molzan, Harold G. (Rogers City) 12/7/2013
Narr, Edwin J. (Macomb) 12/13/13
Neff, Karl M. (West Branch) 1/12/2013
Pohl, Wayne A. (Green Valley, AZ) 10/21/2014
Pool, Charles H. (Cedar) 4/23/2014
Prouty, Albert I. (Taylor) 11/7/2012
Richert, Paul O. (Ann Arbor) 10/8/2013
Ritter, Donald A. (Mancelona) 3/16/2013
Rossow, Herman E. (Prudenville) 12/9/2014
Rudow, Eugene C. (Shelby Twp.) 4/30/2013
Ruhl, Lorne C. (Troy) 6/3/2013
Schutt, Charles K. (Clinton Twp.) 5/21/2014
Speckman, Timothy R. (Flint) 2/1/2013
Stier, Lewis W. (St. Clair Shores) 2/17/2015
Tyvela, Leslie D. (Bay City) 2/2/2015
Unger, Ralph E. (Warren) 6/13/14
Voorhees, David L. (Lansing) 5/20/2013
Winkler, Wilbert D. (Chesterfield) 3/13/2014
Zehnder, Ronald R. (Ypsilanti) 1/27/2014
Zimmerman, Paul A. (Traverse City) 1/28/14

Congregations Added

Blissfield, Blessed Savior (5/19/2013)
Brant, St. John (8/4/2013)
Pontiac, St. Paul (5/19/2013)

Congregations Disbanded

Canton, Christ the Good Shepherd (8/29/2012)
Detroit, Redemption (9/15/2013)
Flat Rock, New Hope (11/25/2012)
Grand Rapids, Redeemer (12/30/12)
Hazel Park, New Life (1/30/2015)
Paradise, Paradise (2/28/2011)

Congregations Merged

Peace, Flint and Redeemer, Flint to become Lamb of God, Flint (9/30/2012)
Redeemer, Saginaw and Messiah, Saginaw to become Messiah, Saginaw (11/5/2013)

Satellites Added

Paradise, Paradise, Satellite of Trinity, Newberry (2/28/2011)

Ministers of Religion - Ordained Anniversaries

In 2013

75 Years

Louis W. Grother
Theodore A. Zeile

60 Years

William C. Grafe
John F. Panning
Ronald R. Zehnder

50 Years

Charles E. Beyer
David E. Hakes
Jakob K. Heckert
Theodore R. Jungkuntz
Theodore C. Melinat
Lawrence E. Witto

40 Years

William H. Allwardt
George W. Brinley
Gilbert K. McDonald
Richard E. Mundt
Robert R. Roberts
Keith A. Schneider
Michael P. Schulz
William C. Winter

25 Years

Robert G. Barber
Arthur J. Bode
Paul M. Clark
Ronald L. Cox
Jeffrey G. Draeger
Roosevelt Gray, Jr.
Richard S. Hoogerhyde
Kevin C. Jones
Barry L. Mueller
Joel H. Sarrault
Bradley A. Smith
Kenneth M. Wise
Paul V. Young

In 2014

60 Years

Adolph W. Pankratz

50 Years

James F. Haenftling
John W. Rauh
Glenn O. Sattelmeier
Richard J. Shuta
Donald P. Veitengruber

40 Years

Thees C. Hoft
Douglas K. Janetzke
Glenn P. Kopper
John E. Langewisch
R. William Roper
Stephen C. Stahlhut

25 Years

Joel R. Baseley
Scott E. Benjamin
Thomas V. Boehne
Michael G. Buchhorn
Edward W. Filter
Eric S. Kilmer
Mark A. Loest
Frank H. Martin
Daniel C. Meckes
Kendall L. Schaeffer
Jeffrey N. Wollberg

In 2015

60 Years

Roy P. Schroeder
Maurice G. Shackell

50 Years

Robert D. Baerwolf
Arnold H. Brammeier
Erwin Kostizen
Charles W. Kuhl
Peter E. Larsen
William H. Otten

40 Years

Dieter E. Haupt
Daniel E. Lochner
James C. Redmann
John C. Schleicher
Theodore E. Voll

25 Years

Todd A. Biermann
Mark A. Bowditch
Daniel F. Clemons
James D. Keat
Terry W. Kenitz
Micheal D. Kroll
Larry K. Loree, Sr.
Carl E. Rockrohr
Richard H. Rossow
Randall J. Schlak
Richard C. Wilson

Officers

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President (2016)
1st Vice-President: Rev. Herbert C. Mueller, Jr. (2016)
2nd Vice-President: Rev. Dr. John C. Wohlrabe, Jr. (2016)
3rd Vice-President: Rev. Daniel Preus (2016)
4th Vice-President: Rev. Dr. Scott R. Murray (2016)
5th Vice-President: Rev. Nabil S. Nour (2016)

6th Vice-President: Rev. Dr. Robert T. Kuhn (2016)
Secretary: Rev. Dr. Raymond L. Hartwig (2016)
Chief Administrative Officer: Mr. Ronald P. Schultz (Appointed)
Chief Financial Officer: Mr. Jerald C. Wulf (Appointed)
Chief Mission Officer: Rev. Kevin D. Robson (Appointed)

Michigan District

Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier, President (2015)

1st Vice-President: Rev. Mark D. Brandt (2015)
2nd Vice-President: Rev. Donald O. Neuendorf (2015)
Secretary: Rev. David H. Reed (2015)

3rd Vice-President: Rev. David A. Davis (2015)
4th Vice-President: Rev. John M. Duerr (2015)
Treasurer: Mr. William H. Young

Michigan District Circuit Counselors

(2015)

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Charles B. Burhop | 16. Craig M. Meyer | 31. Todd J. Brunworth |
| 2. Jason L. Mandley | 17. Kendall L. Schaeffer | 32. Mark E. Berlin |
| 3. Dean R. Muhle | 18. Cary M. Richert | 33. Ainslie B. Wagner |
| 4. Michael W. Schaedig | 19. John E. Merrill | 34. John A. Bookshaw |
| 5. Michael G. Buchhorn | 20. Steven J. Essenburg | 35. Timothy W. Olson |
| 6. William H. Allwardt | 21. Eddie Morales | 36. E. Anthony Sikora |
| 7. Kenneth D. Lueke | 23. Erwin M. Hutter | 37. Joseph Fremer |
| 8. Michael S. Allen | 24. Bruce K. Lucas | 38. Dennis L. Lassanske |
| 9. Robert G. Gadenken | 25. Randy S. Duncan | 39. Christopher M. Boehnke |
| 10. William W. Hessler | 26. Terry A. Nelson | 40. Mark W. Love |
| 11. Erik K. Cloeter | 27. Dean M. Davenport | 41. Scott G. Sommerfeld |
| 12. Dean G. Dumbrille | 28. Jakob K. Heckert | 42. David H. Sidwell |
| 13. John C. Kaiser | 29. Larry G. Courson | 43. Michael J. Roth |
| 14. Gerhardt A. Doroh | 30. Joel H. Sarrault | 44. Aaron B. Chittick |
| 15. Edward J. Steeh | | |

Boards and Committees

Board of Directors

Region

Metro East: (2018)
West: (2018)
Metro West: (2015)
North & East: (2015)

Ordained

Norman A. Koy
Craig L. Bickel
Paul M. Moldenhauer
Paul D. Theiss

Commissioned

Natalie A. Haupt
Richard C. Krueger
Harvey M. Schmit
Eric Hagenow

Laypersons

Stephen R. Boergert
Ruth E. Martin
Christine Chauvin
Dale Gust
Williard C. Ducharme
John C. Raffel
Duane A. Renken
Larry A. Bauermeister

Church Extension Fund Board of Trustees

Ordained

Robert Appold (2015)
Joel F. Hoyer (2018)

Commissioned

Julian Petzold (2015)

Laypersons

Joseph R. Carabell (2015)
David C. C. Eberhard (2018)
Timothy H. Haberling (2018)
Jeffrey T. Roscoe (2018)
James R. Saalfield (2015)
David C. Vallie (2015)

Staff

Ronald L. Steinke, President & CEO
Paul Wills, VP for Marketing
John Bates, VP & CFO

2015 Convention Nomination Committee

Region

Metro East:
Metro West:
North & East:
West:

Ordained

Thomas F. Fischer
Daryl L. Andrzejewski
Paul R. Hinz
Scott G. Sommerfeld

Commissioned

Terry M. Davis
Steven A. Schweske
Eric R. Smith
Susan L. Truog

Laypersons

Phillip Fluegge
Philip M. Krauss II
John W. Nutzmann
Karia M. Woell

Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support

Ordained

Gary L. Beck
Ryan R. Peterson
Daniel W. Ramthun
David J. Rufner
Bryan R. Salminen
Richard J. Wolfram

Commissioned

Gregory S. Arnett
Beverly Koch

Laypersons

Christie Hansard
Kathy A. Krause
Amanda Neumeyer
Jennifer Rumberger

Ex-Officio

Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier

Commission on Deacon Qualification

Ordained

Rev. Todd Frusti
Rev. Dr. Robert Kasper, Advisory
Rev. Dr. Robert Schultz, Advisory

Laypersons

Mrs. Christine Brown
Mr. Walter W. Storm, Secretary/Treasurer

Commissioned

Mr. Dale Vorwerk
H. James Boldt, Chairman

District Reconcilers

Ordained

Rev. Harry Edenfield
Rev. Terry E. Hoese

Laypersons

Mr. Duane F. Nagel
Mr. Duane A. Renken

New/Revised Constitution Committee

Rev. Arnold H. Brammeier
Mr. Richard Carolan
Mr. James Garber
Rev. Theodore Voll, Chairman

District Legal Council

Mr. Dana Dever

District Standing Committees

Stewardship Committee:

Mr. Ronald Chewing, Rev. John M. Duerr, Rev. Daniel C. Meckes, Rev. R. William Roper,
Rev. Stephen E. Schilke

Education Committee:

Ms. Janet LaRocque, Mr. Dan Burk, Mr. David Waltz, Mr. Julian Petzold, Ms. Lisa Singleton,
Mr. Roger Wolter, Mr. Greg Johnson, Mr. Matt Couser, Ms. Jen Enge, Mr. Rich Schumacher,
Ms. Cindy Brown, Ms. Paula Cephlecha, Mr. Steve Meseke

District Committees

Endowment Advisory Council:

Mr. John Bates, Mr. Stephen Boergert, Rev. John Bush, Mr. Michael Greve, Mr. Adam Heinlein,
Mr. Jack Keller, Mrs. Bonnie Mann Non-Voting Members: Mr. Chad Woltemath, Mr. Raymond Zavada

Junior High Gathering Planning Committee:

Mr. James Anderson, Mr. Luke Esselman, Mrs. Kristin Hardy, Ms. Brenda Heissenbuettel,
Mrs. Kimberly Holdeman, Mrs. Rachel Hinz, Mrs. Terri Kober, Mrs. Michelle Kranz, Mrs. Dawn Rupe

Senior High Gathering Planning Committee:

Mr. James Anderson, Rev. James Bruner, Mrs. Deb Fall, Mrs. Kristen Hardy, Mr. Seth Hinz,
Mrs. Mary Koboldt, Mr. Keith Minda, Dr. Sara Pendleton, Mrs. Jennifer Rossi, Mrs. Stephanie Rummel,
Rev. Bill Yonker

Lutheran Adult Gathering Planning Committee:

Dan and Patti Bogema, Rev. David and Sallie Davis, Dennis and Miriam Sohn, Dan and Lara Stoelting,
Ron and Peggy Steinke, Keith and Kim Waller

Principal's Planning Committee:

Mr. David Waltz, Mr. Daniel Stoelting, Mr. Dan Burk, Mrs. Dawn States, Mrs. Kathi Pearson,
Mr. Jonathan Kamin

School Accreditation Committee:

Mrs. Janet LaRocque, Mrs. Cynthia Brown, Mr. Paul Looker, Mr. David Dembeck, Mr. David Kusch,
Mr. Timothy Frusti, Mrs. Barbara Eisenman, Mr. David Waltz, Mr. Brian Young, Mr. Julian Petzold

Early Childhood Cabinet:

Mrs. Judy Williams, Mrs. Kelley Fehn, Mrs. Deborah McDonald, Mrs. Kathleen Prusak,
Mrs. Dawn States, Mrs. Kathi Pearson, Mrs. Dina Matasovsky, Mrs. Kathryn Hartfield,
Ms. Jennifer Welch

State Basketball Committee:

Mr. Tim Siekmann, Mr. Jeff Young, Mr. David King, Mr. Mark Schiefer, Mr. Joel Neumeyer,
Mr. Scott Neumeyer, Mr. Dennis Neumeyer, Mr. Jim Bunkelmann

State Track Committee:

Mr. John Boldt, Mrs. Jessica Carter, Mr. Jerry Monroe, Mr. Kurt Hofmeister, Mr. Tim Siekmann

Finance Committee:

Mr. Larry Bauermeister, Rev. David Maier, Mrs. Ruth Martin, Rev. Paul Moldenhauer, Dr. Harvey Schmit,
Mr. Chad Woltemath, Mr. William Young

Staff

Office of the President

Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier, President
Rev. Dr. Robert E. Kasper, Asst. to the President – Congregation Ministries / Ministry Support
Rev. Harry C. Henneman, Call List Support
Julie Strobl, Executive Asst. to the President
Laurie Brown, Administrative Asst. – President's Office
Julie Nielsen-Schmidt, Chaplain – University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor
Barbara Laughlin Adler, Archivist – Zimmerman Library

Acts 2 Enterprise (A2E) Urban Ministry Initiative

Rev. Christopher Bodley, Missionary-at-Large in Detroit for A2E
Rev. Steven Essenburg, Missionary-at-Large in Detroit

Worker Care

Rev. Bryan Salminen, Ph.D., L.P.C., L.M.F.T – Director of Worker Care

Congregation Ministries

Rev. Dr. Richard J. Wolfram, Asst. to the President – Congregation Mission and Ministries, North Zone / Stewardship Ministries
Rev. Galan D. Walther, Asst. to the President – Congregation Mission and Ministries, Southwest and Thumb Zones / Family Ministries
Jennifer Rumberger, Administrative Asst. – Congregation Mission and Ministries / Call Lists and Commissioned Workers
Dawn Marone, Administrative Asst. – Congregation Mission and Ministries
Mr. J. Chuck Anderson – Youth Support

Lutheran Day Schools

Bruce Braun, Asst. to the President – Superintendent of Schools
Carol Williams, Administrative Asst. – Schools

Communications

Debby Fall, Asst. to the President – Communications
Seth Hinz, Asst. to the President – Web / Media Director
Elisa Schulz, Staff Writer / Copy Editor

Development

Ray Zavada, Asst. to the President – Development
Michael D. Beens, Administrative Asst. – Development / Art Director

Business/Finance

Chad Woltemath, Asst. to the President – Business / Finance
Donna Conrad, Administrative Asst. – Business / Finance
Debra Cameron, Event Coordinator / Accountant

Ministers of Religion - Commissioned

March 8, 2012 to March 9, 2015

District Administration

Braun, Bruce N. – Ann Arbor, Assistant to the President – Superintendent of Schools

Principals

- * Anderson, G. Peter – Alpena, Immanuel
- * Backus, Traci L. Fulghum – Holt, St. Matthew
- * Baerwolf, Paul R. – Dearborn, Emmanuel
- * Bahr, Joel M. – Kentwood, St. Mark
- Bender, Michael H. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
- Bird, Terry L. Smith – Saint Joseph, Trinity
- * Blomquist, Barry E. – Grand Rapids, Our Savior
- * Bringold, Levi R. – Reese, Trinity
- Britton, John W. – Port Huron, Trinity
- * Brown, Cynthia A. Haller – Harbor Beach, Zion
- * Buck, Mary Lynn McNally – Flint, St. Paul
- Burk, Daniel R. – Southgate, Christ the King
- * Butler, Harmon R. Jr. – Royal Oak, St. Paul
- Ceplecha, Paula I. North – Port Hope, St. John
- Dummann, Matthew D. M. – Dearborn, Guardian
- Enge, Jennifer A. Keefer – Bay City, St. John
- * Feenstra, Bradley D. – Muskegon, Trinity
- Frusti, Timothy M. – Jackson, Trinity
- * Hagenow, Eric M. – Hemlock, St. Peter
- * Hambaum, Patricia S. Stange – Marlette, Our Savior
- * Heins, Eric J. – Lake Orion, Good Shepherd
- * Hoeft, Stacy J. McGhee – Rochester, Living Word
- Johnson, Gregory K. – Portage, St. Michael
- * Kaiser, David A. – Sebawaing, Immanuel
- * Kamin, Jonathan M. – Saginaw, Immanuel
- Kopper, Jill M. – Shelby Township, Peace
- Kosman, Paul K. – Sturgis, Trinity
- Kusch, David S. – Farmington Hills, St. Paul's
- * LaRocque, Janet E. – Bay City, Zion
- Lucas, Cindy L. Doede – Monroe, Trinity
- * Massey, Bradley R. – Big Rapids, St. Peter's
- McLoughlin, Janet M. Wooden – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
- Neumeyer, Dennis K. – Bay City, St. Paul
- Neumeyer, Joel K. – Macomb, Immanuel
- * Otto, Brenda L. – Midland, St. John's
- Pahlkotter, Henry G. II – Saginaw, Peace
- Palka, Susan E. McCreadie – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
- Pehlke, Todd M. – Rochester, St. John
- Petzold, Julian H. – Clinton Township, Trinity
- * Pidosny, Mary L. Fenske – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
- * Rudick, Annette K. – Bay City, Immanuel
- * Schalk, Linda S. Hopp – Rogers City, St. John
- Singleton, Lisa A. – Grand Rapids, St. James
- Stoelting, Daniel D. – Richville, St. Michael's
- * Sturgess, Jacqueline M. Montabeau – Eastpointe, St. Thomas
- * Sturm, Raymond T. – Lapeer, St. Paul
- * Thompson, Adrienne A. – New Boston, St. John
- Tomashewsky, Andrew C. – Bay City, Faith
- Vieregge, Keith L. – Clinton Township, St. Luke
- Waltz, David E. – Fraser, St. John
- * Wedde, Deborah D. Keller – Berrien Springs, Trinity
- Weiss, Jared L. – Northville, St. Paul
- * Wolter, Roger W. – Saginaw, Holy Cross

Assistant Principals

- Hoch, Robert M. – Macomb, St. Peter
- Kowalke, Julie A. – Utica, Trinity
- * Williams, Allan A. – Macomb, Immanuel

* Indicates principal/teacher or assistant principal/teacher

Educators in Lutheran Elementary Schools and Early Childhood Centers

- Abraham, Rachel M. – Bay City, St. Paul
- Alderson, John – Dearborn, Guardian
- Anders, Brian L. – Clinton Township, Trinity
- Anderson, Jean E. Behrens – Alpena, Immanuel
- Anderson, Lisa M. Klute – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
- Angott, Donna L. Renkert – Utica, Trinity
- Annas, Michelle L. Platts – Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
- Armstrong, Kathryn P. – Monroe, Holy Ghost
- Baarck, Stephanie L. Kroeger – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
- Ball, Rebecca L. Bierlein – Bay City, Immanuel
- Balzer, JoAnn Grote – Sturgis, Trinity
- Barnes, Susan M. – Macomb, Immanuel
- Barrie, Pamela M. A. Wilson – Alpena, Immanuel
- Bauer, Todd D. – Rochester, St. John
- Bauer, Nancy K. Kiel – Bay City, St. John
- Bean, Christina L. Silvey – Utica, Trinity
- Becker, Kimberle L. Wright – Lansing, Our Savior
- Beckman, Katherine S. Krieger – Sawyer, Trinity
- Bernau, Jonathan P. – Bay City, St. John
- Berns, Nancy E. Jung – Monroe, Trinity
- Bierlein, Mary B. Bauer – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
- Blackwell, Judith J. Radthke – Dearborn, Emmanuel
- Blickensdorf, Jennifer L. – Macomb, Immanuel
- Block, Michelle R. Nielsen – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
- Bobowski, Benjamin – Lansing, Our Savior
- Boldt, John P. – Monroe, Trinity
- Bolt, Jonathan M. – Rochester, Living Word
- Bouma, Mari-Beth Ingalls – Grand Rapids, Immanuel
- Bower, Greta L. Cutter – Belleville, Open Arms
- Brand, Susan L. Gibson – Traverse City, Trinity
- Brandimore, Layna M. Schneider – Saginaw, Peace
- Brandt, Susan R. – Saginaw, Bethlehem
- Brenner, Mark D. – Bay City, St. John
- Briggs, Cynthia M. – Reese, Trinity
- Bronner, Jill J. Stamm – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
- Brooks, Jacquelin R. Walsh – Royal Oak, St. Paul
- Brown, Erika P. Heimsoth – Holt, St. Matthew
- Brown, Mark A. – Clinton Township, Trinity
- Brunk, Donna J. – Utica, Trinity
- Buchinger, Steven L. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
- Bunke, James E. – Sebawaing, Immanuel
- Bunkelman, James O. – Monroe, Trinity
- Carlton, Ruth M. Kell – Milford, Christ
- Case, Susan G. Grau – Saint Joseph, Trinity
- Celmer, Katrina L. – Fraser, St. John
- Chaiser, Elizabeth A. – Clinton Township, Trinity
- Chaplin, Heidi U. Klemm – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
- Childers, Frances M. Cashmer – Southgate, Christ the King

Clark, Dennis W. – Port Huron, Trinity
 Contreras, Andrew J. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Cowan, Beth A. – Muskegon, Our Redeemer
 Crawford, Jolene L. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Croucher, Sarah R. Steffe – Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
 Daniell, Sheri L. Gross – Lake Orion, Good Shepherd
 Davis, Kathryn R. Koenig – New Boston, St. John
 Davis, Leanne S. Schlaefke – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Decheim, Sandra E. Niemi – Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
 Degg, Pamela J. Drzyzga – Bay City, Zion
 DeLage, Deborah L. Knight – Southgate, Christ the King
 Delmotte, Karen M. Reichenbach – Utica, Trinity
 Dembeck, David E. – Macomb, St. Peter
 DeVoy, Tanya M. Walsh – Macomb, Immanuel
 Dickinson, Matthew T. – Traverse City, Trinity
 Dickinson, Melinda S. Bathke – Traverse City, Trinity
 Diroff, Jayne K. Kregel – Monroe, Holy Ghost
 Dockery, Daniel L. – Traverse City, Trinity
 Donal, Karyn M. – Farmington Hills, St. Paul's
 Draves, Thomas J. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Drinan, Lori J. Weir – Saginaw, Peace
 Drinane, Nicole R. Lovasz – Southgate, Christ the King
 Dunsmore, Sharon K. Bruns – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Durham, Darci – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Earley, Karen L. Gross Wolgast – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Efird, Rebecca L. Difatta – Southgate, Christ the King
 Eisenman, Barbara M. Kade – Dearborn, Guardian
 Eising, Christina E. Guettler – Royal Oak, St. Paul
 Emington, Stephanie J. – Conklin, Trinity
 Engelbrecht, Rachael A. Paterick – Lansing, Our Savior
 Engelhard, Cynthia M. Elston - Unionville, St. Paul
 Erfourth, Lee E. – Jackson, Trinity
 Erlenbeck, Jill A. Sherman – Bay City, Immanuel
 Ernst, Timothy L. – Saint Joseph, Trinity
 Etheridge, Kimberly D. – Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
 Evola, Julia C. Jankauskas – Macomb, St. Peter
 Eyster, Carol M. Simmons – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Eyster, Timothy K. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Faerber, Janise M. Lehl – New Boston, St. John
 Fahlsing, Gloria D. – Jackson, Trinity
 Faszholz, Mark A. – Utica, Trinity
 Fehn, Kelley J. Werdeman – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Fehn, Lynn A. Knoll – Saginaw, Good Shepherd
 Felten, Daniel L. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Fisk, Katrina A. Blackwell – Manistee, Trinity
 Frobelt, David P. – Rochester, St. John
 Frusti, Kathleen H. Robertson – Jackson, Trinity
 Fuller, Lynne E. Erikson – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Gakstatter, Kari S. Streeter – Bay City, Immanuel
 Gallagher, Megan J. – Clinton Township, Trinity
 Garcia, Justin N. – Bay City, St. Paul
 Garrabrant, Rachel A. Richert – Utica, Trinity
 Gehrs, Kathleen A. Sandfort – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Genthner, Clinton F. – Jackson, Trinity
 Geyer, Stephen H. – Flint, St. Paul
 Glumm, Julie K. Boes – Bay City, Zion
 Godbold, Ellen E. Stamm – Kentwood, St. Mark
 Grage, Glenn G. – Bay City, Faith
 Grams, Susan E. Ripke – Fraser, St. John
 Greer, Theresa M. Rosace – New Boston, St. John
 Greve, Karen L. Faszholz – Macomb, Immanuel
 Greve, Wendy F. Fischer – Lansing, Our Savior
 Grimm, Ellen K. Dedert – Montague, St. James
 Grimpo, R. Dwain – Bay City, Faith
 Grothaus, Timothy A. – Rochester, St. John
 Gruenhagen, Heather S. Thomson – Wayne, St. Michael
 Grupe, Michele S. Rebant – Utica, Trinity
 Gulliver, Holly A. – Saginaw, Peace
 Gust, Clara F. Gaffke – Port Hope, St. John
 Hackbarth, Tracey J. Norenberg – Monroe, Trinity
 Hagenow, Margaret A. Schroeder – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Hansell, Christopher G. – New Boston, St. John
 Harris, Dawn M. – Utica, Trinity
 Harris, Valerie J. – Utica, Trinity
 Hartfield, Kathryn J. Sattler – Saint Joseph, Trinity
 Hauser, Briana L. McCray – Saginaw, Peace
 Havers, Brenda E. Krzyske – Utica, Trinity
 Hawkins, Wendy A. – Utica, Trinity
 Hecht, Annie R. Buchanan – Portage, St. Michael
 Heck, David P. – Utica, Trinity
 Heck, Zonna L. King – Big Rapids, St. Peter's
 Hegenauer, Diane L. Heyl – Wayne, St. Michael
 Heinert, Karla S. – Dearborn, Guardian
 Heissenbuettel, Monica M. Frank – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Helmreich, Harry J. – Traverse City, Trinity
 Hempel, Ruth R. Dornfeld – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 Hermann, Randi S. Rush – Southgate, Christ the King
 Hildebrand, Laura A. Giger – Stevensville, Christ
 Hilsabeck, Janet E. Roberts – Macomb, Immanuel
 Hindenach, Deanna J. Brill – Paw Paw, Trinity
 Hoch, Judith L. Bohl – Alpena, Immanuel
 Hoefl, James M. – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
 Hoefl, Karen R. Ging – Westland, St. Matthew
 Holtzen, Richard O. – Monroe, Trinity
 Holzer, Katie A. Hermann – Southgate, Christ the King
 Hyslop, Dora J. Pingel – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Jackemeyer, Susan E. Oberhaus – Stevensville, Christ
 Jackson, Kristen M. Nagy Heyniger – New Boston, St. John
 Jacques, Krista E. Pfeiffer – Macomb, Immanuel
 Jammer, Bonnie M. – Auburn, Zion
 Janetzke, Kristen S. Billig – Rochester, Living Word
 Jaremba, Marcia S. Sonnenberg – Flint, St. Paul
 Johnson, Andrea E. – Macomb, St. Peter
 Jones, Amanda R. Kajala – Flint, St. Paul
 Jones, Katherine A. Schafer – Holt, St. Matthew
 Jones, Leah M. Schiefer – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Kaiser, Erika J. Goebel – Sebewaing, Immanuel
 Kaschube, Elizabeth M. Ueckert – Muskegon, Trinity
 Keinath, Julie L. Hooper – Millington, St. Paul
 Keinath, Kay A. VanPetten – Millington, St. Paul
 Keller, Michael T. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Kelly, Kimberly A. – Saint Joseph, Trinity
 Kern, Kimberly L. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Keup, Aaron W. – Reed City, Trinity
 Keup, Joel A. – Saginaw, Peace
 Kirchenberg, Mark R. – Manistee, Trinity
 Kirchoff, David W. – Macomb, Immanuel
 Kitzman, Laura A. Benson – Northville, St. Paul
 Klauer, Susan E. Goebel – Millington, St. Paul
 Klausmeier, Veronica M. Danne – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Koboldt, Mary E. Dietzel – Saginaw, Peace
 Kohn, Dawn M. Rudnick – Grand Haven, St. John's
 Kolberg, Deborah L. Ziebart – Grand Haven, St. John's
 Konkel, Lynnette S. Jensen – Southgate, Christ the King
 Kooi, Patti J. Walter – Grand Haven, St. John's
 Korbely, Marie A. Engelhardt – Fraser, St. John
 Koschmann, Mark E. – Midland, St. John's
 Kosmatka, Amy B. Kosmatka Swim – Macomb, St. Peter
 Krause, Beth E. Appold – Lansing, Our Savior
 Krause, Jennifer L. Dietrich – Richville, St. Michael's
 Krc, Mary E. – Saginaw, Holy Cross
 Kressbach, Frederick M. – Macomb, Immanuel
 Krieger, Ruth A. Dubke – Berrien Springs, Trinity
 Kundinger, Debra J. Bach – Sebewaing, Immanuel
 Kuri, Rebekah L. Bullock – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 LaFontaine, Cindy R. Havemeier – Grand Blanc, Faith
 Lanning, Chantal M. Kulczycki – Shelby Township, Peace
 Latin, Keri M. Urban – Reed City, Trinity
 Laux, Elizabeth A. Krenz – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Leidecker, Karla J. Thanepohn – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 Lewis, Lori J. Kell – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Lindenfelder, Lynn M. Duhl – Dearborn, Guardian
 List, Vicky L. Schreiner – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Lockhart, Susan J. Smith – Utica, Trinity

Lucas, John K. – Utica, Trinity
 Lyon, David R. – China, Shanghai, Concordia International
 Machemer, Susan M. Teske – Fraser, St. John
 Mackie, Ruth E. Garchow – Conklin, Trinity
 Makowski, Rebecca L. – Saginaw, Peace
 Manthei, Gregory W. – New Boston, St. John
 Marshall, Lisa M. Gilchrist – Holt, St. Matthew
 Martin, Kathy A. – Bay City, Zion
 Matasovsky, Dina C. Cristante – Wayne, St. Michael
 Mazur, Tammy E. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 McClatchey, Rita I. Simanis – Royal Oak, St. Paul
 McCollister, Allison M. Drake – Northville, St. Paul
 McDonald, Andrea M. Armstrong Ott – Saginaw, Peace
 McDonald, Deborah M. Crosby – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 McGrath, Janis M. Movsesian – Fraser, St. John
 McQueen, Carla J. Wardin – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Meckes, Hannah K. Maske – Bridgeport, Faith (Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz)
 Meier, Jessica L. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Meier, Roger E. – Saint Joseph, Trinity
 Meier, William F. – Midland, St. John's
 Mills, Ellen K. Baker – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
 Milz, Carolyn E. – Monroe, Trinity
 Moehring, Mary M. Bahr – Manistee, Trinity
 Monroe, Kelly M. Muehlbrandt – Fraser, St. John
 Moon, Kathryn J. Schlieger – Flint, St. Paul
 Mueller, Dawn M. Klein – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Myers, Paula M. Heddle – Utica, Trinity
 Nelson, Gary R. – Rochester, St. John
 Neumeyer, Karen B. Koenig – Rochester, St. John
 Neumeyer, Sarah – Shelby Township, Peace
 Neumeyer, Scott R. – Saginaw, Peace
 Newton, LaRayne S. Stanek – Richville, St. Michael's
 Nimtz, Wendy E. Blus – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Noel, Marie A. Fetterer – Northville, St. Paul
 Novak, Julie M. Spurgat – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Olsen, Matthew W. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 O'Meara, Elizabeth E. Plaehn – Macomb, Immanuel
 Ott, Donna J. Paris – Saginaw, Peace
 Otto, Jane M. – Macomb, St. Peter
 Palm, Lori A. Montney – Flint, St. Paul
 Palmreuter, David W. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Paluch, Beth A. Hesterman – Muskegon, Trinity
 Parks, Trevor A. – Saginaw, Bethlehem
 Pearson, Kathryn L. Kraai – Richville, St. Michael's
 Pettibone, Katherine L. – Macomb, Immanuel
 Petzold, Christina C. Schoenknecht – Saginaw, Immanuel
 Pfeiffer, Ann M. Kaiser – Westland, St. Matthew
 Pfund, Jonathan D. – Rochester, St. John
 Piasecki, Allison J. Leach – Macomb, Immanuel
 Pichan, Thomas A. – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
 Pierce, Deborah A. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Pifer, Christine A. Gentz – Eastpointe, St. Thomas
 Pike, Kamie L. Reinbold – Reese, Trinity
 Pittman, Janel D. – Saginaw, Peace
 Priehs, Warren W. – Shelby Township, Peace
 Prusak, Kathleen A. Hollman – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 Quade, Karen J. – Rogers City, St. John
 Rapson, Andrea K. Beck – Harbor Beach, Zion
 Rasmussen, Sarah E. – Bay City, Faith
 Rathje, Lynda L. Scarr – Port Huron, Trinity
 Rauschert, Cynthia K. Appold – Bay City, St. John
 Reck, Jennifer D. Glahn – Muskegon, Trinity
 Reinert, Daniel M. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Reinhardt, Karen S. Krohe – New Boston, St. John
 Revard, Stephanie R. Weldon – Saginaw, Holy Cross
 Richardson, Brenda C. Koglin – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 Ritz, Wanda L. – Macomb, St. Peter
 Roberts, Gerald M. – Grand Rapids, Our Savior
 Roedel, Martin O. – Farmington Hills, St. Paul's
 Rolf, Cheryl J. Hahn – Troy, St. Augustine
 Rosentreter, Kathy E. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Rossi, Jennifer S. Haglund – Saginaw, Peace
 Rudolph, Erin L. – Clinton Township, Trinity
 Saleska, Candice O. Noelker – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Samsell, Christopher N. – Bay City, Immanuel
 Sankey, Margaret A. Orman – Dearborn, Guardian
 Sarkkinen, Amy A. – Sturgis, Trinity
 Schafer, Joyce L. Unverfehrt – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Schaffer, Joel P. – New Boston, St. John
 Schamber, Bonnie L. Struck – Unionville, St. Paul
 Scheeres, Maribeth – Farmington Hills, St. Paul's
 Scheiwe, Wendy A. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Schettenhelm, Karla J. Witt – Livonia, Christ Our Savior
 Schiefer, Mark T. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Schilling, Rebecca A. Massel – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 Schilling, Timothy R. – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 Schmit, Steven P. – Fraser, St. John
 Schnack, Deborah G. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Schoenherr, Barbara I. Jammer – Auburn, Zion
 Schoenknecht, Paul R. – Millington, St. Paul
 Schroeder, Samantha J. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Schwaegerle, Judy L. – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
 Seibel, Diane L. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Sellers, Tammy L. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Shaffer, John O. – Rochester, St. John
 Sheppard, Loren K. Popke – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
 Siekmann, Timothy C. – Utica, Trinity
 Sievert, David R. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Singer, Connie L. Ziegler – Millington, St. Paul
 Smith, Mary-Bethany A. Atkins – Bay City, St. John
 Smith, Kyle J. – Saginaw, Immanuel
 Snyder, Brigid A. – Utica, Trinity
 Spanos, Esther M. Giese – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Springer, Joel W. – Rochester, Living Word
 Stanley, Lisa S. – Bay City, St. Paul
 Stathakis, Carol B. Schnake – Macomb, St. Peter
 Steffens, Heather A. Dorn – Saint Joseph, Trinity
 Stockmeyer, Heidi M. – Clinton Township, Trinity
 Streeter, Kim E. – Macomb, St. Peter
 Strefling, Jessica L. – Midland, St. John's
 Stresman, Kevin D. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Swazey, Angela N. Kelly – Fraser, St. John
 Tapling, Rachel E. Roth – Shelby Township, Peace
 Thomas, Terri M. Smith – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 Toman, Laura K. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Topel, Matthew – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Topel, Wendy S.C. VanBreda – Fraser, St. John
 Trinklein, Susan M. Blattner – Shelby Township, Peace
 Tucker, Lori D. Hegler – Saginaw, Bethlehem
 Twork, Clara J. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Ulmer, Laurie L. Bonzchowski – Stevensville, Christ
 Valente, Elizabeth A. Mooney – Jackson, Trinity
 Voelz, Robert T. – Southgate, Christ the King
 Wahl, Courtney L. – Royal Oak, St. Paul
 Walter, Teresa I. Holle – Millington, St. Paul
 Walters, Paulette E. – Sturgis, Trinity
 Wargo, Nicole N. Hurttgam – Macomb, St. Peter
 Wascher, Charridan A. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Wascher, Erin M. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Washburn, Debra S. Kohler – Macomb, St. Peter
 Webb, Neil F. – Big Rapids, St. Peter's
 Weber, Carol A. Kamasis – Millington, St. Paul
 Wegener, LuAnne S. – Auburn, Zion
 Weidner, Christina M. Hile – Reese, Trinity
 Weiss, Muriel J. Pingel – Saginaw, Immanuel
 Weiss, Stephanie D. – Harbor Beach, Zion
 Weiss, Theodore P. – Sebawaing, Immanuel
 Welch, Jennifer J. – Grand Rapids, Immanuel
 Wentzel, Anne C. – Kentwood, St. Mark
 Werschky, Sharon L. Schnitker – Sebawaing, Immanuel
 Wesenberg, Deborah L. Galford – Utica, Trinity
 Weston, Amy J. Osborne – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Wheeler, Julie A. Bittner – Reese, Trinity
 White, Pamela K. Ochs – Alpena, Immanuel

Williamson, Katie L. Widstrand – Warren, Peace
Winston, Valerie J. – Royal Oak, St. Paul
Wisniewski, Rebecca R. Rosso – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
Witchger, Ann G. Gerstacker – Saginaw, Peace
Wyman, Kelly A. Blomstrom – Bay City, St. Paul
Yoder, Jennifer A. Gremel – Unionville, St. Paul
Young, Courtney A. Campbell – Stevensville, Christ
Zeddies, Michael F. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz

Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit

Looker, Paul J. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit
Meseke, Steven D. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit

Principals in Lutheran High Schools

Brandt, John M. – Saginaw, Valley Lutheran High School
Garrabrant, Steven A. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Reincke, John M. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Schwecke, Steven A. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland

Assistant Principals in Lutheran High Schools

* Hardy, Timothy D. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
* McDonald, Ian K. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
* Wade, Kevin A. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland

* Indicates Assistant Principal/Teacher

Educators in Lutheran High Schools

Angers, Kristine A. Martz – Wyoming, West Michigan Lutheran High
Blake, Jennifer L. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Brandt, John E. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Brown, David C. – Newport, Lutheran High South
Cooper, Amy M. Morton – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Cooper, Benjamin P. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Davis, Jeffrey M. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Doyle, Barbara E. Stoll – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Dumar, John E. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Ebel, William H. Jr. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Eschmann, Paul D. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Faszholz, Gary W. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Felten, Mark G. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Ferguson, Steven J. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Fink, Kelly L. Wiegand – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Frank, Jon D. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Grobely, Cheryl A. Hoscheit – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Guenther, Douglas D. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Guse', Paul B. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Gutenkunst, Gary A. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Hardies, Michael A. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Haupt, Natalie A. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Hinck, John T. – Westland, St. Matthew
Hofmeister, Kurt R. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Horvath, Brian R. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Jagoda, Pamela J. Mendieta – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Jordan, Sharon B. Berry – Newport, Lutheran High South
Justice, Donald C. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Keller, Connie J. Witt – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Kleine, Racheal A. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Kratz, Dean E. – Macomb, Lutheran High North

Meyer, David J. – Wyoming, West Michigan Lutheran High
Meyers, Lisa H. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Mueller, Lindsay E. Meyer – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Noelker, James E. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Pollatz, Brian M. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Prechel, Dennis O. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Rochlitz, David W. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Roekle, Thomas H. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Rogers, Randall J. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Ruth, David G. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Schaidt, Lauren A. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Schlak, Stephanie M. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Schlump, Alex – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Schuetz, Christina Strauchman – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Smith, Eric R. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Sprow, Keith R. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Stahlecker, Karla M. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Thompson, Steven L. – Wyoming, West Michigan Lutheran High
Topel, Timothy L. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Unger, Allison M. Meineke – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Unger, Daniel E. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Unger, Michael E. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Vincent, Heath D. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
von der Lage, Ruth Ann Meseke – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Weber, Karlton R. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Weilnau, Jeanette N. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Wesley, Ryan E. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Winter, Elizabeth A. Turanski – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Wolf, Charles H. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Wyly, Jeaneen T. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Zill, Steven E. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High

Directors of Christian Education

Anderson, James C. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Arnett, Gregory S. – Caro, St. Paul
Auger, Robert G. – Bad Axe, Our Savior
Bira, Carolyn I. Spatz – Flushing, Holy Cross
Brown, David E. – Clinton Township, Trinity
Busse, Donald R. – Trenton, St. Paul
Chapman, Darius M. – Macomb, St. Peter
Esselman, Luke M. – Coopersville, Grace
Furr, Ruth C. Smeeding – Saginaw, Holy Cross
Grannis, Kristy M. Abel – Belleville, Open Arms
Grube, Aaron E. – Kalamazoo, Zion
Hausch, Michael F. – Hamburg, St. Paul
Hollman, Linda M. Kirchner – Livonia, Christ Our Savior

Hueseman, James I. – Jenison, Holy Cross
Oldenburg, Craig S. – Gowen, Camp Concordia
Otrhalik, Kevin D. – Paw Paw, Trinity
Rupe, Dawn M. Ruelle – Saline, Christ Our King
Schoepp, Mark L. – Gladwin, Our Savior
Schultz, David M. – Bay City, St. Paul
Schutt, Kim D. – Trenton, St. Paul
Stark, Debora A. – Midland, St. John's
Steinke, Eric D. – Adrian, St. John's
Welte, John A. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
Wilson, Steven R. – Big Rapids, St. Peter's
Zielke, Adolph E. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul

Deaconesses

Bielby, Sara M. – Monroe, Immanuel
Engelking, Cynthia L. – Richmond, St. Peter's
Johnson, Rebecca E. Rockrohr – Hillsdale, St. Paul's
Longmire, Sarah A. – Traverse City, Trinity
McCain, Jean A. Geipel – Auburn, Grace
Schultz, Sarah M. – Traverse City, Trinity

Directors of Family Life

Easterday, Paul R. – Ann Arbor, St. Luke
Gleim, Laura M. – Millington, St. Paul
Kittleman, Joshua B. – Shelby Township, Peace
Kral, John T. – Shelby Township, Shepherd's Gate
Leeds, Ashleigh N. – Muskegon, Trinity

Longden, Daniel R. – Charlotte, First
Marshall, Margaret I. E. – Bloomfield Hills, Cross Of Christ
Meinert, Rose E. – Flint, St. Mark
Ribar, Vicki L. Booker – Fenton, Trinity

Directors of Parish Music

Chaveriat, Charles A. – Richville, St. Michael's
Hilfiker, Johanna L. – Saginaw, Holy Cross
Hoehne, Matthew J. – Livonia, Christ Our Savior
Hyslop, Scott M. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Peters, Mark G. – Leland, Immanuel
Schimm, Alisha D. Bohnert – Midland, St. John's

Parish Assistants

Chester, Thomas B. – Haslett, St. Luke
Krueger, Richard C. – Grand Rapids, Messiah
Tedesco, Kimberly J. Richalt – Lapeer, St. Paul

Lay Ministers

Seehafer, Tyler N. – Utica, Trinity

Special Ministries

Ashley, Jeremy R. – Clinton Township, Trinity
Aughe, Kent J. – Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods
Baughman, Terry A. – Waterford, St. Stephen
Bickel, Randall J. – Birch Run, St. Martin
Bode, Timothy A. – Southgate, Christ the King
Carrier, Lori J. Grimshaw – Flint, St. Mark
Colley, Ann M. Fisher – Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
Faith, Scott M. – Muskegon, St. Mark
Fanta, Amy L. Carrier – Roseville, Octane Ministry
Geikas, Sarah M. Kaufman – Bay City, Immanuel
Hohnstadt, Rebecca S. – Warren, Holy Cross
Hooper, Susan L. Repp – Grand Blanc, Faith
Horak, John B. – Lansing, Our Savior
Johnson, Christine A. Eberhard – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
Karlin, Daniel W. – Utica, Trinity
Kernstock, Patricia J. – Utica, Trinity
Klages, Kenneth J. – Saginaw, Peace
Koch, Beverly J. – Rochester, St. John

Kolb, Arlene C. – Troy, Faith
Kruger, Nancy E. – Macomb, Immanuel
Krupsky, Harold K. – Troy, Faith
Kwapis, Nicholas A. – Rochester, St. John
Machemer, Melvin A. – Fraser, St. John
Matthias, John W. – Detroit, Peace
McNeil, David A. – Saline, Christ Our King
Miller, Tammy L. Wendland – Waterford, St. Stephen
Milz, G. David – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
Minda, Keith A. – Saginaw, Peace
Mol, James M. – Flint, St. Mark
Mueller, Scott R. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Nimtz, Mark A. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
Paul, Gregory L. – Royal Oak, St. Paul
Pawlitz, Gary L. – Macomb, Immanuel
Sheldon, David A. – Utica, Trinity
von Fange, Susan D. – Clinton Township, Trinity
Wieneke, Lori S. MacKay – Grand Rapids, St. Matthew

Lutheran Special Education Ministries

Schneider, Janis E.
Schumacher, Linda L. Laux

Concordia University Ann Arbor

Christopher, Steven L.
Chuhran, Kyle B.
Freudenburg, Benjamin F.
Jones, Karen B. Peterson
Kalmes, Michael W.

Looker, Mark S.
McKinney, Robert D.
Moro, Martin L. III
Refenes, James L.
Sankey, Thad J.

Schmit, Harvey M.
Schumacher, Joshua S.
Skov, Neil M.
Weisenbach, Janice L. Dove

Candidates

Arrick, Mary S. Petzold
Bierlein, Heather M. Shirley
Bringer, David J.
Fish, Sarah E.
Genig, Dennis K.
Genthner Jr., Richard G.
Gibson, Debra S.
Havrilcsak, Laura A. Hart
Hoeft, Terry L.
Kayser, Doris A.
Klamer, Melissa J. Gunlock

Kleimola, David A.
Krone, James R.
Morris, Cheryl J.
Newell, Johanna F. Eschmann
Newman, Kimberly A. LaBine
O'Boyle, Sharilyn M. Specht
Pendley, David W.
Reiser, Sandra K.
Rockrohr, Deborah L. Roth
Schimm, Naomi R. Rush

Schnack, John C.
Seguin, Kathleen J. Auch
Smith, Jennifer M. Schaedig
Topham, Roxanne S. Schmerheim
Vicari, Matthew V.
Wade, Christine L. Koenig
Webb, Angela D. Eisman
Weiss, Rebecca A. Lenenbauer
Wolfe, Emily C. Gau
Young, Kathryn J. Grush

Non-Candidates

Bartok, Kimberly J. Reimann
Baye, Megan E. Tindall
Berthold, Ann L. Williams
Biermann, Heather L.
Choroba, Katherine J. Kuhl Poisson
Clark, Mary E. Williams
Davis, Elizabeth I. MacKenzie
Demo, Maida R. Sevon
DeVries, Kristi K.
Dopp, Sherry E. Eggert
Duclos, Rebecca L. Arnholt
Ebel, Anne M. Frank
Enge, Heidi A. Seiter
Felten, Jolyn R. Daenzer
Feustel, Stefanie E. Davey
Forster, Jonathan D.
Garcia, Adan C.
Gerken, Terri N. Neer
Gledhill, Kristin A. Artherton
Goers, Bethany L. Ketcher
Grays, Jean M. Overgaard
Grenz, Melinda S.
Griffin, Shirley A. Grayson
Gruber, Mary M. Janssens
Grueber, David J.
Hardy, Kristin E. Hirt

Heissenbuettel, Brenda M.
Hessler, Lindsey S. Raney
Hinz, Rachel G. Cousino
Holtzen, Mary K. Garchow
Howard, Kelly L.
Johnson, Emily D. Chapman
Jung, Christopher D.
Kaelberer, Jay A.
Kasper, Deborah L. Brandt
Kirchhoff, Susan K. Smith
Lemke, Jane E.
Lovett, Jillian K. McNally
Lyvere, Gary D.
McLoughlin, Mark E.
Mehltretter, Andrew W.
Merz, Jessica L. Stoltenberg
Meyer, Katherine M. Davis
Meyer, Kelly M. Grabarczyk
Miller, Jennifer A.
Moilanen, Karen K. Hemming
Mueller, Walter O.
Nieman, Emilee R.
Niska, Heidi A. Bowman
Oldenburg, Mary K. Brown
Phillips, Anne M. Hoft

Ristow, Beth A. Aufdemberge
Rohde, Molly J. Helmreich
Sankey, Brent T.
Schaedig, Kelli R.
Scheske, Melissa M.
Schmidt, Kurt E.
Schmit, Abigail R. Werner
Schurig, Kathy A. Fritz
Smith, Gail H. Graham
Spencer, Jesseca L. Starr
Steffens, Carl M.
Stevenson, Jennifer R. O'Connell
Tomashewsky, Suzanne B. Birkholz
Toth, Annalisa J. Winget
Troxel, Christopher D.
Van Zweden, Kelli M. Gronewelt
Vincent, Rebecca C. Timm
Vogel, Meghan K. Mahler
Wagner, Erin R. St. Bernard
Wangelin, Kristin J.
Wells, Timothy M.
Wenzel, Pamela B.
Wills, Paul R.
Wright, Jonathan K.
Zink, Charlene J. Little

Emeriti

Arrick, Mary S. Petzold
Bierlein, Heather M. Shirley
Bringer, David J.
Fish, Sarah E.
Adams, Joyce A. Schmidt
Adler, Barbara J. Laughlin
Allen, Ronald M.
Altevogt, Lester L.
Argue, Joanne R. Prudek
Attenberger, David F.
Aubuchon, Barbara A. Hoeft
Aufdemberge, Erwin J.
Aufdemberge, Theodore P.
Bailey, Bonnie L. Banash
Beardsley, Ronald L.
Behm, Constance R. Rengstorf

Bender, Edgar L.
Bergant, Virginia A. Albers
Bergkoetter, Molly A. Schechte
Beringer, Daniel W.
Beringer, Gloria L. Gehner
Beyer, Marilyn A.
Bickel, Elaine C. Petzold
Bishop, Mary J. Lutz
Blake, Sharon E. Rachow
Block, Marajeane A. Palmreuter
Block, Richard A.
Boldt, Harold James
Brauer, Ethan R.
Brautnick, Janice M. McGorman
Bremer, David A.
Bresemann, Linda G. Houren

Bresemann, Perry A.
Bruenger, A. Kenneth
Buchinger, Lori A. Haines
Campbell, Gary H.
Carlson, Sandra L. Gresham Mendians
Carroll, Dorothy M. Bartusch
Christian, Robert J.
Christiansen, Alfred O.
Conger, Norene J. Hass
Covell, Mary A. Hein
Daenzer, Katherine L. Hoops
Danz, Shirley M. Walenter
Davis, Terry M.
Dean, Karen A. Werth
DeMeyere, Roger
Dickhudt, Robert J.

Difatta, David C.
 Doeblner, Lynda M.
 Dohrmann, Aaron C.
 Dohrmann, Jane M. Bergman
 Dressler, Ronald L.
 Dubke, Darwin C.
 Dunklau, Edward H.
 Dunklau, Linda J. Bork
 Eckert, Lorraine R. Kissau
 Edenfield, Marilyn J. Kluck
 Eisman, Kathleen S. Ott
 Erber, Glenn R.
 Farrand, Thomas J.
 Fechik, Carol A. Voss
 Finkel, Linda L. Callender
 Fisceri, Darlene N. Behling
 Fischer, Karen E. Murphy
 Fish, Dale W.
 Fischer, Dennis H.
 Florip, Eunice E. Merz
 Frank, George C.
 Fredrich, Peter D.
 Freudenburg, Curtis C.
 Fricke, John M.
 Gallagher, John J.
 Gallert, Frederick D.
 Gast, Carolyn R. Fischer
 Gast, Frederick J.
 Geil, Jean R. Hendrich Sundell
 Gengler, Constance C. Koester
 Gerds, Fredrick A.
 Gerlach, Eileen K. Altenburg
 Gerlach, John W.
 Germeroth, Paul L.
 Gibson, Lisette L. Lueker
 Gierach, Raymond C.
 Gioe, Christopher M.
 Gioe, Louise E. Scheueman
 Glotzhober, Alyce K. Kraepel
 Goehmann, Rodney P.
 Goetz, Lois A. Mortensen
 Green, Sheila M. Patchett
 Gremel, Bruce A.
 Grese, Susan J. Turner
 Gresens, Walter F.
 Grigg, Pauline E. Schoenfeld
 Groll, David H.
 Grupe, Elizabeth F. Reinboth
 Grupe, Larry R.
 Guenther, Vernon C.
 Gugel, Ruth E. Kregel
 Hackbarth, Richard O.E.
 Haegele, Dennis F.
 Hall, Carl G.
 Hanke, Elsie C. Hesemann
 Hass, Kenneth E.
 Headapohl, Virginia A. Randall
 Helmreich, Christine A. Studt
 Hilken, John C.
 Himmler, Marvin M.
 Hiske, Beverly G.
 Hoch, Arthur G.
 Hoerauf, Karen F. Strickert
 Hollrah, Deanna S.
 Holste, Herman M.
 Hopp, Jerry L.
 Hurd, James A.
 Hurd, Loraine K. Einspahr
 Kacmar, Dawn S. Gerike
 Kaiser, Roy G.
 Karsten, Beverly M. Wegner
 Kaschinske, Kenneth A.
 Kell, Delmar A.
 Kell, Luther P.
 Kell, Mary L. Brubaker
 Kempff, Elna M.
 Kern, Bonnie L. Leidel
 Kern, Dennis L.
 Kern, Loretta L. Gehrke
 Kern, Stuart C.
 Keup, Karen L. Von Behren
 Keup, Ronald W.
 Klausmeier, Caroline L. Hartwig
 Klintworth, Kathryn G. Kunkel
 Klug, David H.
 Knopp, Allen M.
 Knuth, Fred F.
 Kohtz, Roger O.
 Kosmatka, Bruce J.
 Kovtun, George G.
 Krach, George M.
 Krause, Alan C.
 Krause, Sandra L. Grousnick
 Krone, Shirley M. Miller
 Krone, Walter K.
 Kruse, Lavern R.
 Kugler, Colleen J. Klahn
 Kurth, Ruth J.
 Kurtz, Nancy C. Bromund
 Kuschmann, Margie A. Linder
 Kuschmann, Helmut P.
 Kuske, Mary E. Moll
 Kutz, Cathy A. Gerds
 Kutz, John C.
 Laeder, Leroy D.
 Lanning, Joyce A. Owen
 Laubsch, Terry J.
 Leatzow, Edward A.
 Leidecker, Shirley A. Hantak
 Leidich, Roy E.
 Leinberger, David W.
 Lemke, George F.
 Lenghart, Susan M. Mitchell
 Lienau, Jane E. Mund
 List, Rose M. Sachtleben
 Locke, George M.
 Lockhart, Carol E. Jennejahn
 Lockhart, John W.
 Loomans, Lowell A.
 Louden, Sandra J.
 Mahler, Richard J.
 Mahler, William A.
 Marino, Quentin M.
 Marxhausen, Gary P.
 Masengarb, Virginia R. Ungrodt
 Matzke, Sally L. Ebert
 McNally, Brian D.
 McNeeley, Mark E.
 Meinert, Robert W.
 Merrill, Kenlyn S. Weller
 Meyer, David J.
 Meyers, Anita G. Steufert
 Michael, Patricia M. Sadlon
 Miles, Robert G.
 Miller, Herman F.
 Milnikel, Jenifer J. Engel
 Moehring, David P.
 Moerer, Lucille P.
 Mohlenhoff, Richard W.
 Mohlenhoff, William H.
 Moldenhauer, Herbert C.
 Moritz, Lorelle R. Baumgart
 Muck, Susan K. Thumm
 Mueller, Robert K.
 Muhl, Carol M. Anderson
 Naber, Darrell H.
 Nelson, Geraldine E. Menth
 Neuhart, Norma D.
 Neu, Coral L.
 Neumann, Gary J.
 Neumeyer, Marsha J. Jastram
 Nieman, Anna E. Kanning
 Nieman, Lenore K. Kelly
 Nightlinger, Cathy J.
 Nihiser, Jane A. Wollenburg
 Nobili, Linda D. Davidson
 Nobis, Judy A. Hospodar
 Nobis, Lloyd B.
 Olson, John R.
 Opel, Edgar L.
 Opel, Robert Warren
 Otto, Phyllis F. Foreman
 Pagano, MaryAnn Sembach
 Pagels, Doris E. Meyermann
 Pagels, James D.
 Pakkala, Deborah L. Falck
 Palmer, Rachel M.
 Pankow, Shirley M. Mosch
 Paselk, Renate E. Erhardt
 Pauli, Elaine E.
 Pawlitz, Carol J. McCollum
 Pedersen, Fred R.
 Pfannkuch, Darrell L.
 Pickelman, Maureen R.
 Pickelmann, Henry M.
 Pittman, Eric G.
 Priehs, Warren F.
 Primeau, Douglas A.
 Priskorn, Gary J.
 Quade, Gene W.
 Rademacher, JoAnn A. Zimmerman
 Randall, Sally A. Barry
 Rankin, Patricia A. Alderman
 Rashid, Janet M. Schott
 Rawson, Kathleen N. Glade
 Riske, Ralph H.
 Rodriguez, Teresita Pedmaja
 Rockensuess, Sr., Larry H.
 Roggatz, George R.
 Rolf, Elda C. Elbert
 Romp, Wilbert F.
 Roth, Carlyn J. Hodde
 Roth, James A.
 Roth, Leslie D.
 Rudick, Barbara A. Klug
 Samsell, Alva L.
 Sandor, Donald R.
 Schafer, Robert D.
 Scheiwe, Jean R. Rodammer
 Scheiwe, Warren A.
 Schempf, Richard H.
 Scherer, Ronald D.
 Schiemann, Kathleen R. Wardin
 Schilling, Raymond L.
 Schley, Margaret J. Trautman
 Schmid, Erna I. Baehr
 Schmidt, Dennis M.
 Schmidt, Paul M.
 Schmidt, Sandra J. Toennies
 Schmitt, Kristine E. Halon
 Schmucker, Calvin F.
 Schollmeyer, Robert C.
 Schroeder, Dorothy J. Succop
 Schroeder, Kenneth W.
 Schuck, Kathleen A. Alatalo
 Schultz, Patricia A. Nagel

Schultz, Robert L.
Schumacher, James L.
Schuster, Phil
Sebold, Marcia L. Mueller
Sheldon, Ernest L.
Siefker, Dorothy I. Lemkel
Siefker, Roy D.
Smith, Alice E. Kratt
Smith, James F. Jr
Sohn, Miriam L. Sattelmeier
Sonntag, Connie L. Kundinger
Spaeth, Carol R. Kionka
Standiford, Nancy L. Fahl
Steffens, Mark C.
Stevenson, Betty J. Potts
Stoll, Janet L. Johnson
Storck, Charles L.
Stordahl, Jean A. Weigt
Strang, Donna J. Reidenbach
Strang, William J.
Stresman, Kenneth C.
Stresman, Shirley M. Koeppen
Strohacker, Charles J.
Sturmfels, John H.
Sundermann, Dianne S.
Sutter, Irene T.
Taggart, Linda J. Lapinsky

Taylor, Marcia D.
Thunder-Haab, Keturah A. Thunder
Tiedje, Norman A.
Todt, John H.
Topel, Stanley R.
Trinklein, Rebecca M.
Truog, David J.
Truog, Susan L. Carroll
Van Dellen, Carol A. Harriman
Vanick, Edward W.
Vogtmann, Janet L. Roth
Volz, Karen R. Nitz
Von Behren, Erich W.
Von Fange, Erich A.
Vorwerk, Dale H.
Waak, LeMoyne D.
Waak, Vera C. Lovercamp
Wallace, Shirley M. Eggerding
Walz, Christine J.
Ward, Donna J. Feltner
Warnick, Harriet H. Lange
Warnick, Howard J.
Watson, Marie C. Buvelot
Weier, Kent G.
Wegener, Thomas L.
Weismantel, Paul O.

Weiss, Lori A.
Wellander, Ronald E.
Werderman, Amy L. Rohde
Westendorf, Karen S. Renkert
Wiersig, Christine C. AuBuchon
Wiersig, W. Dan
Wilke, Nancy E.
Wilks, Myril A.
Williams, Elizabeth V.
Williams, Judy E. Harmoning
Willis, Linda J. Eller
Winter, Paul G.
Winterstein, Charles A.
Witte, Lucie E. Stelter
Wittig, Evelyn D. Sell
Wittrock, John H.
Wood, Janice M.
Wrase, William R.
Wroblewski, Richard E.
Wuertz, Duane W.
Yelden, Susan I.
Young, Brian A.
Zappitell, Kathleen M. Gerber
Zehnder, James W.
Zehnder, Wilma Sherrill Moeckel
Zessin, Catherine E.

Ministers of Religion - Commissioned Roster Changes

March 8, 2012 to March 9, 2015

Entered the District Through Graduation or Colloquy

Armstrong, Kathryn P. (Chicago) to Monroe, Holy Ghost
Asiala, Douglas A. (Cq. Ann Arbor) Saint Johns, St. Peter
Baringer, Todd (Cq. Chicago) to Saint Joseph, Trinity
Barnes, Susan M. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Macomb, Immanuel
Barth, Rachael E. (Mequon) to Alpena, Immanuel
Bobowski, Benjamin (Mequon) to Lansing, Our Savior
Briggs, Cynthia M. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Reese, Trinity
Brown, Erika P. Heimsath (Ann Arbor) to Holt, St. Matthew
Butler, Harmon R. Jr. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Royal Oak, St. Paul
Chasier, Elizabeth A. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Clinton Township, Trinity
Drinane, Nicole R. Lovasz (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Southgate, Christ the King
Emington, Stephanie J. (Mequon) to Conklin, Trinity
Fink, Kelly L. Wiegand (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association
Gakstatter, Kari S. Streeter (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Bay City, Immanuel
Glumm, Julie K. Boes (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Bay City, Zion
Harris, Dawn M. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Utica, Trinity
Kamin, Jonathan M. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Saginaw, Immanuel
Keller, Michael T. (Chicago) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Kern, Hans H. (St. Paul) to Eastpointe, St. Peter's
Krc, Mary E. (Seward) to Saginaw, Holy Cross
Lockhart, Susan J. Smith (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Utica, Trinity
Lucas, John K. (Ann Arbor) to Utica, Trinity
Makowski, Rebecca L. (Ann Arbor) to Saginaw, Peace
McDaniel, Jennifer R. (Irvine) to Macomb, St. Peter
Meckes, Hannah K. Maske (Chicago) to Bridgeport, Faith (to serve at St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth)
Meier, William F. (Mequon) to Midland, St. John's
Milz, Carolyn E. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Monroe, Trinity
Neumeyer, Sarah (Ann Arbor) to Shelby Township, Peace
Noelker, James E. (Mequon) to Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association
Parks, Trevor A. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Saginaw, Bethlehem
Pettibone, Katherine L. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Macomb, Immanuel
Pittman, Janel D. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Saginaw, Peace
Richardson, Brenda C. Koglin (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Clinton Township, St. Luke
Rudolph, Erin L. (Saint Paul) to Clinton Township, Trinity
Schimm, Naomi (Chicago) to Bay City, Zion
Schlak, Stephanie M. (Ann Arbor) to Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association
Schmit, Steven P. (Ann Arbor) to Rogers City, St. John
Schroeder, Samantha J. (Chicago) to Walled Lake, St. Matthew
Sluis, Elizabeth M. (Chicago) to Berrien Springs, Trinity
Stahlecker, Karla M. (Seward) to Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High School
Thompson, Adrienne A. (Cq. Mequon) to New Boston, St. John
Vincent, Heath D. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High School
Walsh, Jacquelin B. (Ann Arbor) to Belleville, Open Arms
Wascher, Erin M. (Chicago) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Yoder, Jennifer A. Gremel (Cq. Ann Arbor) to St. Paul, Unionville
Zeddies, Brooke R. (Chicago) to New Boston, St. John

Newly Rostered Directors of Christian Education

Furr, Ruth C. Smeeding (Seward) to Saginaw, Holy Cross

Newly Rostered Deaconesses

Engelking, Cynthia L. (Fort Wayne) to Richmond, St. Peter's
Johnson, Rebecca E. Rockrohr (Chicago) to Hillsdale, St. Paul's

Newly Rostered Directors of Family Life

Leeds, Ashleigh N. (Ann Arbor) to Muskegon, Trinity
Marshall, David P. (Ann Arbor) to Ypsilanti, Cross & Resurrection
Marshall, Margaret I. E. (Ann Arbor) to Ypsilanti, Cross & Resurrection
Meinert, Rose E. (Ann Arbor) to Flint, St. Mark
Ribar, Vicki L. Booker (Ann Arbor) to Fenton, Trinity
Schmit, Abigail R. Werner (Ann Arbor) to Rogers City, Peace

Newly Rostered Directors of Parish Music

Bohnert, Alisha D. (Seward) to Midland, St. John's
Hilfiker, Johanna L. (Irvine) to Saginaw, Holy Cross

Transferred from Other Districts

Anderson, G. Peter (Northwest District) to Alpena, Immanuel
Anderson, Jean E. Behrens (Northwest District) to Alpena, Immanuel
Arrick, Mary S. Petzold (North Wisconsin District) as Candidate
Ashley, Jeremy R. (Minnesota South District) to Clinton Township, Trinity
Ball, Rebecca L. Bierlein (Eastern District) to Bay City, Immanuel
Bernau, Jonathan (Minnesota South District) to Bay City, St. John
Bird, Terry L. Smith (Missouri District) to St. Joseph, Trinity
Bishop, Mary J. Lutz (English District) as Emeritus
Blake, Jennifer L. (North Wisconsin District) to Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High School
Britton, John W. (Northern Illinois District) to Port Huron, Trinity
Celmer, Katrina L. (English District) to Fraser, St. John
Christopher, Steven L. (California-Nevada-Hawaii District) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Crawford, Jolene L. (California-Nevada-Hawaii District) to Richville, St. Michael's
Duclos, Rebecca L. Arnholt (Kansas District) to Lansing, Our Savior
Dummann, Matthew D. M. (Atlantic District) to Dearborn, Guardian
Durham, Darci (Ohio District) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Engelbrecht, Rachael A. Paterick (Missouri District) to Lansing, Our Savior
Engelhard, Marissa J. (English District) as Candidate
Faszholz, Mark A. (Missouri District) to Utica, Trinity
Fulmer, Marsha (Florida-Georgia District) as Non-Candidate
Gledhill, Kristin A. Arthurton (Missouri District) as Non-Candidate
Grams, Susan E. Ripke (English District) to Fraser, St. John
Grannis, Kristy M. Abel (Minnesota South District) to Belleville, Open Arms
Grenz, Melinda S. Scott (Northern Illinois District) as Non-Candidate
Griffin, Shirley A. Grayson (Atlantic District) as Non-Candidate
Grube, Aaron E. (Central Illinois District) to Kalamazoo, Zion
Hiske, Beverly G. (Southeastern District) as Emeritus
Hoffman, Tabitha M (Oklahoma District) to Fraser, St. John
Hohnstadt, Rebecca S. (Missouri District) to Warren, Holy Cross
Howard, Kelly L. (Kansas District) as Candidate
Jankauskas, Julie C. (Missouri District) to Macomb, St. Peter
Jenicek, Rebecca D. (Northwest District) to Holt, Messiah
Johnson, Andrea E. (Southern Illinois District) to Macomb, St. Peter
Johnson, Emily D. Chapman (Missouri District) as Candidate
Kayser, Doris A. (Minnesota South District) as Candidate
Longmire, Sarah A. (English District) to Traverse City, Trinity
Louden, Sandra J. (English District) as Emeritus
Lovett, Jillian K. McNally (Ohio District) as Non-Candidate
Mackie, Ruth E. Garchow (Minnesota South District) to Conklin, Trinity
Meier, Jessica L Denninger (Southeastern District) to Walled Lake, St. Matthew
Miller, Jennifer A. (Mid-South District) as Non-Candidate
Moritz, Joel W. (Northern Illinois District) to Paw Paw, Trinity
Moritz, Lorelle R. Baumgart (Northern Illinois District) as Emeritus
Nash, Patricia L. Barnhill (Indiana District) as Non-Candidate
Nieman, Emilee R. (Minnesota South District) as Non-Candidate
Noel, Marie A. Fetterer (Ohio District) as Candidate
Oldenburg, Craig S. (Rocky Mountain District) to Gowen, Camp Concordia
Oldenburg, Mary K. Brown (Rocky Mountain District) as Non-Candidate
Pahlkottter, Henry G. II (Minnesota South District) to Saginaw, Peace
Pehlke, Todd M. (North Wisconsin District) to Rochester, St. John
Petzold, Christina C. Schoenknech (North Wisconsin District) to Saginaw, Immanuel
Rasmussen, Sarah E. (Northern Illinois District) to Bay City, Faith
Reiser, Sandra K. (South Wisconsin District) as Candidate
Sankey, Brent T. (Florida-Georgia District) as Candidate
Sankey, Margaret A. Orman (Florida-Georgia District) to Dearborn, Guardian
Sankey, Thad J (Nebraska District) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Scheele, Dean M. (Minnesota South District) to Bay City, St. Paul
Schmitz, Mary L. Bergoldt Johnson (Mid-South District) as Non-Candidate
Schumacher, Joshua S. (Pacific Southwest District) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Schuster, Phil (California-Nevada-Hawaii District) as Emeritus
Scott, Aaron M. (South Wisconsin District) to Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
Steinke, Eric D. (Indiana District) as Candidate
Wade, Christine L. Koenig (Missouri District) to Candidate
Webb, Angela D. Eisman (Pacific Southwest District) as Candidate
Weiss, Lori A. (Minnesota North District) as Emeritus
Weiss, Rebecca A. Lenenbauer (California-Nevada-Hawaii District) as Candidate
Weiss, Theodore P. (California-Nevada-Hawaii District) to Sebewaing, Immanuel
Winterstein, Charles A (Mid-South District) as Emeritus
Young, Kathryn J. Grush (English District) as Candidate

Transferred Within the District

Barz, Daniel S. (Non-Candidate) to Buchanan, St. Paul (Ordained)
Baughman, Terry A. (Lake Orion, Good Shepherd) to Waterford, St. Stephen
Blackwell, Judith J. Radthke (Candidate) to Dearborn, Emmanuel
Block, Michelle R. Nielsen (Non-Candidate) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Bronner, Jill J. Stamm (Candidate) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Brooks, Jacquelin R. Walsh (Belleville, Open Arms) to Royal Oak, St. Paul
Burk, Daniel R. (Holt, St. Matthew) to Southgate, Christ the King
Chester, Thomas B. (Kentwood, St. Mark) to Haslett, St. Luke
Chuhran, Kyle B. (Macomb, St. Peter) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Contreras, Andrew J. (Richmond, St. Peter's) to Ann Arbor, St. Paul
Dunsmore, Sharon K. Bruns (Candidate) to Birmingham, Our Shepherd
Erlenbeck, Jill A. Sherman (Candidate) to Bay City, Immanuel
Etheridge, Kimberly D. (Candidate) to Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
Fahlsing, Gloria D. (Flint, St. Paul) to Jackson, Trinity
Felten, Daniel L. (Bridgeport, Faith) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Fischer, Melinda A. Wiersig (Candidate) to Clinton Township, St. Luke
Gallagher, Megan J. (Shelby Township) to Clinton Township, Trinity
Garrabrant, Rachel A. Richert (Non-Candidate) to Utica, Trinity
Geyer, Stephen H. (Waterford, St. Stephen) to Flint, St. Paul
Godbold, Ellen E. Stamm (Candidate) to Kentwood, St. Mark
Gruber, Mary M. Janssens (New Boston, St. John) to Monroe, Trinity
Hambaum, Patricia S. Stange (Candidate) to Richmond, St. Peter
Hambaum, Patricia S. Stange (Richmond, St. Peter) to Marlette, Our Savior
Hansell, Christopher G. (Candidate) to New Boston, St. John
Heinert, Karla S. (Waterford, St. Stephen) to Dearborn, Guardian
Heins, Eric J. (Monroe, Holy Ghost) to Lake Orion, Good Shepherd
Heissenbuettel, Monica M. Frank (Non-Candidate) to Ann Arbor, St. Paul
Hempel, Ruth R. Dornfeld (Northville, St. Paul) to Eastpointe, St. Peter's
Hempel, Ruth R. Dornfeld (Candidate) to Eastpointe, St. Peter's
Hildebrand, Laura A. Giger (Candidate) to Stevensville, Christ
Hilsabeck, Janet E. Roberts (Clinton Township, St. Luke) to Macomb, Immanuel
Howard, Kelly L. (Candidate) to Fraser, St. John
Hueseman, James I. (Gladwin, Our Savior) to Jenison, Holy Cross
Jordan, Sharon B. Berry (Southgate, Christ the King) to Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association
Kaiser David A. (Millington, St. Paul) to Sebewaing, Immanuel
Kaiser, Erika J. Goebel (Millington, St. Paul) to Sebewaing, Immanuel
Kaschube, Elizabeth M. Ueckert (Candidate) to Muskegon, Trinity
Kitzman, Laura A. Benson (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) to Northville, St. Paul
Klauer, Susan E. Goebel (Richmond, St. Peter's) to Millington, St. Paul
Kosmatka, Amy B. Kosmatka Swim (Saint Joseph, Trinity) to Macomb, St. Peter
Kwapis, Nicholas A. (Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association) to Rochester, St. John
Lanning, Chantal M. Kulczycki (Flint, St. Paul) to Shelby Township, Peace
Leidecker, Karla J. Thanepohn (Non-Candidate) to Eastpointe, St. Peter's
Marshall, Margaret I. E. (Cross & Resurrection, Ypsilanti) to Bloomfield Hills, Cross Of Christ
Massey, Brandley R. (Ann Arbor, St. Paul) to Big Rapids, St. Peter's
McCollister, Allison M. Drake (Candidate) to Northville, St. Paul
McDonald, Deborah M. Crosby (Rochester, Living Word) to Birmingham, Our Shepherd
Mueller, Scott R. (Bridgeport, Faith) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Myers, Paula M. Heddle (Candidate) to Utica, Trinity
Neumeyer, Dennis K. (Emeritus) to Bay City, St. Paul
Neumeyer, Karen B. Koenig (Waterford, St. Stephen) to Rochester, St. John
Newton, LaRayne S. Stanek (Candidate) to Richville, St. Michael's
Noel, Marie (Candidate) to Northville, St. Paul
O'Boyle, Sharilyn M. Specht (Non-Candidate) to Warren, Peace
Otto, Brenda L. (Candidate) to Midland, St. John's
Peters, Mark G. (Candidate) to Leland, Immanuel
Pidsosny, Mary L. Fenske (Non-Candidate) to Eastpointe, St. Peter's
Prusak, Kathleen A. Hollman (Dearborn, Emmanuel) to Monroe, Holy Ghost
Prusak, Kathleen A. Hollman (Monroe, Holy Ghost) to Clinton Township, St. Luke
Reck, Jennifer D. Glahn (Candidate) to Muskegon, Trinity
Rolf, Cheryl J. Hahn (Rochester, Living Word) to Troy, St. Augustine
Rolf, James E. (Non-Candidate) to Linden, Hope (Ordained)
Rudick, Annette K. (Auburn, Grace) to Bay City, Immanuel
Schmit, Harvey M. (Wayne, St. Michael) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Schmit, Steven P. (Rogers City, St. John) to Fraser, St. John
Schultz, Sarah M. (Clarkston, St. Trinity) to Traverse City, Trinity
Schumacher, Linda L. Laux (Macomb, St. Peter) to Farmington Hills, Lutheran Special Education Ministries
Schwaegerle, Judy L. (Candidate) to Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
Sheppard, Loren K. Popke (Farmington Hills, Lutheran Special Education Ministries) to Farmington Hills, St. Paul
Steinke, Eric D. (Candidate) to Adrian, St. John's

Stockmeyer, Heidi M. (Non-Candidate) to Clinton Township, Trinity
Tomaszewsky, Suzanne B. Birkholz (Candidate) to Non-Candidate
Trinklein, Susan M. Blattner (Candidate) to Shelby Township, Peace
Unger, Daniel E. (Fraser, St. John) to Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association
Vierегge, Keith L. (Candidate) to Clinton Township, St. Luke
Vogeli, Mitchell R. (Non-Candidate) to Ordained
Weisenbach, Janice L. Dove (Emeritus) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Weiss, Jared L. (Shelby Township, Peace) to Non-Candidate
Weiss, Jared L. (Non-Candidate) to Northville, St. Paul's
Wentzel, Anne C. (Non-Candidate) to Kentwood, St. Mark
Williamson, Katie L. Widstrand (Non-Candidate) to Warren, Peace

Transferred to Other Districts

Abraham, Caleb J.G. (Hemlock, St. Peter) to Florida-Georgia District
Abraham, Emily J. DeBoer (Hemlock, St. Peter) to Florida-Georgia District
Anderson, Emily J. Rausch (Ann Arbor, St. Paul) to Ohio District
Arrick, Mary S. Petzold (Candidate) to North Wisconsin District
Bach, Elinor (Grand Rapids, Immanuel) to Northern Illinois District
Baringer, Brooke A. Kabobel (Candidate) to Mid-South District
Baringer, Todd R. (Saint Joseph, Trinity) to Mid-South District
Beethe, Ivan R. (Candidate) to North Wisconsin District
Boehm, Jerry R. (Emeritus) to Northern Illinois District
Bornheimer, Alyssa A. Healy (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) to Indiana District
Bornheimer, Stephen (Candidate) to Indiana District
Brockberg, Kevin H. (Non-Candidate) to Florida-Georgia District
Burroughs, Daniel R. (Emeritus) to Missouri District
Corker, Lynn N. (Candidate) to Northern Illinois District
Dahlke, Dorothy H. (Emeritus) to Minnesota South District
Dahn, Mary L. Schleicher (Emeritus) to Texas District
Elmshouser, Laura A. (Clinton Township, Trinity) Florida-Georgia District
Engelhard, Marissa J. (Candidate) to Texas District
Ferry, Cheryl L. Mueller (Non-Candidate) to English District
Fischer, Karen K. Nemetz (Waterford, St. Stephen) to Northern Illinois District
Fischer, Melinda A. Wiersig (Clinton Township, St. Luke) to Southern Illinois District
Gnewuch, Cynthia A. Nerge (Candidate) to Southeastern District
Grim, Rebecca R. (Port Hope, St. John) to Indiana District
Kern, Hans H. (Candidate) to Minnesota South District
Hauser, Arlene J. Maier (Emeritus) to South Wisconsin District
Hauser, Ronald L. (Emeritus) to South Wisconsin District
Henwood, Jane D. Coomer (Emeritus) to Indiana District
Hibbard, Mary Anne (Utica, Trinity) to Ohio District
Hoffman, Tabitha M. (Non-Candidate) to Minnesota South District
Holdeman, Kimberly S. Frieling (Candidate) to Texas District
Janetzke, Emily L. Bluege (Non-Candidate) to Central Illinois District
Jenicek, Rebecca D. (Candidate) to Northwest District
Kratz, Joshua R. (Macomb, Lutheran High North) to Indiana District
Krueger, Stephanie D. Walther (Non-Candidate) to South Wisconsin District
Kumm, David H. (Sebewaing, Immanuel) to Ohio District
Landskroener, Ellen A. Schlueter (Non-Candidate) to Ohio District
Landskroener, James A. (Lansing, Our Savior) to Ohio District
Love, Diane K. Ryherd (Candidate) to Ohio District
Maske, Andrea J. Rampert (Candidate) to Northern Illinois District
McDaniel, Jennifer R. (Macomb, St. Peter) to Pacific Southwest District
Meyer, Kevin E. (Auburn, Zion) to South Wisconsin District
Meyer, Shannon E. McClure (Macomb, Immanuel) to Mid-South District
Moritz, Joel W. (Paw Paw, Trinity) to Northern Illinois District
Muehl, Ashley R. (Lansing, Our Savior) to Indiana District
Nelson-McKenzie, Kristen (Waterford, St. Stephen) to Florida-Georgia District
Norman, Emily M. (Non-Candidate) to Southeastern District
Oechsner, Heather A. Locke (Non-Candidate) to Northwest District
Odinga, Ardith A. Gerken (Emeritus) to Texas District
Odinga, Michael D. (Emeritus) to Texas District
Oechsner, Bryan P. (Macomb, Lutheran High North) to Northwest District
Pickelmann, Jonathon H. (Midland, St. John's) to South Wisconsin District
Prange, Sherry L. Hoffherr (Reed City, Trinity) to Southern Illinois District
Reick, Myron H. (Rochester, Living Word) to Nebraska District
Reick, Sandra L. Krey (Candidate) to Nebraska District
Reinbold, Tricia K. Mallory (Non-Candidate) to Nebraska District
Reiser, Sandra K. (Candidate) to South Wisconsin District
Robbins, Nathan P. (Ann Arbor, Concordia University) to Texas District
Rosin, Michael P. (Southgate, Christ the King) to Indiana District

Rottermond, Linda I. (Emeritus) to Texas District
 Scheele, Dean M. (Bay City, St. Paul) to Minnesota South District
 Scheiderer, Paul M. (Clinton Township, St. Luke) to Indiana District
 Scheuer, James A. (Candidate) to South Wisconsin District
 Schmitz, Mary L. Bergdolt Johnson (Richmond, St. Peter's) to Mid-South District
 Schultz, Jeremy J. (Bay City, Immanuel) to South Wisconsin District
 Scott, Aaron (Redford, Hosanna-Tabor) to Indiana District
 Sluis, Elizabeth M. (Berrien Springs, Trinity) to Northern Illinois District
 Smith, Kimberly D. Page (Candidate) to Mid-South District
 Steinke, Laurie J. Callies (Candidate) to Florida-Georgia District
 Thomas, Jean G. (Emeritus) to Minnesota South District
 Thompson, Judy C. Hilken (Emeritus) to English District
 Vanneste, Sarah F. (Non-Candidate) to Ohio District
 Vogt, Melissa M. (Macomb, St. Peter) to Indiana District
 Volkman, Heather D. (Candidate) to South Wisconsin District
 Wallace, Jeffery L. (Stevensville, Christ) to Indiana District
 Watson, Elizabeth A. (Montague, St. James) to Iowa District West
 Werner, Mark A. (Non-Candidate) to North Wisconsin District (Ordained)
 Winterstein, Charles A. (Emeriti) to Mid-South District
 Wolf, Matthew T. (Ann Arbor, Concordia University) to South Wisconsin District
 Wold, Joshua D. (Saint Joseph, Trinity) to Northern Illinois District
 Wrege, Thomas W. (Utica, Trinity) to Texas District
 Young, Kathryn J. Grush (Candidate) to English District
 Zeddies, Brooke R. (New Boston, St. John's) to Missouri District

INACTIVE

Inactive – Candidate Status

Arrick, Mary S. Petzold (Flint, St. Paul) – 06/08/2012
 Baringer, Brooke A. Kabobel (Saint Joseph, Trinity) – 12/01/2013
 Beethe, Ivan R. (Conklin, Trinity) – 06/17/2013
 Bierlein, Heather M. Shirley (Auburn, Grace) – 06/15/2014
 Bornheimer, Stephen (Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association) – 07/24/2013
 Bringer, David J. (Millington, St. Paul) – 08/02/2012
 Corker, Lynn N. (Non-Candidate) – 01/20/2014
 Elmshausen, Laura A. (Clinton Township, Trinity) – 06/15/2013
 Gau, Emily C. (Macomb, Immanuel) – 08/14/2012
 Genig, Dennis K. (Ann Arbor, Concordia University) – 10/18/2013
 Gibson, Debra S. (Waterford, St. Stephen) – 06/22/2012
 Gnewuch, Cynthia A. Nerge (Birmingham, Our Shepherd) – 08/15/2014
 Hansell, Christopher G. (Bay City, Immanuel) – 09/03/2012
 Havrilcsak, Laura A. Hart (Flint, St. Paul) – 10/20/2014
 Hempel, Ruth R. Dornfeld (Eastpointe, St. Peter's) – 06/15/2014
 Hildebrand, Laura A. Giger (Saint Joseph, Trinity) – 10/19/2012
 Hoelt, Terry L. (Royal Oak, St. Paul) – 07/31/2014
 Holdeman, Kimberly S. Frieling (Monroe, Grace) – 12/07/2012
 Jenicek, Rebecca D. (Holt, Messiah) – 10/03/2014
 Kaschube, Elizabeth M. Uekert (Spring Lake, St. Matthew) – 12/16/2012
 Kern, Hans H. (Eastpointe, St. Peter's) – 01/07/2013
 Kleimola, David A. (Clinton Township, St. Luke) – 09/29/2013
 Krone, James R. (Farmington Hills, Lutheran Special Education Ministries) – 01/01/2015
 McReynolds, Nicole E. (Reed City, Trinity) – 10/18/2012
 Newell, Johanna F. Eschmann (Eastpointe, St. Peter's) – 05/30/2014
 Newman, Kimberly A. LaBine (Clinton Township, St. Luke) – 11/14/2014
 O'Boyle, Sharilyn M. Specht (Warren, Peace) – 06/30/2014
 Pendley, David W. (Midland, Messiah) – 12/31/2014
 Reick, Sandra L. Kray (Rochester, Living Word) – 09/01/2014
 Rockrohr, Deborah L. Roth (LCMS World Mission, St. Louis) – 09/06/2014
 Schimm, Naomi R. Rush (Bay City, Zion) – 08/14/2013
 Schwaegerle, Judy L. (Westland, St. Matthew) – 06/30/2014
 Seguin, Kathleen J. Auch (Clinton Township, St. Luke) – 11/01/2014
 Smith, Jennifer M. Schaedig (Saginaw, Immanuel) – 12/31/2013
 Volkman, Heather D. (Port Huron, Trinity) – 09/01/2012
 Zahnow, Sarah E. Fish (Bay City, Zion) – 08/15/2012

Inactive – Emeriti Status

Behm, Constance R. Rengstorf (Grand Haven, St. John's) – 08/15/2013
Beringer, Daniel W. (Sebewaing, Immanuel) – 06/30/2013
Beringer, Gloria L. Gehner (Sebewaing, Immanuel) – 06/30/2014
Bickel, Elaine C. Petzold (Millington, St. Paul) – 06/30/2014
Bremer, David A. (Saint Johns, St. Peter) – 07/31/2012
Bresemann, Linda G. Houren (Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz) – 06/30/2013
Bresemann, Perry A. (Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz) – 12/31/2013
Campbell, Gary H. (Saginaw, Peace) – 07/31/2012
Christian, Robert J. (Macomb, Immanuel) – 06/30/2014
Dressler, Ronald L. (Saginaw, Bethlehem) – 06/30/2014
Dohrmann, Jane M. Bergman (Reese, Trinity) – 06/30/2014
Dunklau, Linda J. Bork (Macomb, St. Peter) – 06/20/2012
Eisman, Kathleen S. Ott (Bay City, St. Paul) – 07/30/2013
Farrand, Thomas J. (Stevensville, Christ) – 06/30/2014
Fechik, Carol A. Voss (Paw Paw, Trinity) – 06/30/2014
Fischer, Karen E. Murphy (Macomb, St. Peter) – 06/30/2012
Fish, Dale W. (Bay City, St. John) – 07/01/2012
Gallagher, John J. (Muskegon, Trinity) – 06/15/2013
Gallert, Frederick D. (Grand Rapids, Our Savior) – 06/30/2014
Gierach, Raymond C. (Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association) – 06/30/2014
Gioe, Louise E. Scheueman (Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz) – 06/14/2013
Goehmann, Rodney L. (Candidate) – 12/23/2013
Goetz, Lois A. Mortensen (Macomb, Immanuel) – 06/30/2014
Grese, Susan J. Turner (Concordia University, Ann Arbor) – 05/27/2014
Hall, Carl G. (Northville, St. Paul) – 08/03/2012
Hass, Kenneth E. (Non-Candidate) – 01/21/2013
Hoch, Arthur G. (Alpena, Immanuel) – 06/30/2012
Hoerauf, Karen F. Strickert (Fraser, St. John) – 06/30/2014
Kern, Dennis L. (Stevensville, Christ) – 11/01/2012
Keup, Karen L. Von Behren (Saginaw, Bethlehem) – 06/15/2012
Keup, Ronald W. (Saginaw, Bethlehem) – 06/15/2012
Klug, David H. (Non-Candidate) – 04/07/2014
Koerschen, James M. (Shanghai, China, Concordia International) – 07/31/2012
Kovtun, George G. (Richmond, St. Peter's) – 07/31/2012
Krone, Walter K. (Dearborn, Guardian) – 07/31/2012
Kruse, Lavern R. (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) – 12/31/2012
Lenghart, Susan M. Mitchell (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) – 06/15/2013
McNally, Brian D. (Mount Calvary, Detroit) – 02/03/2013
McNeeley, Mark E. (Eastpointe, St. Peter's) – 12/01/2013
Michael, Patricia M. Sadlon (Berrien Springs, Trinity) – 06/05/2013
Miles, Robert G. (Bay City, Luth Child & Family Life) – 06/30/2012
Milnikel, Jenifer J. Engel (Saint Joseph, Trinity) – 06/21/2012
Moehring, David P. (Manistee, Trinity) – 06/30/2014
Mueller, Robert K. (Saginaw, Peace) – 06/30/2013
Nelson, Geraldine E. Menth (Alpena, Immanuel) – 07/01/2012
Neu, Coral L. (Candidate) – 03/24/2013
Neumeyer, Dennis K. (Saginaw, Immanuel) – 07/01/2012
Neumeyer, Marsha J. Jastram (Saginaw, Immanuel) – 07/01/2012
Nieman, Lenore K. Kelly (Fraser, St. John) – 09/01/2012
Nobii, Linda D. Davidson (Rochester, St. John) – 10/31/2014
Nobis, Judy A. Hospodar (Kentwood, St. Mark) – 06/15/2013
Odinga, Ardith A. Gerken (Saginaw, Holy Cross) – 06/30/2013
Paselk, Renate E. Erhardt (Macomb, St. Peter) – 06/15/2014
Pickelmann, Henry M. (Bay City, Trinity) – 06/30/2012
Priskorn, Gary J. (Birmingham, Redeemer) – 06/30/2012
Rademacher, JoAnn A. Zimmerman (Dearborn, Guardian) – 06/30/2014
Rankin, Patricia A. Alderman (Saginaw, Holy Cross) – 06/30/2014
Riske, Ralph H. (Auburn, Zion) – 06/30/2014
Rodriguez, Teresita Pedmaja (Detroit, Missionary at Large to Hispanic) – 09/15/2012
Schafer, Robert D. (Rochester, St. John) – 12/13/2013
Schmitt, Kristine E. Halon (Lapeer, St. Paul) – 06/14/2013
Sebold, Marcia L. Mueller (Dearborn, Guardian) – 06/30/2014
Siefker, Dorothy I. Lemke (Northville, St. Paul) – 06/15/2013
Siefker, Roy David (Detroit, Detroit Urban) – 12/31/2012
Sohn, Miriam L. Sattelmeier (Lansing, Our Savior) – 06/30/2014
Sonntag, Connie L. Kundinger (Bay City, Faith) – 06/15/2012
Stevenson, Betty J. Potts (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) – 06/15/2012
Stordahl, Jean A. Weigt (Muskegon, Trinity) – 06/15/2013
Strohacker, Charles J. (Stevensville, Christ) – 06/30/2014
Taggart, Linda J. Lapinsky (Eastpointe, St. Thomas) – 06/15/2013

Thomas, Jean G. (Hemlock, St. Peter) – 06/15/2013
Thompson, Judy C. Hilken (Eastpointe, St. Peter's) – 06/14/2013
Trinklein, Rebecca M. (Bay City, Immanuel) – 06/15/2014
Truog, David J. (Big Rapids, St. Peter's) – 06/30/2013
Van Dellen, Carol A. Harriman (Waterford, St. Stephen) – 07/10/2012
Vanick, Edward W. (Eastpointe, St. Thomas) – 06/15/2013
Volz, Karen R. Nitz (Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz) – 06/30/2014
Walz, Christine J. (Richmond, St. Peter's) – 06/30/2012
Watson, Marie C. Buvelot (Saint Joseph, Trinity) – 08/15/2014
Westendorf, Karen S. Renkert (Utica, Trinity) – 06/15/2014
Wiersig, Christine C. AuBuchon (Farmington Hills, St. Paul's) – 08/15/2013
Wilke, Nancy E. (Richville, St. Michael's) – 06/30/2014
Wilks, Myril A. (Shelby Township, Peace) – 08/15/2012
Williams, Judy E. Harmoning (Clinton Township, Trinity) – 12/31/2012
Yelden, Susan I. (Non-Candidate) – 03/18/2013

Reinstated to the Roster

Bronner, Jill J. Stamm – 11/25/2013
Etheridge, Kimberly D. – 11/24/2014
Genthner Jr., Richard G. – 02/24/2014
Greve, Wendy F. Fischer – 09/18/2012
Love, Diane K. Ryherd – 02/24/2014
Maske, Andrea J. Rampert – 09/23/2014

Morris, Cheryl J. – 11/24/2014
Newton, LaRayne S. Stanke – 02/19/2013
Reck, Jennifer D. Glahn – 09/18/2012
Scheuer, James A. – 02/19/2013
Smith, Kimberly D. Page – 05/05/2014
Vicari, Matthew V. – 02/13/2015

Resigned from Roster

Adams, Robyn L. Wyckhuys – 04/26/2013
Beach, Sharon R. Schmaltz – 06/07/2013
Bublitz, Kimberly A. Doyen – 01/31/2014
Burmeister, Nathaniel J. – 12/24/2013
Fabbro, Ruth H. Kast – 07/23/2012
Fielitz, Jane L. Wagner – 02/10/2015
Fritsch, Kregg C. – 08/07/2014
Gammon, Christina L. Simon – 08/21/2014
Hoefl, Rebekah J. Holmes – 02/11/2013

Kayser, Jennifer M. DeMeritt – 08/14/2013
Kruse, Ruth A. Warsinske – 11/30/2012
Lanthier, Elizabeth A. Schoen – 04/05/2012
McPherson, Norman G. – 12/17/2012
Peters, Kathryn R. – 03/04/2015
Rebeck, Christine J. Cheskey – 04/09/2014
Wesley, Amanda L. Hohnstadt – 08/25/2013
Winterstein, Alecia M. – 04/05/2012

Removed from Roster

Asiala, Douglas A. – 02/02/2015
Azzopardi, Karie R. – 03/02/2015
Barth, Rachael E. – 06/30/2014
Bartzsch, Daina – 03/12/2013
Boots, Cynthia F. – 04/09/2014
Christie, Linda K. Klausmeier – 04/09/2014
Faerber, Mark E. – 03/12/2013
Fulmer, Marsha J. – 03/02/2015
Gaubatz, Julie A. Guenther Davis – 02/17/2015
Gilson, Laura M. – 04/19/2012
Hand, Marsha J. Meyer – 03/12/2013
Harris, Rachel M. Bremer – 04/09/2014
Heins, II, Ronald O. – 03/02/2015
Hoelster, Stephen W. – 03/12/2013
Knudsen, Kristie J. Alexander – 02/27/2013

Lange, Beth L. – 03/12/2013
Major, Cynthia C. Schluckbebie – 03/12/2013
Marshall, David P. – 03/02/2015
Marzluff, Debra M. – 03/02/2015
Maske, Andrea J. Rampert – 04/09/2014
McCabe, Lissa L. Anderson-Vie – 04/19/2012
McReynolds, Nicole E. – 04/09/2014
Nash, Patricia L. Barnhill – 03/02/2015
Nieman, Dale W. – 01/14/2013
Nocella, Larry A. Jr. – 04/09/2014
Polonkey, Stephanie M. – 04/19/2012
Rolf, Michelle P. – 01/14/2013
Torreson, Rodney T. – 01/25/2013
Wargo, Andrew A. – 01/07/2015

Called to Glory

Bassett, Leonard E. – 12/12/2014
Bergoldt, Mary L. Bergoldt Johnson Schmitz – 01/14/2014
Dallmann, LaVerne M. Voigt – 08/20/2012
Grueber, Susan E. Klein – 06/18/2013
Koerschen, James M. – 07/17/2014
Krause, David L. – 02/13/2013
Masengarb, David G. – 11/16/2012

Porisch, Byron D. – 11/17/2013
Reitmeyer, Royce J. – 04/16/2013
Richert, Alvin M. – 11/06/2014
Schultz, Lloyd N. – 11/17/2014
Stevens, Joanne M. Toensing – 08/20/2013
Straub, Carl G. – 06/07/2014
Wondrasch, Ruth M. – 07/30/2014

School Openings

Ann Arbor, St. Thomas – 07/09/2012

School Closings

Auburn, Grace – 06/30/2014
Cheboygan, St. John – 08/18/2014
Hemlock, Zion – 09/14/2012

Munger, Trinity-St. James – 06/06/2012
Shelby Township, Shepherd's Gate – 05/21/2014
Waterford, St. Stephen – 06/06/2012

Ministers of Religion - Commissioned Anniversaries

In 2012

50 Years

Boldt, H. James
Dubke, Darwin C.
Grupe, Larry R.
Kell, Delmar A.
Locke, George M.
Pankow, Shirley M. Mosch
Roth, James A.
Sandor, Donald R.
Tiedje, Norman A.
Todt, John H.

40 Years

Beringer, Daniel
Campbell, Gary H.
Fisceri, Darlene N. Behling
Freudenburg, Benjamin F.
Gengler, Constance C. Koester
Greve, Wendy F. Fischer
Hall, Carl G.
Kern, Dennis L.
Klausmeier, Caroline L. Hartwig
Seibel, Diane L.
Thomas, Jean G.
Unger, Michael E.

25 Years

Arnett, Gregory S.
Bender, Michael H.
Bickle, Randall J.
Ceplecha, Paula I. North
Chester, Thomas B.
Delmotte, Karen M. Reichenbach
Ebel, William H. Jr.
Finkel, Linda L. Callender
Frobel, David P.
Gnewuch, Cynthia A. Nerge
Hooper, Susan L. Repp
Hyslop, Scott M.
Kern, Kimberly L.
Kressbach, Frederick M.
Massey, Bradley R.
Meyers, Lisa H.
Myers, Paula M. Heddle
Otrhalik, Kevin D.
Pfund, Jonathan D.
Pollatz, Brian M.
Prange, Sherry L. Hoffherr
Reinhardt, Karen S. Krohe
Stoelting, Daniel D.
Thompson, Steven L.
Topel, Wendy S.C. VanBreda
Williams, Judy H. Harmoning
Wood, Janice M.

In 2013

50 Years

Brigg, Pauline E. Schoenfeld
Holste, Herman M.
Krause, Alan C.
Pagels, James D.
Waak, Vera C. Lovercamp

40 Years

Bickel, Elaine C. Petzold
Doebler, Lynda M.
Kratz, Dean E.
Kruse, Lavern R.
McDonald, Ian K.
Moehring, David P.
Pagels, Doris E. Meyermann
Reick, Myron H.
Schiemann, Kathleen R. Wardin
Voelz, Robert T.

25 Years

Aughe, Kent
Conger, Norene J. Hass
Fritsch, Kregg C.
Gusé, Paul B.
Hempel, Ruth R. Dornfeld
Machemer, Susan M. Teske
Oldenburg, Craig S.
Sellers, Tammy L.
Sievert, David R.
Weber, Carol A. Kamasis

In 2014

50 Years

Frank, George C.
Gerds, Fredrick A.
Schmidt, Paul M.

40 Years

Allen, Ronald M
Attenberger, David F.
Brown, David C.
Dean, Karen A. Werth
Dunklau, Linda J. Bork
Gast, Frederick J.
Geyer, Stephen H.
Grimpo, R. Dwain
Hanke, Elsie C. Hessemann
Hass, Kenneth E.
Headapohl, Virginia A. Randall
Hinck, John T.
Karsten, Beverly M. Wegner
Kratz, Dean E.
Looker, Mark S.
McQueen, Carla J. Wardin
Meyers, Anita G. Steufert
Priehs, Warren W.
Quade, Karen J.
Rademacher, JoAnn A. Zimmerman
Riske, Ralph H.
Schiefer, Mark T.
Shaffer, John O.
Strang, William J.
Strohacker, Charles J.
Taggart, Linda J. Lapinsky
Ward, Donna J. Feltner
Werderman, Amy L. Rohde
Wilke, Nancy E.

25 Years

Brandt, Susan R. Senske
Gugel, Ruth E. Krengel
Helmreich, Christine A. Studt
Kowalke, Julie A.
Kugler, Colleen J. Klahn
Kurth, Ruth J.
Merrill, Kenlyn S. Weller
Moritz, Lorelle R. Baumgart
Nobis, Lloyd B.
Ott, Donna J. Paris
Rudick, Annette K.
Schettenhelm, Karla J. Witt
Smith, Mary-Bethany A. Atkins
Tedesco, Kim J. Richwalt
Toman, Laura K.
Welte, John A.
Werschky, Sharon L. Schnitker

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Circuit Visitors' Report

Circuit #1 – Mackinaw Straits Circuit **Rev. Charles Burhop – Circuit Visitor**

St. John, Cheboygan – Rev. Randy Johnson
Baptized Membership – 278
Communicant Membership – 239
Average Worship Attendance – 129

Redeemer, DeTour Village
Baptized Membership – 10
Communicant Membership – 10
Average Worship Attendance – 11

Drummond Island, Drummond Island – Rev. Donald Nemeec
Baptized Membership – 138
Communicant Membership – 100
Average Worship Attendance – 50

Bethlehem, Engadine – Rev. Arthur Bode
Baptized Membership – 141
Communicant Membership – 128
Average Worship Attendance – 62

Grace, Germfask – Rev. Arthur Bode
Baptized Membership – 113
Communicant Membership – 89
Average Worship Attendance – 48

Faith, Hawks – Rev. Jack Ferguson
Baptized Membership – 102
Communicant Membership – 96
Average Worship Attendance – 33

St. Paul, Kinross
Baptized Membership – 18
Communicant Membership – 16
Average Worship Attendance – 13

Immanuel, Rogers City – Rev. Eric Voigt
Baptized Membership – 214
Communicant Membership – 183
Average Worship Attendance – 64

Trinity, Newberry
Baptized Membership – 153
Communicant Membership – 51
Average Worship Attendance – 45

Trinity, Newberry also has a satellite site in Paradise, MI.

Holy Cross, Onaway – Rev. Joshua Ketelsen
Baptized Membership – 218
Communicant Membership – 129
Average Worship Attendance – 75

Peace, Rogers City – Rev. J. Derek Riddle
Baptized Membership – 441
Communicant Membership – 344
Average Worship Attendance – 156

St. John, Rogers City
Baptized Membership – 593
Communicant Membership – 533
Average Worship Attendance – 128

St. Michael, Rogers City – Rev. Keith Schneider
Baptized Membership – 332
Communicant Membership – 256
Average Worship Attendance – 82

St. Barnabas, Sault Ste. Marie – Rev. Charles Burhop
Baptized Membership – 89
Communicant Membership – 54
Average Worship Attendance – 34

Trout Lake, Trout Lake
Baptized Membership – 17
Communicant Membership – 15
Average Worship Attendance – 8

Circuit #2 – Alpena Circuit **Rev. Jason Mandley, Circuit Visitor**

Circuit #2 of the Michigan District geographically includes the counties of Alpena, Alcona, Montmorency and Oscoda. The circuit is very diverse, having congregations that are over 125 years old as well as new mission starts. There are congregations in small cities, small towns and rural areas. The circuit includes one of the largest Lutheran congregations in Northern Michigan, as well as congregations that worship 25 or less on a weekend. Yet all are committed to reaching out with the message of Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

Immanuel, Alpena: The Rev. James Erickson serves Immanuel as Senior Pastor and the Rev. Joshua Schultz, a 2014 graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, serves as Associate Pastor. Mr. Alfred Kersten was installed as Deacon in March of 2014 to oversee senior outreach ministry and assist with pastoral care and visitation. Currently, Immanuel conducts weekly worship services in six facilities, including nursing homes, assisted living centers, and senior living complexes. A director of technology, Ryan West, was added to the staff in 2013 and continues to implement new opportunities for ministry. Immanuel is active in other community outreach endeavors including local radio ministry, local newspaper columns, and streaming its worship services on its website and on Facebook. Immanuel's Lutheran elementary school continues to be an outreach with an expanding all-day preschool with after-school child care. Six full-time teachers and one part-time teacher make up the staff, along with Principal G. Peter Anderson. Immanuel also has a very active youth ministry for those in junior or senior high. A large number of discipleship Bible study opportunities on a variety of days, at various times of day, at several locations around Alpena remain the main emphasis. The studies are taught by the pastors, the deacon, and other laymen of the parish. As the largest congregation of circuit #2, Immanuel values a cooperative and close relationship

with all the pastors and congregations of the circuit.
Faith, Harrisville: Faith Lutheran Church of Harrisville, Michigan was established in 1992 as an outreach of Trinity, Oscoda. The current pastor, the Rev. Dennis Neigh, serves a dual parish arrangement between Faith, Harrisville and Good Shepherd, Ossineke. Pastor Neigh first served Faith as a deacon from 2000 to 2008 and then served as pastor from 2008 to the present. They have a membership of 25 and worship an average of 15 weekly. In the past year, Faith began a “Grief Share” ministry to help hurting individuals from the community through the grieving process.

St. John’s Hillman: Saint John’s Lutheran Church is located seven miles north of the village of Hillman in the north-east portion of Montmorency County. The church has been pastored by the Rev. Jason Mandley since 1999. Although located outside of town, the congregation makes a strong effort to be a visible and significant part of the Hillman community. St. John’s opened an early childhood center in 2004 and it has served as an outreach to the community with a significant number of non-members being enrolled. St. John’s has opened its facilities to community groups such as Hillman Little League, 4H, and the Hillman Fire Department to have fundraisers. We also conduct a worship service at the local nursing home twice a month, and the service is attended by both Lutherans and non-Lutherans. St. John’s celebrated its 125 anniversary in 2013. The celebration theme was “Alive in Christ Since 1888,” with the theme verse of Psalm 90:1: “Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.” The three services were entitled “Our Past,” “Our Present,” and “Our Future.” St. John’s looks forward to reaching out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the next 125 years.

St. Paul, Hubbard Lake: St. Paul will celebrate its 125th anniversary in 2019. Pastor Mikkelson retired in 2012, and the congregation was served by the Rev. Andrew Loesel and Rev. David Spaeth during its vacancy. After purchasing the school in Hubbard Lake, St. Paul began building its sanctuary in 2012. The building was completed in March of 2013, and the first service was held on Good Friday (March 29). The narthex and new sanctuary were dedicated on May 5, 2013. The church called a candidate from the Seminary, and on July 13, 2014, Rev. Joseph Llewellyn was installed at St. Paul. Over the last two years, St. Paul has seen growth both spiritually and in its attendance numbers. The congregation is focusing on its evangelism, community outreach, member activation, and living out its mission of proclaiming, teaching, and reflecting the light of Christ to the world.

Bethlehem, Lewiston: We began our triennium with a congregation-wide campaign using the Purpose-Driven Life materials. The program enabled us to inaugurate a cell group Bible study ministry with six cell groups, four of which are still going. Over the next 18 months we worked with our CMMF, Rev. Rick Wolfram, to discover and define our core values, purpose statement, and mission. This past summer we went through a process to help us relearn how to share the Gospel in a way that connects with contemporary culture using the Irresistible Evangelism materials. Doing so has enabled us to reinstate our Board of Evangelism and

start looking for ways to reach out with the Good News of Jesus Christ in ways that coincide with the felt needs of our community. We are ending this triennium by making preparations to celebrate Bethlehem’s 75th anniversary.

Living Water, Mio: “Beautiful in elevation ... in the far north” (Psalm 48) is also a place for worship, even Living Water Lutheran Church, Mio, Michigan. The sanctuary is on Fourth Street, on the near right when traveling north through town, just ahead of the river crossing. The congregation was founded in 1999 according to the hope as confessed by the Apostle Paul: “I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes” (Romans 1:16). It is that confession, and everything upon which it rests, that has us study and teach according to our Lutheran Confessions, our own Small Catechism and the Augsburg Confession. Not lost on visitors either when “The AuSable” comes into view is the recollection that visitors to Phillipi had come to notice that “prayer was made” while gathered at a riverside in that city. Gatherings, too, are made at Living Water, and its members are glad to welcome all who may come by, stop in, and to worship.

Good Shepherd, Ossineke: Good Shepherd was established in 1989 as an outreach of Immanuel, Alpena. The current pastor, Rev. Dennis Neigh, has served this congregation since 2008 in a dual parish with Faith, Harrisville. Good Shepherd is the larger of the two congregations, with an average worship attendance of 40-45 weekly. Recent years have seen a “Grief Share” ministry develop at Good Shepherd. Over 150 people have been helped through this support ministry in the past three years. We celebrated our 25th anniversary in 2014 with a worship service and dinner. Worship was led by our current pastor, Pastor Neigh, and three former pastors of Good Shepherd; Pastor Jim Erickson of Immanuel, Alpena was the preacher for the day. Flooring materials were replaced in the sanctuary, fellowship hall, kitchen, and offices to prepare for this joyful event.

St. Paul, Posen: “Where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I in the midst of them” (Matthew 18:20). These words are true of St. Paul, Posen. St. Paul is a small but dedicated congregation located about six miles east of Alpena in a country setting. A group of 10 to 20 people each week call St. Paul, Posen their spiritual home and make the journey into the country to worship at this congregation founded in 1873. The congregation is served by the Rev. David Spaeth since 2007. Despite the challenges being faced, St. Paul’s is determined to keep witnessing the Gospel message as long as the Lord enables them to do so.

Circuit #3 – Timberline Circuit **Rev. Dean R. Muhle, Circuit Visitor**

The Timberline Circuit is located on the east side, along Lake Huron and above the Thumb area. After the last District Convention the Circuit was reshaped to seven congregations. Bethlehem, Standish was placed into the Gladwin Circuit. The Timberline and the Gladwin Circuit work together and hold their Winkels together on the last Tuesday

of each month, with break during the summer months. Some of the congregations have a group called “Quiz Kids”, where the 5th-12th grade students study portions of the Bible and then the teams are quizzed against each other. St. John, Pinconning is also active in this.

St. John, Au Gres: God’s Word has been proclaimed and the Sacraments have been administered. The congregation has been served by Rev. Fred Cordts. Since the last convention, the congregation has finished a sanctuary, which was dedicated in December of 2012.

St. Paul’s, Hale: God’s Word has been proclaimed and the Sacraments have been administered. The congregation has been served by Rev. Dean Muhle since 2001. The congregation has been serving God and the community for 80 years.

Trinity, Oscoda: God’s Word has been proclaimed and the Sacraments have been administered. The congregation has been served by Rev. Timothy Azzam for the last 10 years.

Good News, Whittemore: God’s Word has been proclaimed and the Sacraments have been administered. The congregation has been served by Deacon Jack Rohn for many years. Deacon Kenneth David was helping there, but had to step down in 2013 because of family health reasons. Deacon Jim Adams is now helping in a half-time position.

Faith, Prescott: God’s Word has been proclaimed and the Sacraments have been administered. The congregation is served by Rev. Daniel Jansen. He is very instrumental in the Quiz Kids with JoAnn Rohn from Good News.

Our Savior, Glennie: God’s Word has been proclaimed and the Sacraments have been administered. The congregation is served by Rev. Paul Ruediger. Our Savior is in a partnership with Living Water, Mio (#2 – Alpena Circuit).

Zion, Tawas: God’s Word has been proclaimed and the Sacraments have been administered. The congregation was served by Rev. Steven Mahlburg for many years until he took a call in October, 2014. The congregation is now served by Rev. Allen Stoll as an Intentional Interim Minister since January of 2015.

God is still faithful and is blessing us with the message of Jesus and His cross.

Circuit #4 – Gladwin Rev. Michael Schaedig, Circuit Visitor

The Gladwin Circuit is made up of seven congregations located in the gateway to the Northern Counties of the Lower Peninsula. We minister, we serve, and we play with great thanks to God as we welcome the people of God who seek relaxation from the faster pace of the metropolitan areas ‘down below.’

The Congregations of the Gladwin Circuit are as follows:

Prince of Peace, Clare: After being faithfully served by Rev.

Ted Voll as Intentional Interim Pastor, Prince of Peace called and installed Rev. Paul Young as pastor on January 12, 2014. Prince of Peace continues to be determined to reach out to the Clare area, striving to grow and be a bold witness to the Gospel.

Our Savior, Gladwin: Our Savior Lutheran Church was served by Rev. Richard Rossow until October 12, 2012, when Rev. Jim Krach was installed as pastor. When Jim Hueseman accepted a call, Tyler Schlitzkus began leading the youth ministry. The congregation continues to focus on family ministry and, with the advent of new equipment and much congregational support, under the leadership of Rev. Krach, the ministry continues to thrive.

Bethlehem, Standish: Bethlehem is new in the Gladwin Circuit. The congregation has been a welcome addition. When Rev. Anthony Voltattorni accepted a call to Marshall, Rev. Curt Adams faithfully served the vacancy. Rev. Matthew Dent accepted the call to be Bethlehem’s Pastor in January 2014. He continues to serve them well.

Hope, Saint Helen: Hope, Saint Helen is served by Rev. Rodney Morrison, who has celebrated his seventh year as pastor this spring. The congregation has a vibrant evangelism mindset and is continually looking for ways to serve and spread the Gospel to the people of Saint Helen.

St. John, West Branch: St. John is served by Rev. Howard Travis and continues to grow, offering two traditional services per week. Since the beginning of 2015, St. John has welcomed six children into our Father’s kingdom through Holy Baptism. There are four more scheduled over the next four months as young families wait for their arrivals. Praise God for His provision of life! In January, St. John held a free food giveaway. More than 300 families received the much-needed food. The congregation is planning, God willing, three more giveaways this year.

St. John, Houghton Lake: Rev. William Winter has served as St. John’s pastor for over 39 years and is still going strong. His love of the Gospel is reflected in the congregation’s life as they show their love to the surrounding community. In the last triennium, St. John has taken advantage of property purchased outside of town. The “Garden of Eaten” is annually planted and supports “Project H.O.P.E.” There is also Outdoor Worship, a Family Fun Fest, and an archery program called “Centershot.” St. John has also become the host congregation for the Roscommon County Right to Life.

St. Luke, Harrison: St. Luke is served by Rev. Michael Schaedig, a second career pastor, who was installed in 2003. St. Luke is a strong supporter of mission work both home and abroad.

Closing words: The congregations of the Gladwin Circuit, in spite of extremely difficult economic conditions, continue to do well. We have been blessed to have two retired pastors who are willing to serve in various ways—Rev. Richard Rossow and Rev. Ted Voll.

The Circuit meets in Winkel monthly with the neighboring Timberline Circuit. We meet to celebrate the Word and receive Holy Communion.

God has truly blessed the Michigan District and the Gladwin Circuit. We give Him thanks, great praise, and all the glory!

Circuit #5 – Midland **Rev. Michael Buchhorn, Circuit Visitor**

During the last triennium the congregations of Circuit 5 have continued to provide Word and Sacrament ministry to the people of the Midland area and beyond in a variety of ministry settings. This has been a time of transition for many of the circuit congregations through changes in pastoral leadership. Ministry highlights for the area include the following:

Peace, Alma continues to provide ministry to the people of the community of Alma.

Grace, Auburn is in the midst of transition. The congregation closed its parochial school at the end of the 2013-14 school year. In early 2015, they bid farewell to Rev. David Reed after 24 years of ministry at Grace. The congregation is eagerly looking forward to seeing what God has in store for the next phase of its history.

Zion, Auburn has been serving the people of Beaver Township for 127 years and is presently blessed with a growing preschool and excellent day school.

Lord of New Life, Midland celebrated the construction of a new worship facility. The ground breaking took place on December 1, 2013. The first service was held on August 24, 2014, and the church was dedicated on September 27, 2014.

St. John, Marion Springs was welcomed into the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod on August 4th, 2013. The congregation had previously been an independent Lutheran congregation.

Messiah, Midland is known for its innovative ministries which connect to the Bullock Creek and Midland communities. It continues to run two coffeehouses and opened His Hands Auto Care, a licensed auto repair facility for those who cannot afford to have their cars repaired.

Our Savior, Midland is in a time of pastoral transition. It continues to provide Word and Sacrament ministry and is known for its Blind and Low Vision ministry.

St. John, Midland continues to provide excellent ministry to the people of Midland and is blessed with an excellent school and preschool.

Zion, Mt. Pleasant has been mightily blessed in its mission to convey God's love to all people through the Means of Grace. Their preschool has experienced ongoing enrollment near capacity. Highlights of the past three years include

celebrating Zion's 125th anniversary in 2014 and completely paying off their building mortgage in early 2015.

CMU Chapel, Mt. Pleasant – The campus ministry at Christ The King Lutheran Chapel continues to be an outpost for robust witness of Christ's grace and mercy for the university community. The ministry to international students, Muslim in particular, has taken off in the past few years with a huge increase in the number of Muslim students with whom we are in contact.

St. Paul, Sanford rejoiced to complete a pastoral transition. Following the retirement of Rev. Paul Young, Rev. Sam Reith accepted the congregation's call and was installed in 2014. The congregation looks forward to continuing its ministry to the people in and around Sanford.

Immanuel, Wheeler provides quality ministry to the people of Wheeler and has completed a number of improvement projects to their facility which demonstrate their love for the Lord.

While in a variety of settings, from rural to small city, the congregations of circuit 5 continue to seek ways to connect with their communities and to live out their identity as loved and compassionate communities in Christ.

Circuit #6 – Bay City Circuit **Rev. Bill Allwardt, Circuit Visitor**

Greetings from our eight churches, which include six churches in Bay City: Faith, Immanuel, St. John (Amelith), St. Paul (Frankenlust), Trinity (Monitor), and Zion, as well as Pilgrim, Essexville and St. John, Pinconning.

Under God's grace, Faith, Bay City continues to grow people of FAITH – "Followers Actively Involved in Teaching and Telling of Him (Christ Jesus)." Our Lutheran day school has been blessed with an increased enrollment each year of this past triennium, and we value our continued association membership with Valley Lutheran High School, Saginaw. We identified two areas of increased ministry emphasis: (1) youth and young adult ministry and (2) mission outreach (locally by partnering with Wellspring Lutheran Services – "Together with Impact"; regionally with Family of God Lutheran Church, Detroit). In the Fall of 2014, we began a process to re-identify our core values.

Immanuel, Bay City was privileged to celebrate 150 years of ministry for both the church and school. Thanks be to God! We were able to partner with Zion, Bay City to share Ms. Jan LaRocque as a part-time principal, a model which is being studied for use by other ministries within the District. We were pleased to call Ms. Annette Rudick to serve as our full-time principal/teacher, Mrs. Kari Gakstatter as our 4th grade teacher, Mrs. Jill Erlenbeck as our 3rd grade teacher, and Mrs. Rebecca Ball as 5th grade teacher. Mrs. Char Walde announced her plans to retire from teaching, completing 30 years of service. Immanuel Learning Center (day care) opened its doors last August providing a quality Christian environment for ages newborn to preschool. Our school

completed accreditation and continues to offer excellence in Christian education to 102 enrolled students. In February of 2015, it pleased Almighty God to call unto Himself in heaven the soul of the Reverend Leslie Tyvela. "Pastor T" served the congregation for 37 years, retired in 2009 and was active as pulpit supply for area congregations. In these exciting and challenging times, it is wonderful to see how God has richly blessed and continues to lead Immanuel Lutheran Church and School into areas of service.

Pilgrim, Essexville continues to reach out to the community and the world with the Gospel. The most significant event in the past three years is the retirement of Pastor Carl Trosein after 28 years of faithful service. The congregation is currently working its way through the intentional interim ministry processes as it prepares for its next pastor. The Congregation continues to provide Christian education for 3- and 4-year olds through its preschool, which is one of its most effective outreach ministries into the community. The current membership is 369 baptized and 281 communicants, with an average weekend attendance of 80. With the Lord's help and guidance, the people of Pilgrim Lutheran look forward to continuing to be Christ's presence in the community.

St. John, Amelith – God continues to pour out His abundant blessings upon His people at St. John. Our school is blessed with a fine faculty, principal, and dedicated support staff. The school went through the lengthy accreditation process with the LC-MS and is accredited through 2018. In 2015 we will mark the 50th anniversary of Warren Scheiwe, retired teacher in the school, who has led an outstanding music ministry in the congregation as organist and Music Director through the past half century. To mark the 100th anniversary of the church building, the State of Michigan approved a historical marker, which was placed and dedicated in front of the church to recognize the historic nature of the parish as well as the community of Amelith. This past triennium, a Lutheran Confessions study group was established at St. John. The group meets the first Saturday morning of each month to read and discuss the Lutheran Confessions in order to learn what Lutherans believe and to prepare for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. For the past three years, we have sent youth to the annual Higher Things conference, with a growing number attending each year, and we will do so again this summer for the gathering held in Grand Rapids.

St. John's, Pinconning – 2013 marked 125 years of blessings for our congregation. We celebrated under the theme "Sharing Our Jubilee" throughout the year, but had a special emphasis in the fall welcoming back several former pastors and completing a facility renovation which includes a new metal roof, a new parking lot, new heating and cooling systems, carpeting and painting throughout the building. President Maier was the guest preacher for the culmination of our anniversary celebration in November of 2013. Our members are generously supporting a three-year thank-offering effort begun in 2012. 2014 saw the retirement of our Preschool Director/Teacher Barb Petee after over 25 years of faithful service.

St. Paul, Frankenlust continues to be God's people who are driven by the Spirit under a focus of "Saved by Jesus – Sent to Serve." In the past three years we have enhanced our worship life with the use of two monitors in the front of the church, on which we display the liturgy, hymns, readings and other pertinent items for worship, and also share informational items before and after worship. We have also upgraded our lighting and audio systems within the sanctuary. A digital sign is in the process of being installed for the benefit of those who travel M-81. We have worked through significant issues related to changes in the Principal position (one dying just before school began, one leaving just a year after his installation, and another dying just after she was principal here). These losses are still affecting our church and school family, though we are in the process of working through them, under the energetic and capable leadership of our current Principal Dennis Neumeyer. Members of our congregation are very active in many community efforts.

Trinity (Monitor), Bay City – Over the past triennium at Trinity we have seen the following: ... a growth in our Christian day school which has made it necessary for us to hire additional staff; ... the continued growth for our endowment fund, through which we have been able to fund a number of special ministries, mission projects, and even some short-term missionary trips for some of our members; ... ministry by our Stephen Ministers has been accepted more and more by the congregation and more have been trained in this caring ministry; ... and faithful stewardship even in these difficult economic times, which has us poised to pay off our building expansion loan sooner than anticipated. We thank God for His goodness, and ask His blessing for the next three years.

Zion, Bay City, through its growing Day Care, Preschool through 8th grade, music ministry, food pantry, and a variety of other fellowship and service ministries, endeavors to Gather in joyful worship, Grow in Christ, Give in love and service as well as Going with the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our community and beyond. Our vision is to continue the process of becoming Christ's Center for Excellence in Discipleship and Outreach.

Circuit #7 - Thumb East Circuit Rev. Kenneth D. Lueke, Circuit Visitor

Circuit #7 covers the eastern half of Huron and Sanilac Counties, with M-53 as its western border. It is comprised of nine congregations. Its pastors meet in monthly Winkels with the pastors of Thumb West Circuit #8. This Circuit is largely agricultural, with some light industry mixed in. We have suffered from the economic recession of a few years ago, and have lost several businesses and factories in the ensuing years. Younger people have been moving away to find work elsewhere and, like Thumb West, some of our congregations are beginning to consider, due to their shrinking size, the possibility of becoming dual parishes.

Our Savior, Bad Axe: Our Savior is a congregation that uses the classic liturgies and hymns of the Lutheran Church

and, bucking the trend, has seen an influx of younger families active in the church. In the past three years, there have been 38 baptisms, and its preschool continues to operate at maximum capacity, with an ongoing waiting list. In the last quarter of 2013, Our Savior established a new website that, since then, has gotten over 14,000 hits, and its Radio Ministry continues to be widely listened to in Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac Counties.

Peace, Sandusky: In 2014, Peace received its first Vicar, Pierce Chadburn, who is a student at CTS, Ft. Wayne. That year Peace also called the Rev. Dr. James Tino to serve as their Missionary-at-Large to serve the Lutheran Church of Chile, planting new mission congregations. Its preschool teacher of 25 years retired; yet, with their new Preschool teacher, Peace continues to provide an outstanding educational program to the community. The congregation has renovated some of its facilities during this time.

St. John, Pt. Sanilac: St. John has established a website that broadcasts videos of its services; these are now being seen worldwide. Since its inception, the number of views of its services has increased each year.

St. John, Pt. Hope: St. John has been in the calling process after its pastor retired in June, 2014. The community's public school closed in the spring of 2014, but St. John's day school continues to operate, with hopes that students who are currently attending public schools in other communities will begin attending the day school instead.

Zion, Harbor Beach: Zion installed its new pastor, Rev. Ron Schultz, in Dec. 2013. Zion continues to operate a successful and high-quality day school.

Our Savior, Marlette: Our Savior installed its new pastor, Rev. David Sutton, in July 2014. Our Savior also operates a small, but growing, day school.

St. Peter, Kinde: Though small, St. Peter installed the Rev. Larry Loree, Sr. as its pastor in July 2013. St. Peter continues to reach out to the community in a variety of ways, especially through VBS, and during the Kinde Polkafest each year, and also in outreach to veterans of the Armed Forces living in Huron County.

St. John, Palms – Served by Rev. Henry Hales

Trinity, Forestville – Served by Rev. Richard Wilson

Though the area has suffered economic hardships, and the exodus of many people to other areas of the state and country, the congregations of Thumb East are firmly committed to carrying on Word and Sacrament ministry to the residents of Huron and Sanilac Counties. Our congregations remain committed to orthodox Lutheran doctrine and liturgies, and in mission work to bring the Gospel of Christ to all.

Circuit #8 - Thumb West Circuit Rev. Michael Allen, Circuit Visitor

Immanuel, Sebawaing: Immanuel continues to be a congregation gathered around Christ and His means of grace. Through the Divine Service, these great gifts are given out by Christ through His servants. Our Senior Pastor, Rev. Daniel Hahn, took a call and was replaced by Rev. Michael Boyer. A new Associate Pastor, Rev. David Reed, was called and has begun work among us. Immanuel has seen an incredible revitalization of our youth program led by our new youth worker, Chuck McGathy. Our school, Christ the King, has seen enrollment stay about the same over the past three years as we called a new principal, Mr. David Kaiser. Those at Immanuel rejoice in the gifts which the Lord gives to His church and are certain of His blessings in the coming years.

St. Peter, Bach: Rev. Michael Teuscher currently serves this congregation as well as St. John, Kilmanagh. The two congregations have a Dual Parish agreement in place.
Baptized Membership – 89
Communicant Membership – 82
Average Worship Attendance – 41

Good Shepherd, Caseville: The congregation is currently applying for a Seminary Graduate after their pastor accepted another call.
Baptized Membership – 140
Communicant Membership – 128
Average Worship Attendance – 84

Good Shepherd, Cass City: They are currently served by Rev. G. Stevens Bagnall.
Baptized Membership – 491
Communicant Membership – 393
Average Worship Attendance – 118

St. Paul, Linkville has been blessed to be served by Rev. Lee Wenskay for the past 14 years. He is planning to retire in 2015.
Baptized Membership – 480
Communicant Membership – 372
Average Worship Attendance – 85

St. Paul, Unionville: Rev. Steven Stolarczyk accepted the call to serve St. Paul in February 2015.
Baptized Membership – 498
Communicant Membership – 399
Average Worship Attendance – 150

Grace, Fairgrove: Grace congregation is currently applying for a Seminary Graduate to serve them as Pastor.
Baptized Membership – 191
Communicant Membership – 162
Average Worship Attendance – 67

Circuit #9 - Frankenmuth Circuit Rev. Robert Gadeken, Circuit Visitor

Over the past three years, God has guided and blessed the

congregations of the Frankenmuth circuit. Most of the congregations in the circuit joined the LEAP (Lutheran Education Advancement Plan) effort in the Saginaw Valley to explore better ways to strengthen and increase cooperation in Lutheran education. Discussions have also begun among a couple of the smaller Lutheran schools in our circuit about ways to share ministries and programs. This is difficult for congregations whose schools have been a great part of their identity, but is now seen as necessary for survival. Other things that have happened since the last convention:

Immanuel, Frankentrost started a new child care center last year. Their Living Nativity has set record attendance the last couple of years.

St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth completed a pastoral staff reorganization because of retirements and the addition of Pastor Adams. They are in the process of calling a Visitation Pastor. They are also exploring a major building program for a new worship center. St. Lorenz also led a community-wide Bible study program with the other congregations in Frankenmuth called "The Story" that was very successful.

St. Michael, Richville finished a church remodel and expansion of child care, and added a Parish Music Director who, among many additions to programs at church and school, pioneered a very successful area-wide Veterans Day program.

St. Paul, Caro has led a series of mission trips to Lestage, Haiti, to help build a new church, and continues its very successful youth servant events each summer.

St. Paul, Millington has sponsored a concert and other community events as outreach to the community, and has had several staff changes in their school, especially the retirement of long-term Principal, Mrs. Bickel.

Trinity, Reese is now vacant after Pastor Bennett took a call to Indiana, and Rev. Hakes, a retired pastor in the congregation, is the vacancy pastor.

Trinity/St. James, Munger finished a major church remodeling, and continues its many community involvement activities.

Circuit #10 – Saginaw Circuit **Rev. William W. Hessler, Circuit Visitor**

11 congregations make up the Michigan District's Saginaw Circuit #10, ranging in area from Saginaw in the north to Owosso in the south, and from Bridgeport in the east to Hemlock in the west. Winkels are scheduled monthly during the school year, except in months when there is a District or Regional Pastors' conference. The Circuit meets together with its sister Frankenmuth Circuit roughly every other month.

Bethlehem, Saginaw is ably served by Rev. Michael R. Korte together with Rev. Charles F. Buckhahn. Bethlehem recently worked together with The Lutheran Church of the Messiah (Carrollton) to host a very successful "Outreach Workshop"

in November, 2014. Plans are under way to host a follow-up event. Bethlehem's parochial day school continues to make a significant impact on the community, as does Bethlehem's annual "Boars' Head Festival," produced every Advent, which has become a staple of the Saginaw Christmas season.

Faith, Bridgeport is currently being served by Rev. William W. Hessler, who is now the longest-tenured parish pastor in the Circuit, having served Faith since 1988. Faith also cooperates with St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth by paying the salary of one of the teachers of their parochial day school. St. Lorenz, in return, gives Faith members a discount in tuition, thus facilitating a Christian day school experience for their children. Faith also expanded its own Preschool program to serve the community with childcare and latch-key offerings.

Good Shepherd, Saginaw is presently being served by Intentional Interim Pastor Rev. John Langewisch. Pastor Langewisch assumed that position in January, 2015, following the resignation of The Rev. Daniel Ross, who took a call in September, 2014, to Tulsa, Okla., and the retirement of Rev. Mark Buckert in December, 2014. Good Shepherd also operates an Early Childhood Center, which has become well-known in the community.

Rev. James F. Krueger is the pastor of the mother church of Saginaw, Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Located in the heart of the city, Holy Cross, together with its parish day school, makes a concerted effort to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through outreach efforts and active participation in various community events, thus bringing a Christ-centered witness to the area.

The Lutheran Church of the Messiah, Carrollton, is capably served by Rev. Phillip DeVries. Messiah completed its merger with Redeemer, Saginaw, in a service of celebration on All Saints' Sunday, 2014. The influx of members from Redeemer, together with the continuing efforts of Messiah's own members, has helped generate enthusiasm on both ends to share the Good News of Christ with its neighborhood.

The last two years have seen Rev. Mitchell Vogeli transition from an extended Vicar to becoming the full-time pastor of Nativity, St. Charles. Together with the Michigan District, the Saginaw Circuit has pledged mission support dollars to Nativity as it pursues its vision of establishing a church plant in nearby Chesaning. Community involvement and making its presence visible make up a major focus of Nativity's Christ-centered ministry.

Peace, Saginaw is the largest congregation in the Circuit. Rev. C. William Weis, together with Rev. Paul Hinz, serve Peace's members as their shepherds under Christ. The past year has also seen Matthew Hauser enter the Synod's Specific Ministry Pastor program, and currently serve as a Vicar with responsibilities in the area of Christian discipleship. Peace also maintains a vibrant Christian day school with its state-of-the-art facilities.

St. Mark, Shields has been served by Rev. Edward Meyer

along with Rev. Robert Allmann. A recent addition to St. Mark's physical facilities has helped expand its Preschool/Childcare accommodations as well as upgrade the congregation's own fellowship opportunities.

Rev. Brian Heidt continues to serve St. Philip, Owosso. The congregation continues to work hard making its presence known in the community and faithfully sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

St. Peter, Hemlock, along with its parochial day school, continues its rich heritage of Word and Sacrament ministry in rural Hemlock. The last triennium has seen the Installation of Rev. Dr. William Morris as its Senior Administrative Pastor, as well as the retirements of Rev. Martin Hagenow and Rev. Richard Mundt, both of whom continue to help out on a part-time basis. St. Peter was honored to lay to rest Rev. Edward Pankow who had served St. Peter for many, many years.

Rev. Paul Hauser continues to serve Zion, Hemlock, as its Shepherd. Zion recently underwent a major renovation to its sanctuary and fellowship hall, as well as a technology upgrade.

Rev. John Mueller continues to serve as the pastor on staff at Saginaw's Valley Lutheran High School. VLHS, together with over 20 congregations in the area, has undertaken an aggressive campaign to strengthen Lutheran schools in the Saginaw Valley. LEAP – Lutheran Education Advancement Plan – is working toward establishing a formal alliance with its participating entities.

The Saginaw Circuit is also blessed with the participation and involvement of a number of emeriti: Rev. Bert Eggers, Rev. Martin Hagenow, Rev. Edward Kast, Rev. Robert Koeppen, Rev. Richard Mundt, Rev. Dr. Robert Schultz, and Rev. Carl Trosien.

In short, the heavenly Father continues to bless the Saginaw Circuit with the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit as it continues the rich history of Lutheranism in the Saginaw Valley by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament ministry and Christ-centered, Lutheran education.

Circuit #11 – Flint North Circuit **Rev. Erik K. Cloeter, Circuit Visitor**

In consideration of the the many community dynamics, the congregations of the Flint North Circuit serve faithfully within a varied spectrum. While the challenges contingent with a less than vibrant economy persist, the churches of our circuit continue to advance the purposes of Christ, growing the Kingdom often in spite of an increasingly de-churched population and other societal pressures, even governmental entanglements. God is good to bless the Flint North.

Listed are the congregations in the circuit and significant events that took place during the past three years:

Holy Cross, Flushing (Rev. Cliff Bira) – This congregation continues to serve as a cornerstone congregation for the Flint North Circuit. It is growing in its teaching ministry despite

the challenges common to almost all of the congregations of the once vibrant Automotive Alley.

United in Christ, Flint (Rev. Stephen Stahlhut) – In the past triennium, this local church said good-bye to their regularly called servant. Since that time, they have been served by a vacancy pastor. All the while, this little congregation has set a deliberate focus on reaching out to her inactives and genuinely welcoming newcomers.

St. Paul, Flint (Rev. Jeffery Walsh) – This congregation has transitioned into the leadership of a new, yet familiar senior pastor. Now home to the last and only parochial school in our circuit, the leadership has been faithful in reevaluating a dynamically changing environment, meeting new needs with the relevancy of the Word of God.

Our Savior, Flint (Rev. Randy Schultz) – This local church continues to serve the ministry of Word and Sacrament in an ever-changing and diminishing area of Flint, seeking new ways to provide for the needs of their immediate community.

Christ the King, Flint (Revs. Brant Engel & Thomas Dunseth) – Unique in their ministry and reach, this congregation continues to serve the deaf community in Metro Flint and Mid-Michigan. They have also served to form two vicars for work in the much-underserved field of deaf ministry.

Messiah, Clio (Rev. Erik Cloeter) – The church in Clio is blessed to continue adding converts to the Priesthood of All Believers, regularly teaching and baptizing adults, teens, children and entire families. At the same time they have moved forward with a successful capitol campaign, allowing them to improve their facilities and make them more visible and accessible to the community.

St. Martin, Birch Run (Rev. James Chinery) – This congregation has been blessed by God to have grown in numbers and devotion in the past three years. They have also experienced success through their Faith Can Move Mountains capital campaign, while remaining faithful to their commitment to the Michigan District.

Christ, Birch Run (Rev. Rick Hillenbrand) – The remnant of this torn congregation remained faithful to their Lord, His Word and Sacrament, and their pastor, despite incredible conflict and behavior on the part of some that was unbefitting of the Bride of Christ. These individuals are now being served in neighboring congregations, while their pastor trains faithfully in the CPE Program.

The congregations of the Flint North Circuit are blessed by Jesus Christ to be blessings of God within the increasingly challenging frontline of our unique, yet diverse communities.

Circuit #12 – Flint South Circuit **Rev. Dean Dumbrille, Circuit Visitor**

The Flint South Circuit #12 has experienced growth since the last convention, making some changes as necessitated by the

circumstances of congregational needs and goals. As a circuit in the Flint area, they seek to work with their neighboring congregations to build the fellowship of the faithful through various opportunities for service to their communities.

Lamb of God, Flint – Since the last District Convention, when Peace Lutheran and Redeemer Lutheran officially merged to become Lamb of God Lutheran in Flint, the former Pastor of Redeemer, Rev. Timothy Speckman, was called to glory. Rev. Paul Boerger was called and installed as Pastor of Lamb of God. Our Future Committee was formed to consider expansion of our present facilities to better meet our ministry needs. An architect was chosen to draw up plans for the expansion of our facilities. A Capital Fund Drive was held under the guidance of Ray Zavada. A groundbreaking service was held. Meetings held with the Township Planning Commission delayed construction for 4 months. Construction of our 8,000 sq. ft. addition (new sanctuary, offices, restrooms, greeting area and expansion of fellowship hall) began in October, with Dedication to be held once facilities are completed, probably in July 2015. Many souls were received into glory and also new souls were added by baptisms and evangelism efforts. Ministry to people in need in the Flint area continues to be one of our priorities.

Pilgrim, Burton – In 2013, we did a successful capital fund-raising to replace the church roof and parking lot. We raised more money than we needed, and completed the work later that summer. We should have the loan completely paid off, one year early, this summer. In 2014, we embarked on implementing the Dwelling 1:14 Mission Community program at Pilgrim, and are in the process of building and equipping several Mission Communities within our congregation for the purposes of evangelism and outreach. This year, we will approve a new Ten-Year Strategic Plan for the growth and ministries of our church. The Lord has richly blessed us since the last District Convention.

Faith, Grand Blanc – Faith continues to pursue its mission of faithfully living every relationship in God's way. New on staff are Jason von der Lage as Youth Director and Robert Scott as SMP Pastor serving in the areas of outreach and connections. Pastor Scott is also the lead pastor for The Gathering Place, a satellite mission of Faith in Northwest Oakland County which occupies a rented store space near the corner of Dixie Highway and Davisburg Road. Other staff and lay servants continue to work together to grow as disciples and assimilate new disciples into the body of Christ.

Hope, Linden – Hope Lutheran Church in Linden is rejoicing in the Lord for all of His many blessings to us. In addition to worship and Bible study, we've been involved with a mentoring program with Central Elementary School called Kids Hope U.S.A. Twelve of our members spend one hour per week helping and mentoring an elementary child. We also have a new program called "Oasis," in which middle school students from our town come to our church every Thursday afternoon to enjoy a time of fun and friendship. Pool, ping pong, volleyball, basketball, and crafts are all part of the program. Our Bibles and Basketball program

on Tuesday nights has grown to about fifteen people, many of whom are unchurched at the present time. And we look forward to our third annual "Run for Hope", a 5K event that we hold to benefit students at Linden High School. We are also excited to have a new elevator/lift that will be a blessing to many, and look forward to having new carpeting in our sanctuary and offices. We thank God for his greatest blessings to us—His Son, our Savior, Jesus—and for all of the other blessing that He showers on us.

Christ, Goodrich – Founded in August of 1858 in the hills of Hadley, Mich., Christ Lutheran Church is said to be the oldest Church in Lapeer County. Today, by the grace of God in Christ Jesus, we worship in the same sanctuary that was built by some of our founding fathers over 130 years ago... for the same purpose... to worship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bringing Christ to our little community. This past summer, we also celebrated the 150th anniversary of our Cemetery, at the top of Kerr Hill. We thank and praise God for our continued existence.

New Life Community, Swartz Creek – Over the past several years, New Life Community Lutheran has moved in a specific missional direction. We are seeking to address the urban needs of Flint. Our ministry to the men's homeless shelter, called My Brother's Keeper; our housing of homeless families at our church on a quarterly basis; and the support of food pantries throughout Flint area are but a few of our primary missional tasks. We are hopeful that the mission plant on the east side of Flint becomes a reality as we plan to support it financially as well as dedicating a portion of Pastor Yops' time to coordinate the outreach efforts. In addition to the aforementioned, the church ordained David Rossow into the holy ministry as an SMP Pastor to serve in the areas of administration and church management. We have begun to experience modest growth after the negative effects of the economic recession a number of years ago. We believe that this growth will continue as we implement outreach as well inreach strategies.

Trinity, Fenton – In 2015, Trinity Lutheran Church of Fenton, in the interest of providing a setting for ever-larger ministry of Word and Sacrament, broke ground for their new facility. The new building sits 1500 feet west of their present site on 13.5 acres of a prime location on the main east-west artery of Fenton. This is the culmination of 17 years of planning and effort to see this facility come into being through sacrificial giving by the congregation and generous support by CEF. It is a great joy to build a structure dedicated to the confession of the Lutheran faith in doctrine and practice, where Divine Service will be offered and the community of Fenton will be able to receive Christ manifest for their salvation and service to their neighbor.

Circuit #13 – Lapeer Circuit Rev. John C. Kaiser, Circuit Visitor

Trinity, Davison – God is good. In response to God's love and mercy, the people of God at Trinity Lutheran Church of Davison seek to share His love and mercy in both old and new ways. In recent years we have built upon existing

ministries and launched some new initiatives, including: a monthly worship service and meal for homeless men in the city of Flint; providing shelter and meals to homeless families four weeks each year through the new Family Promise of Genesee County; and befriending international students in Flint through conversational English classes and other practical and loving ways.

Holy Redeemer, Dryden – Since the last Michigan District convention, Holy Redeemer has continued its strong involvement with Linked Hearts, a mercy ministry operated as a non-profit organization by all the Christian congregations in Dryden. The free community corn roast continues to grow and this year will be the sixth year Holy Redeemer has sponsored this outreach event. The congregation has also started to offer community movie nights and more fellowship activities for men. In addition, the women's ministry continues to expand opportunities for fellowship, spiritual growth and service.

Calvary, Flint – Calvary has been served on Sundays by Rev. John Mueller (Valley Lutheran High School, Saginaw) and Rev. David Hensler (Emeritus), who make shut-in and hospital calls and help out with adult instruction classes, funerals, etc. 2013 also saw a community garden, as a few members of the congregation, together with local residents and early-release prisoners, tilled, planted, and tended a garden on church property, giving away the produce to neighborhood residents who stopped by (along with devotion booklets and other outreach items). The garden received additional support from various community sources.

St. Mark, Flint – We are using Gallup Organization's "Living Your Strengths" to develop strengths-based serving, which focuses on God-given talents, spiritual gifts and personal passion. We transitioned our contemporary worship in the gym to a Second Sunday Multimedia Service in the church. Our Family Life ministry has expanded under our full-time Minister of Family life, with monthly Family Fun Nights, weekly High School Girls Bible Study, weekly Moms Pops and Tots, and additional Jr. and Sr. High youth activities, which include events with other Lutheran churches. The last two summers we have experienced the joy of giving as we have raised significant funds for "Food for the Poor" to aid those in poverty in Central America and the Caribbean. God is so good to us!

St. Paul, Lapeer – St. Paul, Lapeer operates a Child Care program that takes children from ages 0–4. The number of children served in 2014 was 125. The congregation also operates a 3- and 4-year old preschool and an early-fives through eighth-grade day school. St. Paul has been blessed with a Food for Families program which feeds about 95 people every Friday. The number of families needing food has been increasing, as unemployment benefits are running out and there are few local job opportunities. The congregation conducts a food distribution program that gives food to about 18 needy families each week. The congregation partially sponsors Rev. J.P. Cima, an LCMS missionary in Vietnam through the TIM program. St. Paul has also supported basic health and cooking education classes in Vietnam. The congregation also

participates in the Refuge. This is a cooperative effort by the churches in Lapeer to provide food and shelter to the homeless people of the community during the cold months. St. Paul also sponsors a community garden. Garden plots on the church's land are made available to families of the community who want to grow their own garden food. There are 48 garden plots. It is a wonderful tool for creating goodwill in the community. Finally, during the coat distribution program over 900 coats were given to people in the area. In 2013 St. Paul Celebrated its 140th Anniversary of serving Christ in the Lapeer community.

New Life In Christ, North Branch – New Life In Christ has been served by Deacon Joseph Schierlinger since April 24, 2008. Many thanks go to Rev. Marvin Ramthun for being supervisory pastor for another year. In 2013-2014, 6 baptisms took place. Six young individuals were confirmed in 2013 and five more will be confirmed next spring. New Life In Christ has added 6 new members to the church rolls after they took adult classes. The Sunday school attendance is holding around 30 and VBS in August was once again successful with over 50 attending. The students from VBS were able to raise over 2,000 dollars for the local House of Hope (meals for local poor). Many men from the congregation and from Holy Trinity, Fenton attended the yearly men's retreat at Loon Lake in Hale, Mich. They enjoyed three days of Bible study, fellowship, golf, and plenty of good food. The yearly golf outing at Washakie Resort was a very enjoyable and successful day. The new stained glass and the new etched windows are now all in and they are beautiful, thanks be to God. The Lord has continued to bless His little Church on the Corner. With the help of the Holy Spirit, may New Life In Christ continue to go, baptize, and teach.

St. Timothy, Otisville – As in past years, the Lord continues to bless the ministry at St. Timothy. Though the Love Cupboard food distribution ministry was closed in 2014, the congregation continues to work with a local supermarket distributing food to the needy in the community. The congregation continues to offer assistance to Otisville and the surrounding area with 2 mobile food pantries in conjunction with the Eastern Michigan Food bank. The Lord continues to bless our outreach efforts with our annual VBS and trunk-and-treat ministries. The congregation also participates in the annual community hot-dog festival as a means of reaching the lost in Otisville. St. Timothy has also had the wonderful opportunity to add Jerry Bishop as our part-time Music Director. Jerry brings years of experience in the music field and has greatly contributed to the growth of the music ministry. Under his tutelage, St. Timothy has seen tremendous growth in our choir and the start of a praise group. In 2015 and beyond, with the Lord's help, St. Timothy desires to seek out the needs of our community and equip our members to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Circuit #14 - Port Huron Circuit Rev. Gerhardt Doroh, Circuit Visitor

The Port Huron Circuit is comprised of 13 congregations, 2 Lutheran grade schools and 4 early education centers. We are located in the Blue Water area as it borders Lake Huron

First, Algonac – Pastor J. Robert Herrod

We have received a positive response to two new mid-week Bible Studies, a monthly community dinner (30-40 people) and a Thanksgiving Eve dinner (over 100 people). An afternoon mid-week Advent service has bolstered attendance.

Our Saviour, Armada – Pastor Sam Sherouse

We have been working on Church / Bible study / Sunday School attendance. Our preschool families now participate in worship, and weekly inserts to the homes share the theme for each Sunday as well as Advent / Lent. The Congregation at “Word and Prayer” is a double-sided paper which includes the week’s theme, weekly Bible passage, memory verse, hymn, Psalm, Catechism section and Bible readings to read the Bible in a year. Also included are daily prayer themes, praying for families, shut-ins, and the military throughout the week.

St. Peter, Fairhaven – Pastor Steven Hoerr

Our Sunday School program started several years ago continues to grow and has expanded to 3 classes in order to provide a better age-specific environment. We continue to hold one worship service in order to maintain the friendly cohesiveness of the congregation. Our year-round outreach includes providing food items for the food pantries in our area and personal items for the veterans at the VA facility. Our in-reach efforts continue to include our home-bound members in the life of the church through visitations, sermon recordings and personal correspondence.

Hope, Goodells is being served communion each month by Pastor William Otten. Mr. Dave Rochlitz, a commissioned minister at Lutheran High North, assists the congregation each week. Sunday School classes began in 2014 and a VBS day was held at the neighboring county park. The Historic Church and School were used for worship and teaching times at the park. The day ended with a picnic. They plan to expand this in 2015.

St. Matthew, Lexington – Pastor Barry Sheldon

In 2014, we celebrated our 60th anniversary and the Lord blessed us with a gifted organist/pianist after the previous organist retired. We continue to lift up our praise to God with special music and a resurgent choir. The heartbeat of our church continues to be the doctrine of Justification and the administration of the Sacraments that Jesus gave to His church. “It is good to praise the Lord ... to sing for joy at the works of Your hands.”

Living Faith, Marine City – Pastor Keith Dusheke was installed in December of 2013 after a 2-year vacancy. The congregation continues to make its presence known in the community. A Children’s ministry—Locomotion—is held each Tuesday, and a Wednesday high school gathering is growing. A monthly movie night/supper continues to be a draw for people, with attendance reaching 100 at times.

Light of Christ, Marysville – Pastor Paul Kruse

Our congregation celebrated its 5th year in September 2014. We took on our mortgage with CEF and rolled in some funding to make the lower level classrooms, fellowship area,

and Sunday School area handicap accessible. Our parking lot is completely paved. Increased attendance resulted in two services being held. We are leading a community-wide project with other Christians to join resources in order to meet mercy needs in the area. Our annual July rummage sale serves several hundred people with low-cost items. Last year, \$2,000 in donations were then given to local charities.

St. Andrew, Memphis – Pastor Joshua Ball

“The Mass is retained among us, and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved, save that the parts sung in Latin are interspersed here and there with English hymns, which have been added to teach the people. Ceremonies are needed to this end alone that the unlearned be taught what they need to know of Christ. Not only has Paul commanded us to use in the church a language understood by the people (1 Cor. 14:2–9) but it has also been so ordained by man’s law. The people are accustomed to partake of the Sacrament together, if any be fit for it, and this also increases the reverence and devotion of public worship. For none are admitted except they be first examined. The people are also advised concerning the dignity and use of the Sacrament, how great consolation it brings anxious consciences, that they may learn to believe God, and to expect and ask of Him all that is good. In this connection, they are also instructed regarding other and false teachings on the Sacrament. This worship pleases God; such use of the Sacrament nourishes true devotion toward God” (AC Art. 24 XXIV, edited).

Faith, Port Huron is presently served by Pastor Steve Schilke, Intentional Interim Pastor. Pastor Schilke supervises Deacon students Jeff Strock and Sean Burke. For the past 9 months, the congregation and leaders have completed a self-study, which led them to issue a call for a Seminary graduate. If no candidate is available, a call list will be requested. The congregation has an active music program and involvement in the area continues.

Trinity, Port Huron – Pastor Mark Madson and Principal John Britton were installed 2013. A large bequest allowed us to pay off our building and send in additional support to the District. We have a long-term commitment to the neighborhood with a lively and diverse school ministry, interfacing with local food banks and a pregnancy center. Each year, 100 quilts are sent to LWR. More attention is being given by members to outreach through the outdoor signboard, a re-engineered website, and social media, which connects with younger generations. One way to express our feelings and hopes about our ministry is through some hashtags: #BecauseofTrinityTheWordofGodbringshopeandcomforttobrokenworld and #thekidrenofourcommunityarenurturedandequipped.

Living Hope on the Bay, Ray – Pastor Paul Warner

We completed our 7th year in which we achieved self-supporting status. We presently lease building facilities from the New Haven Area Schools while looking at a permanent location. “Hope for the Hungry” continues to grow in providing food, clothing and household items for low-income families. Through a Thrivent grant, this pantry was able to

achieve partner status with Gleaner's Food Bank of Detroit. This status enables the purchase of food items at reduced costs as well as receiving food gifts from local stores. Monthly suppers and the Weekend Hunger program (funded by a partnership with the school district, local business and individuals) provide nutritional food to be distributed to children on the weekends. These ministries provide hope for members to witness and pray with those who come. A VBS sports camp model was used in 2014.

Immanuel, St. Clair – Pastor Alan Schweiger

These past three years have been marked by many changes which have propelled us to reflect and grow spiritually and physically. The Week End Backpack, sponsored by individuals and local businesses, provides food-filled backpacks for families in need each weekend. By God's grace and the generosity of God's people, a new sanctuary was erected debt-free. Worship began on Christmas Eve with the dedication on January 11, 2015 under the theme "To God Be the Glory." 450 members said "Amen" as the sanctuary, altar, baptismal wall, cross, and organ were blessed. New staff members with renewed enthusiasm and spiritual gifts serve an ever-growing Preschool/Daycare center, new adult confirmation participants, new Bible studies reaching out to new segments of the church and new opportunities for community outreach and service. There are opportunities for us to be embedded as brothers and sisters in Christ and to be in situations for sharing the Good News of Jesus.

St. Peter's, Richmond – Pastor Mark Haller was installed on the 1st Saturday evening service in Advent 2014. Immediately after being installed, he administered his 1st Baptism. In August 2014, Mrs. Heather Haller was installed as the Principal of the day school. Seasons of Learning Preschool/Daycare was begun. Deaconess Cindy Engelking is active in care and visitation ministries (hospital/shut-in and nursing homes). Mr. John Summers serves as youth minister and congregation ministries. Deacon student Howard Harkness assists the Pastor in worship, visitation, confirmation and outreach ministries. A new governance system was begun in January 2015.

Circuit #15 – Macomb North Circuit **Rev. Edward Steeh, Circuit Visitor**

St. Luke, Clinton Twp. – Rev. Russell Johnson, Rev. Bert Thompson (12/31/13) Baptized Members / Confirmed Members / Avg. attendance: 973 / 764 / 262

Trinity, Clinton Twp. – Rev. Kenneth Wise, Rev. Brian West, Rev. Gary Richard (12/31/13) Baptized Members / Confirmed Members / Avg. attendance: 2,638 / 1,792 / 861

Immanuel, Macomb – Rev. Greg Griffith, Rev. Michael Heiden, Rev. Paul Burow, Rev. Michael Lutz (12/31/13) Baptized Members / Confirmed Members / Avg. attendance: 4,673 / 2,823 / 1,337

St. Peter, Macomb – Rev. Ken Wagener, Rev. Matt Baye, Rev. Mark Wuggazer (12/31/14) Baptized Members /

Confirmed Members / Avg. attendance: 2,754 / 2,792 / 1,300
Thanks to the leadership and support of the Michigan CEF, we completed our Fellowship Hall and Ministry Center (Office Wing). Our day school enrollment is just over 400 and our Preschool enrollment is 180. Kathy Krause is serving as Interim Principal for the 2014/2015 school year. She has stepped up to the challenge, working long hours alongside Asst. Principal Bob Hoch and our dedicated faculty. Kathy is the wife of our now-sainted member and past Business Manager, Mike Krause. In 2015, our pastoral staff and leadership team will delve into and implement our District's Critical Targets and Outcomes. We will re-commit ourselves to being and thriving as a congregation and school with a passion for the Great Commission and for Great Compassion. We will strive to foster healthy relationships, structures, processes and goals in all aspects of our work. We're grateful for our District leadership, as they've set the direction and tone for ministry in our churches, schools and other organizations.

Good Shepherd, Chesterfield – Rev. David Ulm (12/31/13) Baptized Members / Confirmed Members / Avg. attendance: 89 / 85 / 57

Christ, New Baltimore – Rev. Barry Mueller (12/31/13) Baptized Members / Confirmed Members / Avg. attendance: 103 / 90 / 67

St. John, Ray Township – Rev. Edward Steeh (12/31/14) Baptized Members / Confirmed Members / Avg. attendance: 193 / 168 / 99
Our active Missions Society spearheads congregation support for three international missionaries. Our dedicated Christian Care Committee continues to organize financial and other help for people in the congregation and community. This includes housing and feeding twenty-five homeless men each year. We do this work along with Christ, New Baltimore and Good Shepherd, Chesterfield, through the Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team (MCREST). We celebrated our 130th anniversary in 2014 with an expansion of our choir loft. It can now accommodate our bell choir, along with the vocal choir, under the superb leadership of Erwin Aufdemberge.

Circuit # 16 – Macomb Northwest Circuit **Rev. Craig Meyer – Circuit Visitor**

The pastors, SMP's and deacons of Circuit #16 attend a monthly breakfast. At this breakfast we have had representatives from the District, local high schools, business leaders, and area charities attend to speak with us. We also take the opportunity to pray for one another and receive support.

Grace Fellowship, Romeo – Rev. Eric Majeski
Baptized Membership – 734
Communicant Membership – 420
Average Worship Attendance – 211

Peace, Shelby Twp. – Rev. David Klemm
Baptized Membership – 675
Communicant Membership – 479
Average Worship Attendance – 300

Redemption, Sterling Heights – Mr. Jerry Corbett, Deacon
Baptized Membership – 90
Communicant Membership – 75
Average Worship Attendance – 52

St. Paul, Sterling Heights – Rev. Walther Keller
Baptized Membership – 234
Communicant Membership – 218
Average Worship Attendance – 102

Faith, Troy – Rev. Warren Arndt
Baptized Membership – 3,375
Communicant Membership – 2,608
Average Worship Attendance – 1,351

Trinity, Utica – Rev. Norman Koy
Baptized Membership – 4,478
Communicant Membership – 3,900
Average Worship Attendance – 1,485

Our Redeemer, Washington – Rev. Jeffrey Draeger
Baptized Membership – 516
Communicant Membership – 500
Average Worship Attendance – 256

Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Twp. – Rev. Jonathan Trinklein
Baptized Membership – 1,263
Communicant Membership – 953
Average Worship Attendance – 822

All Nations, Troy – Rev. Amer Khan
Baptized Membership – 78
Communicant Membership – 78
Average Worship Attendance – 45

Family of Christ, Imlay City – Mr. David Hoffman, Deacon
Baptized Membership – 206
Communicant Membership – 154
Average Worship Attendance – 55

Faith Tamil, Troy – Rev. Arul Alexander
Baptized Membership – 59
Communicant Membership – 41
Average Worship Attendance – 45

Circuit # 17 – Oakland North Circuit **Rev. Kendall L. Schaeffer, Circuit Visitor**

Oakland North Circuit has met jointly with Circuit #26 (Kensington Circuit) over the past triennium. We have shared great fellowship and gathered in worship centered on the sharing of the Lord's Supper in the months of September, November, December, January, February, March and April. We have also been using the Synodically-prepared Bible studies for Winkles to lead us in our discussion.

St. Trinity, Clarkston – Rev. Kendall L. Schaeffer
St. Trinity continues to reach into the community in many ways. We seek to live our mission statement: As we grow in Christ's love and the Word we will share Christ's love

with the world. We have become more intentional in living the Great Commission, setting a vision plan before us and meeting to set strategic goals. Our focus is foremost upon the Word of God, teaching the truth of His Word in what we think, say and do. We reach out through My Habitat Clarkston, Oxford Pregnancy Center, and Clarkston Lighthouse. We support the ministry of St. Paul, Pontiac and have adopted a missionary and sponsor a seminarian. Our congregation offers opportunities to various community sports teams, a Vietnam Veterans group, AA and other community groups. Regular blood drives, serving as a voting precinct, and allowing AP Testing are cooperatives we have with community endeavors. One of our annual highlights is a 4th of July outdoor worship when the community is invited to join in worship, picnic foods, and watching the fireworks display. We offered Financial Peace University and are developing a focused program designed to reach the growing elderly population in our congregation and community. Our congregational preschool hired a new director with the retirement of our former director. Through new insight and outreach, Julie Schultz is re-building this outreach opportunity as she continues to lead our children in spiritual growth. Assisted by an Eagle Scout project, we have built a walking trail around our land and are working to put benches and Bible passages on the trail for spiritual growth of those walking the paths. Our congregation has grown in various ways as we serve God and community with His love.

The Gathering Place, Clarkston – Rev. Bob Scott (SMP)
The Gathering Place, mission plant of Faith Lutheran Church in Grand Blanc, continues to serve the Clarkston/Davisburg community through service events like My Habitat Clarkston, and by reaching out to the lost and hurting through Christian-based classes such as Grief Share and Financial Peace University. We also faithfully gather around Word and Sacrament on Sunday evenings, with Bible study immediately following worship. 2015 saw many changes and blessings at The Gathering Place, including the calling of an SMP pastor, the hiring of a part-time worship leader, and the formation of a partnership with St. Stephen Lutheran Church in nearby Waterford. We continue to praise God as He leads us in new ways to share Christ with the community, in order to build up the community of God.

Good Shepherd, Lake Orion – Rev. Gary Koltz
Pastor Mackowiak finished his term as interim pastor. The congregation called Mr. Eric Heins as their first called school Principal. In June, 2014 Pastor Gary Koltz was ordained and installed to lead Good Shepherd.

Prince of Peace, Ortonville – Rev. James Van Dellen (Interim)
Pastor Jim Van Dellen was installed as our vacancy pastor on April 1, 2012, and has served us for about three years now. Deacon Mike Sternemann also continues to serve us, especially when Pastor Van Dellen is on vacation. We are thankful to have these servants of the Lord as a part of our congregation, ministering to us and our community. Prince of Peace congregation is active in meeting the needs of people in our community through the Ortonville Community Emergency

Fund (OCEF) by way of special gatherings of food, gifts and funds at Christmas and Easter. We also seek to help those of our own congregation who are in need through special offerings and gifts. God has blessed us with several new members over the past three years, most of them through transfers and professions of faith. We have been blessed to also welcome several young people through Confirmation.

Holy Cross, Oxford – Rev. Bertram Cottam (Interim)

We at Holy Cross have been blessed for the past three (3) years. Pastor Schulz, who has been with Holy Cross for 24 years, decided to retire. His ministry at Holy Cross was truly a blessing and the congregation will miss him dearly. So at the present time we are moving forward in search of a new minister, continuing to pray for the Lord's guidance. We are sure that the Lord will send us the right candidate. The preschool for the past three (3) years has been blessed with great attendance under the direction of Roxann Marchesi, who continues to do an outstanding job.

St. Paul Community, Pontiac – Rev. Dietrich Gladden

Here at St. Paul we have experienced a major outreach of our inner city ministry over the past three years:

- Our Father's Hands Food Pantry & Clothing Closet has continued to provide food and clothing to the low-income people of the community. The needs have continued to increase each year, and 2014 set a record with 2,024 being served. In 2013, the Food Pantry received a generous donation of canned vegetables, which we are still distributing today. And in 2014, an Eagle Scout from Birmingham provided us with 5 carloads of food for the pantry.
- The Father's Hands Christmas Blessings also continue to provide gifts to needy families and individuals. In 2014 approximately 600 individuals were presented with gifts.
- In 2014, our Vacation Bible School set a record with 264 children in attendance. This was again an increase from prior years. Every year we provide a free breakfast and lunch to the children attending and, at the end of the week, each child is presented with a school backpack filled with supplies. In 2013, the LWML provided volunteers to help run our VBS, the second time in 3 years.
- St. Paul's continues to offer Wednesday Family Nights where local churches provide a light meal, and adults and children participate in separate Bible studies.
- Seasonally, we offer special community dinners, i.e. – Harvest Dinner; Thanksgiving Dinner, Christmas Dinner and Easter Brunch, as well as an Easter Egg Hunt and Easter baskets for the children. Attendance at each of these dinners usually exceeds 300 people.
- In 2013, with a grant from the LWML, St. Paul's was able to hire a church secretary, which has enabled Pastor Dietrick and his wife to put their energies toward other areas of the ministry.
- Mrs. Gladden continues her Overcomers lunchtime meetings on Tuesdays for those in the community that need encouragement.
- Last year the AA program increased its presence to twice a week – Wednesdays & Thursdays at 6pm.
- In September of 2014, St. Paul's began its Spanish Ministry and started a second worship service on Sundays for the

Hispanic community in Pontiac. Rev. Dan Murray was added as a worship assistant to translate for Rev. Gladden on Sundays for that service. The attendance at this service has grown each month since it started.

- At this time, St. Paul's has two gentlemen working on their Deacon licenses. Mr. Harry Adams and Mr. Matthew Koch have almost completed their classes to become full-time deacons.
- Future Leaders program, started in 2014, is a weekly after-school youth program with approximately 5-10 high school students from the neighborhood. They organize service projects in the community.
- In 2013-14 we offered a Community Vegetable Garden. Through generous donations we were able to provide plants and soil for neighbors to take home, or space in the garden to grow plants.
- Partnering with other area Lutheran churches, Voice of Truth provides a week-long community service program for the youth during the summer.
- In 2015, we are planning to offer ESL classes beginning sometime in the spring – details are still pending.

Living Word, Rochester – Rev. John Kassen

Living Word was founded in September of 1991 and has continued to grow and expand its ministry in Oakland Township, Michigan. With a starting worship attendance of 86 per Sunday at Hart Middle School in Rochester, Living Word has grown to 268 in worship per weekend in its own facilities. Living Word has operated both an early childhood center and Kindergarten-through-8th-grade school since 1997. This past winter, the difficult and painful decision was made to not open grades 1 through 8 in the fall of 2015. The early childhood center with Kindergarten will become the focus of Living Word's community outreach and mission of P.R.A.I.S.E.

P.R.A.I.S.E.! Making a Difference is the mission focus (statement) for our mission and ministry. It is a simple anagram that directs our thoughts to:

- Participate in worship and Bible study
- Reach out with Christ's love
- Anchored in Word and Sacrament
- Invest in families
- Share our resources
- Equip the next generation

As Living Word follows the Spirit's direction for ministry in the future, we anticipate God's continued blessings.

St. John, Rochester – Rev. Marc Schwichtenberg and Rev. Stephen Grafe

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory!" (Ephesians 3:20-21a). These inspired words of Scripture sum up quite well what we have been experiencing together the past three years as a church and school family at St. John in Rochester! After some former years of severe turmoil and setback, Jesus is having His way more and more to make a significant impact for eternity! Some of the measurable highlights over the past three years include:

- 134 amazing new families (226 adults and 111 kids)

became part of our church! Add to this 119 children and 9 adults (including 4 former Muslims) who were washed in water and Word through Baptism! Plus, this past spring 80 young people were confirmed in that gift of faith!

- We have experienced a growing surge in worship attendance with a combined overall weekly average of 934 people of all ages gathering in the transformational presence of Christ through His Word and Sacrament this past year! (This represents a 25% increase over the last three years!)
- Our Christian school is reaching out more and more to share daily the love of Jesus through quality education for 269 children and their families! (A 26% increase in enrollment over the last three years!)
- Every week, hundreds of children, youth, men, women, dads, moms and seniors continually gather to study and grow through God's Word on Sunday mornings and throughout the week through an increasing number of ongoing small and large group studies led by over 50 individual teachers, leaders and facilitators that are making an eternal impact and transforming lives!
- This past summer, Vacation Bible School reached out with the eternal love of Jesus to close to 300 children (many from families not previously connected with St. John); this was made possible by over 100 servant-hearted volunteers!
- Every week, people representing countries from around the world gather on our campus to learn to speak the English language and experience the love of Jesus through our ESL ministry that has now expanded to include a weekly Bible study. In addition, our mission partnership with POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach) includes an on-site weekly Bible study outreach in Jesus' name to local Arabs.
- Hundreds of intergenerational family members have continually lived out their faith through compassionate service efforts in tandem with our local mission partners in Rochester, Pontiac and Detroit ... as well as on-site opportunities this past year with Kids Against Hunger and Feed My Starving Children. Over 150,000 meals for starving kids around the world were packed by over 700 volunteers!!!
- Beyond the countless number of individuals who faithfully give of their God-given talents and time every week in so many critical areas of ongoing ministry and care, we also employ a true dream team of 39 church and school staff members (full and part-time) who faithfully serve with a heart of Christ! Our master staffing plan continues to take shape as we respond to our established Strategic Directions that flow from our new Mission together. These include additions to our staff in the past three years: a new Director of Music, Senior Pastor, Associate Pastor, School Principal, Director of Operations, Director of School Admissions, Maintenance Manager, several Teachers, Director of Modern Praise Worship, Director of High School Youth AND we are currently gearing up to officially call a Director of Child & Family Ministry in the next couple months!

While numbers and statistics aren't everything, they are helpful in gaining a greater appreciation for the immeasurable return that comes when, led by the Holy Spirit's calling over us, we invest our God-given lives and resources in

the work that the Lord has given us. God truly is filling us with His powerful presence to make an eternal difference in Jesus' name!

Crown of Life, Rochester Hills – Rev. Keith Lemley

The last three years at Crown of Life have been exciting. God has blessed our congregation through Family Friendly Partners Network and the opportunity to renovate our building. Family Friendly Partners Network taught us to focus ministry to empower the family to be the center of faith formation. We were given many tools to minister to families. While we have not implemented many of the programs and ideas, we have begun to modify the culture of the church toward Family-Friendly ministry. We remodeled our sanctuary to improve the worship experience. We added technology to provide more ways to proclaim the Gospel and give praise to God. The first floor of the building is being renovated to house a Christian preschool we plan to open this September, by the grace of God.

Gethsemane, Rochester Hills – Rev. Thomas Fischer

During the past triennium, Gethsemane Lutheran Church ("GLC") enjoyed God's blessings in two major areas of ministry. The first major area of blessing began when GLC commenced a three-year LCEF Capital Campaign entitled, "A Great Heritage, A Greater Future 2." Led by Rev. Dr. Donald Sandmann, CFS Consultant, GLC raised nearly \$130,000 (nearly 50% more than expected) for major capital improvements and mission. The second major area of blessing is that, in 2013, GLC began a significant transformation as a multi-tiered missional community.

- GLC's First Tier celebrates and encourages GLC's ministries as mission-focused communities. GLC's Quilting ministry made nearly 1,500 quilts in this triennium, many of which have been sent to Lutheran World Relief. GLC's Terrific Tuesdays (children's youth ministry) and senior ministries are transforming missionally. Rev. Kelly Bedard's workshop and Rev. Greg Finke's insights from his book, "Joining Jesus On His Mission," have been essential resources in this transformation.
- GLC's Second Tier missional strategy invited Epic Church (ED-LCMS) and Pastor Tim Kade to partner with us to "Multiply" our ministry energies by strategic partnering of resources. Begun in Fall, 2014, GLC's and Epic's partnership has resulted in a vibrant youth ministry, the beginnings of effective family ministries, and a community-oriented senior ministry.
- GLC's Third Tier missional strategy, "GoodLife Community Partnership," was founded in July, 2014. GoodLife was made possible by a MD-LCMS mission grant. We received insights, support, and coaching from Rev. Dr. Rob Kasper (MD-LCMS), Rev. Michael Ruhl (CUSM), and Rev. Ed Doerner (Messiah, Midland). Since September, 2014 GoodLife Community Partnership has begun to make significant inroads into our community.

Through this multi-tiered missional strategy, GLC and its partners at Epic and GoodLife Community Partnership will enable us, by God's blessing, to make an increasing impact on our local schools, senior living facilities, community social service organizations, and individuals and their

families in our ministry area. We eagerly seek and anticipate God's direction and blessings as these ministry tiers make a greater impact in our community.

Incaruate Word, Rochester Hills – Rev. Allen D. Lunneberg
The most distinctive aspect of Incarnate Word is that we do not have a physical building of our own but rent the choir rehearsal room at Lutheran High School Northwest. That, as well as the small size of our congregation, means we do not have the usual programs and activities of a larger congregation. We gather for regular worship every Sunday and on other festivals. Pastor Lunneberg is always available for hospital calls, funerals and other events. The congregation has hosted an annual Christmas Concert at Oakland University each December, gathering canned goods for those in need. Once a month, we gather at a member's home to study the Lutheran Confessions. Our growth usually results from people finding us on our own web page. This winter, we are studying the Small Catechism as catechesis, especially for four new member candidates.

St. Stephen, Waterford – Rev. Chad Speller and Rev. Benjamin Bruns

St. Stephen has seen many changes in the past three years. Reverend Chad Speller was installed to serve as Senior Pastor. St. Stephen Lutheran School closed and its building was later sold. Reverend Benjamin Bruns was installed to serve as Associate Pastor. Our outreach efforts included a Mom's Day Out Program, Kids Against Hunger event (packed 10,000 meals), Destiny Rescue Jewelry Party (raised \$800), and gift cards for seminarians (\$1,000). We were blessed with 27 children 4 adults being baptized. Our sanctuary beautification project allowed us to install new windows and air conditioning and do technology upgrades. St. Stephen added two new staff members: Terry Baughman, NextGen Ministry, and Lisa Jarrell, Family Services Director. This allows us to continue offering traditional, blended, and contemporary styles of worship. We rejoice that 25% of our adults are in Sunday morning Bible study, and our successful VBS program doubled in size over this time period. We also host weekly youth Bible study, and in October of 2014 we hosted a Trunk-or-Treat for over 50 families from the community. Our expanded contemporary music program includes a weekly worship service with full praise team. Monthly youth/fellowship events are ongoing for the first time in years. We hosted the Concordia University Wisconsin Choir Tour Concert in March 2015 and sponsored a float in Waterford's 2015 Memorial Day Parade. Our New Horizons Bible Study, just started in 2015, reaches adults with disabilities.

We also rejoice with our other emeriti pastors who continue to serve us: Rev. E. Dale Evanson, Rev. Richard Krugler and Rev. Glenn Sattelmeyer. Recently, Rev. Daniel Lochner, retired military chaplain, also joined Circuit #17. It is with great joy that we continue to look forward to Living as God's Loved and Compassionate Community, sharing the blessings and furthering the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Circuit (#18) - Birmingham Circuit **Rev. Cary M. Richert, Circuit Visitor**

The Birmingham Circuit consists of nine congregations located in the southern part of Oakland County, covering an area bounded by Hazel Park, Troy, Warren and Bloomfield Hills. Among the nine congregations currently ministering in the circuit there are a cumulative 6,200 baptized souls and 4,855 communicant members. In addition, there are 2 Christian day schools and 6 preschools.

Our Shepherd, Birmingham is served by Revs. Ray Scherbarth (Emeritus), Steve Woodfin (SMP), Mike Vieregge (SMP), and Mark Doede (SMP). Former senior pastor, Rev. Carl Gnewuch, accepted a call to Alexandria, Va., after which Our Shepherd determined to enter into a period of Intentional Interim ministry before calling a new senior pastor. Intentional Interim pastor Rev. Bill Roper was installed on 2/8/2015 to guide Our Shepherd through the IIM process. Our Shepherd's Christian day school and child care ministries continue to be strong outreach opportunities to the surrounding communities. They also sponsor the South Oakland Shelter one week in the winter, reaching out in love to the homeless population in the area.

Redeemer, Birmingham is served by Revs. Randy Schlak and Cary Richert. Son of the congregation Rev. Mark Bushuiakovish was ordained in the recent triennium, and is serving in Knoxville, TN. Son of the congregation C. J. Luttinen is completing his final year of study in St. Louis and will be ordained this Spring or Summer. Another member of the congregation, Freeland Goddard, is currently studying for the holy ministry at Fort Wayne. The congregation continues to reach young families in the surrounding community through its Westmaple Nursery School and Mom's Day Out ministries. And its youth ministries include mission outreaches to Mexicali as well as Family of God Soup Kitchen.

Our Savior – Deaf, Birmingham is served by Revs. Thomas Dunseth and Brant Engel and worships in the Redeemer chapel weekly. They join the Redeemer members in an interpreted service on the first Sunday of each month. They are also included in Redeemer's monthly Wednesday Lunch and Worship services and midweek Lenten services, which are interpreted by Revs. Dunseth and Engel. The relationship that has been forged between OSLCD and Redeemer continues to be strong and beneficial to both.

Cross of Christ, Bloomfield Hills is served by Rev. Randy Miller, who was installed in September, 2012 following the retirement of Rev. John Reusch as senior pastor. Emeritus Rev. James Ackerman also assists as needed in the ministry of the congregation. Cross of Christ continues to carry out a strong outreach to the local community through its children and youth ministries. Rev. Miller and the leaders of Cross of Christ are also involved in a process of re-envisioning their future as a congregation and developing a strategic plan to carry out their vision.

Circuit #19 - Macomb South Circuit **Rev. John E. Merrill, Circuit Visitor**

New Life, Hazel Park, formerly Hazel Park Lutheran Church, closed during the past triennium after a combined 88 years of ministering to the surrounding community. Members of the congregation transferred their memberships to surrounding congregations in the circuit.

Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods is served by Rev. Peter Nickel, who also serves as a chaplain in the Michigan State Police. As the fastest-growing church in Huntington Woods, and led by its pastor and congregation leaders, a strong pre-school program serves as a wonderful outreach, especially to young families in the surrounding suburban communities. In the incredible rainstorm of August 11, 2014, the church sustained extensive flood damage, particularly in its basement level. Since that time, the damage has been repaired and ministries affected are back underway. Thanks be to our gracious God!

St. Paul, Royal Oak is served by Rev. David Schmidt. Rev. Schmidt accepted a call to St. Paul after its previous pastor, Rev. Jeremy Schulz accepted a call to St. John Lutheran in Arnold, MO. Rev. Schmidt was installed as senior pastor in May, 2013. St. Paul continues to operate a strong program of Christian education through its preschool and day school ministries. The congregation is also involved in the Royal Oak community during the annual Arts Beats & Eats downtown event, at which members of the church help with recycling efforts. During Easter week, St. Paul hosts the South Oakland County Shelter at its school, in an effort to reach out to the homeless.

St. Augustine, Troy is served by Rev. Paul Monson. St. Augustine conducts a very active and successful preschool education program that ministers to the children of an extremely international area of Troy. The congregation is also blessed with a ministry of music that involves some very gifted musicians who not only lead the congregation in singing during worship, but who also conduct concerts by invitation at churches in the area. The ministry group is called *The Paul Ruehl Band*.

Holy Cross, Warren is served by Rev. Alan Eisinger. Holy Cross continues to shine the beacon of God's gracious love and forgiveness in the city of Warren. To assist them in doing this, they have purchased a 14-passenger church bus with a wheelchair lift to bring shut-ins needing transportation to church as well as to gather up neighborhood children for Vacation Bible School. The bus proclaims "No Soul Left Behind." Also added within the last triennium is a Saturday night blended service called "Meritage." A new media-oriented Bible class has been added on Wednesday mornings and evenings called "Workshop Wednesdays." The Birmingham Circuit is blessed to include the following retired pastors, who in the past, and some even now, serve/d the Circuit with honor and distinction: Rev. Duane T. Wuggazer (FL), Rev. Jon Reusch, Rev. William Grafe, Rev. John Monson, Rev. Ron Guettler, Rev. Milton Schemm.

The congregations of Macomb South Circuit seek to present the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ in multiple ways to a changing demographic reality. We are thankful that our God is so gracious and has supplied what we need to carry out the ministries He has given us.

Saint Thomas, Eastpointe – The current themes for Saint Thomas are change and adjustment. As our world and community changes, STL adjusts in using varied tactics in bringing our changeless Christ to them. Included among the changes is the conclusion of our elementary school ministry following the 2014-2015 school year. During the past triennium, SMP candidate Richard VanBriggle was ordained and continues to serve through the Genesis Center; Deacon Jerry Corbett continues to be deployed at Redemption, Sterling Heights; Rev. Mark Hetzner continues to lead the congregation; and our preschool program is still serving our community.

Bethlehem, Roseville – Bethlehem continues to give thanks to God for our thriving Early Learning Center. We were also recognized in the community by the Roseville Heritage Foundation for our help with the 2014 Gratiot Cruise. On February 20, 2015, Bethlehem celebrated 90 years of God's blessings.

Saint Peter's, Eastpointe – St. Peter's continues to serve the community with the proclamation of the Gospel in a variety of ways. Our ECC serves by welcoming infants to school-age children who then can enroll at the day school for Kindergarten through Eighth Grade education. We offer a food pantry for those in need. The Eastpointe Police Department uses the facility for SWAT team and Canine training. During the summer months we host a VBS Program and participate in the Gratiot Cruise offering parking, shade and information about St. Peter's.

Hope, Warren – During the past triennium, Warren has begun a dramatic demographic shift. The community has experienced a growing influx of people from a wide variety of cultures. To respond to the growing need for ethnic ministries, Hope has been supporting a ministry to Iraqi immigrants, providing citizenship classes that include the sharing of the Gospel. In addition, this past year Hope has partnered with POBLO to become a POBLO International Friendship Center. The ministries include weekly ESL classes, sewing classes, Bible studies, and an annual International Christmas Celebration. While the challenges of urban/suburban ministry in Michigan are widely known, the people of Hope Lutheran are eager to engage the changing world around them with the never-changing, ever-relevant Good News of Jesus Christ!

Peace, Warren – Rev. John Schwartz
Baptized Membership – 343
Communicant Membership – 268
Average Worship Attendance – 121

Trinity, Warren – Rev. Ryan Reese
Baptized Membership – 325
Communicant Membership – 320
Average Worship Attendance – 100

St. John, Fraser – Rev. Bradley Smith and Rev. Aaron Richert
Baptized Membership – 1,227
Communicant Membership – 975
Average Worship Attendance – 587

Circuit #20 - Detroit East **Rev. Steven Essenburg, Circuit Visitor**

Located on the east side of Detroit, from Downtown to the Northern border at 8 Mile Road, Circuit 20 is a microcosm of urban culture. It is also the seedbed of innovative ministry and consistent witness.

Bethany, Detroit, under the leadership of Rev. Christopher Bodley, has launched several exciting mission and ministry endeavors. Bethany has engaged the community and serves them with a food pantry, community dinners, open gym time, and A2E Sports Camps. Bethany is a site for the DHS E.C.H.O. program, providing skill assessment and assistance services for community residents seeking employment. Modeling the effectiveness of partnering, Bethany works in partnership with Gifts for All God's Children to conduct Easter Fairs and summer Vacation Bible School. A collaboration with its child development center to incorporate unchurched families was blessed with tremendous ministry success.

Serving one of the poorest and most violent areas in Detroit, Charity, Detroit and Rev. Steve Essenburg continue Charity's programs of positive community engagement. Engaged in community efforts to reduce crime, Charity works with law enforcement agencies from the Justice Department to the local precinct. Charity collaborated with Lutheran Special Education Ministries in launching the iCan Summer tutoring program and the iCan afterschool tutoring program. Reversing the trend, Charity has grown larger and younger each year. Partnering with Southeast Michigan Community Resource Corporation, Charity has rehabilitated three homes, thus providing affordable housing to low-income families.

Historic Trinity, Detroit continues its dynamic cathedral ministry in downtown Detroit. Through the launch of Lutheran Church in the City, Trinity seeks innovative ways to reach the changing and expanding population in mid-town Detroit. Trinity will be celebrating its 165th anniversary this year. 2015 is not only a year of celebration, but also a year of transition at Historic Trinity. Rev. Eberhard plans to retire in late 2015 or early 2016, and a transition team has been formed to begin the process of calling a new pastor.

Peace, Detroit installed Rev. Robert Mikkelson as their pastor in November 2014.

Bethlehem East, Detroit is served by Rev. Asaph James.
Mt. Calvary, Detroit continues to be served by Rev. James

Hill, who also leads the ministry at Family of God in Detroit.

Resurrection, Detroit is served by Rev. Scott Benjamin.

Redemption Lutheran has closed.

Understanding that the challenges of urban ministry are unique, we covet the prayers of our sister congregations. We also understand that many other unique challenges are faced by our sister congregations throughout the Michigan District and uplift them in our prayers.

Circuit #21 – Detroit West Circuit **Rev. Eddie Morales – Circuit Visitor**

St. Philip, Detroit – Rev. Marvin Griffin
Baptized Membership – 180
Communicant Membership – 130
Average Worship Attendance – 88

Berea, Detroit
Baptized Membership – 70
Communicant Membership – 70
Average Worship Attendance – 65

Iglesia Luterana, Detroit
Baptized Membership – 127
Communicant Membership – 80
Average Worship Attendance – 40

Nazareth, Detroit
Baptized Membership – 38
Communicant Membership – 38
Average Worship Attendance – 15

St. John, Detroit – Rev. James Hill
Baptized Membership – 90
Communicant Membership – 63
Average Worship Attendance – 38

St. Stephen, Detroit – Rev. Daniel Ramthun (SMP)
Baptized Membership – 168
Communicant Membership – 85
Average Worship Attendance – 55

Evergreen, Detroit – Rev. William Danowski
Baptized Membership – 205
Communicant Membership – 147
Average Worship Attendance – 35

Greenfield Peace, Detroit – Rev. Kenneth Spence
Baptized Membership – 104
Communicant Membership – 88
Average Worship Attendance – 42

Outer Drive Faith, Detroit – Rev. Eddie Morales
Baptized Membership – 210
Communicant Membership – 190
Average Worship Attendance – 145

Redford, Detroit – Rev. Raymond Parent
Baptized Membership – 148
Communicant Membership – 115
Average Worship Attendance – 60

Atonement, Dearborn – Rev. Gary Rohwer
Baptized Membership – 344
Communicant Membership – 118
Average Worship Attendance – 40
Holy Cross, Detroit held its Closing Service on March 8, 2015.

Circuit #23 - Downriver Circuit **Rev. Erwin M. Hutter, Circuit Visitor**

Christ's mission posts in the Downriver area of suburban Detroit continue to reach the lost and serve the faithful. While the changing economy has affected each congregation to varying degrees, each continues to serve her LORD with the gifts she has been given.

Calvary, Lincoln Park – Over the last three years, new events have been started here at Calvary such as Trunk or Treat, Breakfast with Santa Claus, and a visit from r.e.p.t.i.l.e. (a program with live reptiles to teach kids about God's great creation). All three are part of a program to reach out the community at large. We have hired a part-time youth director. We sent off our first short-term missionary and are in the planning stages for more. We will have our first youth mission trip this spring. The first high school and middle school retreats were held this year. The parking lot was repaved and the entrance to the church has been made handicap-accessible. The stained glass window above altar that was sliding down was secured. A new cry room was added to the Narthex. A new music minister was hired and concerts were held. After a long absence, there is a choir now singing twice a month. There is a drama ministry. There are yearly volunteers for Habitat for Humanity. Calvary is supporting a missionary in Africa. There have been guest speakers and visits, including the Michigan District, LCMS President, the President of the Seminary in St. Louis, two missionaries, and a representative of CUAA. Christian assistance programs, including a diaper drive for a local crisis pregnancy center and a "pay it forward" campaign, were supported. A garden club has been established to keep the outside of the church looking clean and welcoming.

Christ the King, Southgate – Christ The King broke ground on June 1, 2014 on a new worship space on its second campus purchased in 2006. CTK has been operating as a dual campus since taking its original location off the market in 2012. The new worship space will be completed in the fall of 2015 and will seat 500 people. It is designed to be expanded at a later date. While the goal is to move all ministries to the 40-acre campus, the means is still being revealed to us!

Community, Flat Rock – The past three years at Community, Flat Rock have seen multiple changes as we have transitioned to the pastoral leadership of Rev. Erik R. Schmidt, first called as our Associate Pastor in June 2011 and then as our Administrative Pastor in August 2012, following the retirement of our Founding Pastor, Rev. David P. Gohn. We

celebrated with Pastor Dave in July 2012 as he retired after 40 years in the ministry, including 33 here at Community. Community continues to grow and adapt to meet the ever-changing needs of its community while staying true to the timeless truth of the Gospel and the spirit of Lutheran tradition. This can be seen on a regular basis through our weekly worship services on both Sundays and Wednesdays, our large children's and youth ministries, our highly-rated Creative Learning Campus preschool, and many more ministry opportunities for members and visitors alike. It can also be seen through our large events, such as our Spring Fling Auction, our Ladies' Advent Tea, Father's Day Car Show, Chili Cook-off, and so many more. Additionally, our Helping Hands Food Bank continues to provide food, coats, toys and assistance to hundreds of needy families. We look forward to what God has in store for this congregation in the next three years, according to His great will. We humbly pray that He will grow us in love for Him and toward one another, as we seek to do His will in following the Great Commission.

Mount Hope, Allen Park – We held an American Sign Language Vacation Bible School and started an American Sign Language Preschool for 4-year-old children in partnership with Crossbridge Action Network, which is managed by Michele Jones. We celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion at every service. Several classrooms and the gym were updated. Served by Intentional Interim Pastor, the Rev. Brant A. Engel, there were three Deaf Mission Sundays and support for Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society for the Deaf with mission money.

Our Redeemer, Taylor – Over the past three years, God has been gracious and merciful to the saints of Our Redeemer. There has been a focus on improvement of facilities and outreach. Air conditioning was installed for the first time through a generous gift from an anonymous member. A new front entrance to the building was constructed, replacing the original which leaked and was not energy efficient. A new sound and projection system was installed in the Fellowship Hall to enhance Bible study and various meetings. We have continued our involvement with the Downriver Food Pantry, "Fishes and Loaves," and have had several efforts at community outreach. Our Wednesday luncheons continue to be a great success and the addition of Wednesday Bible study classes has enjoyed great participation. As we look to our future, we continue to thank God for all that He accomplishes in and through His people.

St. John, Taylor – Taylor and the Downriver communities, served by St. John's since 1887, have suffered economic and demographic decline over the last 15 years, as exhibited in the closing of 4 out of 5 Lutheran schools in our circuit, 7 out of 9 Christian day schools in Taylor, and almost half the number of public schools in Taylor. The preschool ministry of 16-19 pupils makes contacts with local families; however, younger families that do join the congregation frequently remain in the community for only a few years. Consequently, the average age of the congregation of 344 members is 58, with very few active members between the ages of 20 and

40. Nevertheless, God has been gracious in the last 3 years to St. John's Lutheran Congregation, enabling her to enlarge the radio ministry of "Martin Luther's Evening Prayer" to a second station, day and time. Confessional Lutheran preaching and worship are heard at 8 p.m. Mondays on AM1440 ("Reborn"), a Detroit Gospel-format station, and on Sundays at 6p.m. on AM560 ("The Word"), a Detroit/Downriver Religious-format station. The latter broadcast precedes the local "Lutheran Hour" broadcast. St. John's elders have helped establish satellite worship services at Regency Nursing Home (Taylor), and at Maryhaven Assisted Living Center (Southgate) in the last year. Through hosting many community events—fleamarkets, Thrivent, and notably a Spring festival—the congregation is well-known in the community. Coverage in local media, fliers distributed door-to-door, and increasing social media presence also contribute to community awareness. "Care & Share" ministry—discreet help for those facing unemployment or similar needs—has also been a significant ministry of the congregation at large. Rev. Dr. Richard Zeile, who serves on Michigan's State Board of Education (2011-2018), has served as St. John's pastor since 2001.

St. Paul, Trenton – In the last few years, St. Paul has reinvigorated its campus with a new Christian Life Building, which has hosted new ministries and events. As part of our New Horizons capital campaign effort, we have continued to enliven our worship life and to improve our Christian Life Building. This second effort campaign includes a kitchen, an elevator, an outdoor electronic sign, and sight and sound equipment. We have been able to utilize the building as a link to the community, hosting such groups as the Cub Scouts and a local education foundation. We have transitioned pastors. Our senior pastor for the past 12 years, Rev. John Bush, is now the Director of Donor Relations at Concordia University Ann Arbor. Our youth pastor, Rev. Nicholas Koschmann, took a call to a congregation in Forest Grove, Oregon. Our new senior pastor, installed in December of 2014, is Rev. Dr. Richard Blythe. We've also seen some major initiatives in terms of our ministries, including: new elements to our concert series and other music ministries; our caring ministries; our weekend and weekday children's ministries; our youth ministry, which included over 20 youth who attended the LCMS National Youth Gathering; and a new small group sprint ministry. We continue to be enriched with a preschool with over 200 students. We send mission teams to Detroit, Washington, and Guatemala each year. We are blessed with strong lay leadership and a continued sense of mission as we live out the Great Commission Downriver. In all things, we seek to know Christ and make Christ known!

Trinity, Wyandotte – Over the last three years, we had two staff changes: a new custodian, Grace Block, in 2013 and an Administrative Secretary, Carissa Schafer, in 2014. Trinity has been focusing strongly on outreach to our community. We have started an annual Trunk or Treat for Halloween, a Car Show and Open House wrapped into one, a community Easter Egg Hunt, and have begun hosting a Vacation Bible School again, with growing numbers every year. We also began a weekly playgroup for Moms and their young

children which is still going strong. Our community building is now a rest stop, handing out water to walkers for the annual Downriver Crop Walk. We also have had a booth at Wyandotte's street fair in the summer, keeping visitors hydrated and spreading God's Word. We plan to continue those every year we can. On top of that, we now take care of a Caregiver Support Group that had lost its funding. It is a group that has made an impact on caregivers in the local and surrounding communities.

May we continue to serve Him and be His hands to the people in the areas He has given us.

Circuit # 24 – Monroe Circuit Rev. Bruce Lucas, Circuit Visitor

Greetings to our sister congregations in the State of Michigan! The churches of our circuit—Christ Our Shepherd (Newport), Christ the King (Lambertville), Grace (Monroe), Holy Ghost (Monroe), Immanuel (Monroe), St. John's (Waltz), St. Peter (Petersburg), and Trinity (Monroe)—send their fraternal greetings and pray that our fellowship in our Lord Jesus Christ and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church will prove fruitful in producing a bountiful harvest of souls for the kingdom of God. With that in mind, we would like to share with you a brief summary of the work being done in our individual congregations and the circuit as a whole.

Christ Our Shepherd, Newport, is served part-time by Rev. John Schinkel, who serves as full-time chaplain of the Lutheran Home (Wellspring Lutheran Services) of Monroe. The church continues to grow, especially through adult catechesis. Christ Our Shepherd shares its campus with Lutheran High School South, and is a level-one supporter of the high school. The congregation continues its community outreach through its monthly food bank, and yearly supports a semi-nary student.

Christ the King, Lambertville, is shepherded by Rev. Tim Loewe. It recently renovated its building and also celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2012. The congregation is happy to have increased its support for the mission and ministry of the District. The Little Lamb Preschool continues to be a valuable outreach to the community. Christ the King has also sponsored M.O.S.T. trips to Africa and Central America.

Grace, Monroe, is served by Rev. Mark Witte. The congregation continues its outreach to the people of Monroe, aided by its strategic location on the north side of town. Grace is active in One Sheep Ministries and its support for Family of God Lutheran in the city of Detroit. Though two professional church workers recently took calls to other congregations, the laity of Grace has stepped up to the task of keeping the outreach activities of the congregation very active.

Holy Ghost, Monroe, has Rev. Larry Loree as its senior pastor. The congregation is in rural Raisinville Township and is also known as Sandy Creek. Rev. Todd Seaver was recently installed as assistant pastor. Holy Ghost Lutheran School has been an important part of the ministry of Holy Ghost since 1844. After a decline in enrollment in the 2000's, the school

has been adding more and more students the last three years. The school has a new principal and four new, young, teachers. The congregation recently renovated its pipe organ, and has supported a mission project by members to Honduras.

Immanuel, Monroe, is located in rural Ida Township and is also called East Ida. Rev. Bruce Lucas is the pastor. The congregation is also served by Deaconess Sara Bielby. Immanuel is active in outreach through its benefits for needy individuals. The Mercy Fund of the congregation is administered by the deaconess primarily for members, but it is also used for local efforts upon recommendation of members. Through its Ministerial Scholarship Fund, Immanuel is currently supporting two young men who are entering the pastoral ministry. The Evangelism Committee is active in outreach to the community, primarily at community events. The congregation also supported a mission trip to Costa Rica by some of its members through M.O.S.T. Ministries. Immanuel has been blessed with an increase in adult and infant baptisms.

St. John's, Waltz, is served by senior pastor Rev. Kurt Taylor, and has recently added associate pastor Rev. Jeffrey Wade to its staff. The congregation has moved into a new building addition, which includes a large fellowship hall and additional classrooms for the growing St. John's Lutheran School. The congregation is experiencing positive growth. It has participated in funding the Lutheran school in Bethlehem, Israel, and a missionary (Charles Ferry) to Indonesia. St. John's has also been blessed with a new pre-school director, Mrs. Kate Puchalski.

St. Peter, Petersburg, is served by Rev. Mark Flory. The King's Kids Preschool continues to attract members of the community and serves the congregation's Gospel outreach. St. Peter's has made good progress on its debt reduction for its new fellowship hall. The fellowship hall puts the congregation before the community through its regular Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

Trinity, Monroe, is served by senior pastor Rev. Jeffrey Heimsoth and has recently installed Rev. Daniel Potts as associate pastor. The congregation is working to shape ministry to families as a core activity. After a decline in the 2000's, Trinity Lutheran School has been growing at a 10% annual increase. The church is working to become an active part of the community. Part of that work is done by sponsoring a community meal every Sunday evening. Trinity continues its outreach efforts through an annual trip to hold Vacation Bible School for native tribes in Alaska and conducting a "build" trip to Appalachia. The congregation has also adopted a sister congregation in Guatemala.

Circuit wide, our churches have begun a local radio outreach program called "The Gospel For You." It is broadcast on WRDT AM 560 each Sunday at 12:30 pm, following the Lutheran Hour. The pastors and other professional church workers of our circuit hold a 30-minute Bible study on books of the Bible. The show is produced by Rev. Jeffrey Wade and moderated by Rev. Kurt Taylor. We are thankful for their

expertise. The website for the program is *thegospelforyou.org*. Past programs are available via that site. The financial support for this program has been generously given by each congregation, as well as Thrivent Financial and Lutheran High School South.

Members of our circuit churches continue to be active in the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and the Lutheran Laymen's League. The yearly rallies for these events are regularly attended by over 100 participants. We are also blessed to have three Lutheran elementary schools in our circuit, as well as Lutheran High School South.

In conclusion, we are thankful to the Lord for His many blessings, both spiritual and material, that allow us to share the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. We rejoice in the camaraderie between our pastors, the enthusiasm of our Lutheran school teachers, the warm relations between our congregations, and cooperation of each congregation's members in declaring the praises of Him who called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Bruce Lucas

CIRCUIT REPORT—Dearborn Circuit #25 Rev. Randy Duncan, Circuit Visitor

Emmanuel, Dearborn – Served by Rev. Joel Baseley and Rev. Paul Wolff
Baptized Membership – 416
Communicant Membership – 365
Average Worship Attendance – 135

Guardian, Dearborn has challenged herself to reach a millennial generation that has drifted away from the Church, as our 400 newest members share an average age of 33. A joint church/school vision was presented by the Senior Pastor and Principal that will endeavor to continue connecting post-moderns to the Body of Christ. This vision utilizes an aggressive, cutting-edge school ministry designed to engage the unique gifts of each student, not only training them up in the way they can serve the world, but lead it. As a precursor to this aggressive vision, Guardian finished a capital campaign that allowed us to become debt-free for the first time in our 67-year history, burning our mortgage (which stood at \$1.2m in 2011) and praising the Lord in a worship service held in November, 2013.

Our Redeemer, Dearborn – Served by Rev. Roderick Schultz
Baptized Membership – 141
Communicant Membership – 130
Average Worship Attendance – 47

Living Word, Plymouth Township has rallied itself around four key words: Gather. Grow. Give. Go. They began a capital campaign to begin a complete repair of their parking lot, as well as renovations of classrooms. They are focusing on their niche of reaching the unchurched and de-churched, and have been blessed with numerical growth and leadership development. Their aggressive goal is to double in size by the next District Convention. They have an SMP Vicar (Sam Watters)

who will be ordained this Fall to assist Rev. Randy Duncan.

St. Michael, Wayne – Served by Rev. Andrew Gruenhagen
Baptized Membership – 671
Communicant Membership – 515
Average Worship Attendance – 296

Our Saviour, Westland
Baptized Membership – 28
Communicant Membership – 28
Average Worship Attendance – 16

In November of 2015, St. Matthew, Westland will celebrate its 80th anniversary. We are honored to carry on the great legacy of Lutheran education by operating an elementary school, and remain committed to this noble avenue of ministry. Through our school, God continues to reach children and families with the saving message of His Gospel. As with all Lutheran schools, we are served by some of the finest ambassadors this Synod has to offer. We are currently in the process of a Divine Call for the dual role of Senior Pastor and Principal.

Unfortunately, the Circuit experienced the closing of one congregation since the last Convention—Christ the Good Shepherd, Canton.

Circuit #26 - Kensington Circuit Rev. Terry Nelson, Circuit Visitor

Shepherd of the Lakes, Brighton – Rev. Mark Milatz and Rev. Benjamin Vogel
Shepherd of the Lakes in Brighton has had an active three years. The TRANSFORM campaign eliminated \$1.3 million of principal on our building debt and better positioned us for future ministry efforts. We have also added a middle school to our day school, along with new classrooms, sports teams, and increased technology. The Genesis Community was started on Sunday evenings to reach people who were uncomfortable with the institutional church. Approximately 50 people gather each Sunday evening for a meal, Gospel presentation, and small group discussion.

Faith, Highland – Rev. Terry Claus
Faith Lutheran Church of Highland is living the ministry as Jesus described, “Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” Faith’s mission statement reads, “Our mission is to welcome and unite God’s people to nurture faith through the Gospel.” We place high value on being together in worship and find our Sunday School and VBS programs growing stronger. By offering a sermon time for little ones, we find a more regular worship attendance for young families. Our mission statement continues with “provide opportunities and commitment to serve Christ through our ministry within the congregation and community.” Our ministry together finds dedicated lay members initiating and leading these mission opportunities in our church community and beyond. We have participated in Relay for Life (cancer), Rebuilding Together (repairing homes for low-income

families), St. George’s Special Ministries (special needs adults), Christmas families (low-income children served), Community Sharing (food closet locally), Thrivent Action Teams (from leaf raking to chemo treatments), mitten tree, pillowcases for foster children, and more task force missions which are not programmed. Our family of Faith has been very blessed through these years with a seemingly extra measure of the Spirit of our Lord Jesus to lead and empower us. SDG

Christ, Milford – Rev. Martin Dressler
Over the past three years, Christ Lutheran has continued its puppet and prayer shawl ministries, as well as events such as our Trunk-or-Treat, VBS, Alaska Mission Trip, and our recently-revamped “Journey with Jesus” live nativity. We have also started an outreach program to assist those in need in the community, as well as an Evangelism Team to spread the Gospel message. Our school’s enrollment is now 64. The congregation membership is at 499 baptized and 382 confirmed. In 2013, we welcomed our new pastor, Rev. Martin Dressler.

Cross of Christ, South Lyon – Rev. Terry Nelson
Cross of Christ began two new ministries in local rehabilitation and assisted living facilities in 2013. Pastor Nelson leads worship services once a month at Abbey Park and South Lyon Senior Care and Rehabilitation Center. The congregation celebrated our 40th Anniversary in November, 2013. An Anniversary Divine Service was celebrated and a dinner was served, along with a special program. Rev. Michael Bristol and Rev. Lawrence Kinne, who served the congregation during the 1970’s, spoke during the program. God has blessed Cross of Christ Christian Preschool with increased student enrollment the past three years. Mrs. Janelle Rapson-Lach continues to serve as our preschool Teacher/Director. Jim Morrison continues to serve as Congregation President and Chuck Deeds as Financial Secretary. The Holy Spirit drew new members to the congregation the past three years. Thanks and praise to God for the blessings He has given Cross of Christ congregation this past triennium.

St. Matthew, Walled Lake and Wixom - Rev. Paul Moldenhauer, Rev. Robert Nelson, Rev. John Merrill
This past triennium God has renewed our zeal and focused us on what St. Matthew refers to as our 20/20 Vision, namely, “to develop vibrant, missional Christ-followers in a post-Christian America.” Strategic initiatives have been undertaken toward that end, including an outreach emphasis, the start of relational accountability and a Celebrate Recovery Ministry, retirement of mortgage debt at our Walled Lake campus, renewal of our school’s National Lutheran School Accreditation, and ongoing mission support of Hospitality House, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pontiac, and Pastor Daniel in India. We are in the process of updating our governance, Constitution and Bylaws. God continues to bless our school, Hearts & Hands Child Development Center, other children’s and youth ministries, Bible studies, small groups, and International Ministry.

Regarding staff, this triennium included the retirement of DCE Lavern Kruse, teacher Susan Lenghardt, and teacher

Betty Stevenson. Deacon Ron Whitaker was added to the team for homebound visitation; and Henry Maicki as part-time Director of Congregational Life. Our school staff has seen the addition of Samantha Schroeder, Amy Scott and Alyssa Bornheimer (the latter two who subsequently moved out of state); Lisa Rohman to replace Laura Kitzman, who took a position elsewhere; and, most recently, Alecia Brown and Jessica Meier. Becky Masters replaced Amy Roe as Director of our International Ministry. In addition, son of the congregation Trevor Sutton was ordained.

Peace, Waterford – Rev. Russell Tkac (SMP)

Pastor Tkac was called, ordained and installed on January 6th 2013, the 6th pastor to serve at Peace. Rev. William Merrell, who served Peace since Dec. 1980, has retired and serves as the Emeritus Pastor of Peace. The Lord continues to bless the members of Peace through Word and Sacrament ministry, and though an older congregation, the members of Peace adopted Houghton Elementary School in Waterford, helping with school supplies and needed clothing items for those students in need. We continue to reach out to those in our community with the Love of Christ, actively attend to the needs of our shut-in members, and enjoy our VBS week with the many students who attend and are blessed with this outreach.

St. Mark's, West Bloomfield - Rev. Aaron Vergin

St. Mark's Lutheran Church continues to love our community and to serve them with Jesus' life-giving words and holy Sacraments. We have welcomed a new pastor and are beginning to work toward several specific, longer-term goals, including outreach to youth and young families. The Lord has made His light to shine in our hearts, and we hope to let that light shine where He has placed us!

Cedar Crest, White Lake – Deacon Ron Nieman

Since the last Michigan District Convention, Cedar Crest Lutheran Church in White Lake was blessed to celebrate the 80th anniversary since its founding on November 25, 1934. As part of the celebration, a special dinner was held at which we honored long-time member Harriet Waltz, a member of the first confirmation class in 1942, and distributed a booklet documenting the history of Cedar Crest. Cedar Crest also contracted with Pastor Kassen of Living Word Lutheran Church in Rochester during this triennium to be our pastor. It was agreed that Living Word would help us to lead worship each week through Deacon Ron Nieman with the able supervision of Pastor Kassen. Although we are a small congregation, we have recently seen an increase of over 10% in membership and attendance, and look forward to this trend continuing. Cedar Crest continues to build up the body of Christ in White Lake through monthly Fellowship Gatherings after church, as well as other special events like Christmas dinners and Easter breakfasts. We also reach out to our community by hosting CPR classes and information sessions regarding resources available in the community such as fire protection and medical personnel. We have also “adopted” a local public elementary school and provided healthy snacks for those children who cannot afford to bring snacks from home through our “Snack Attack” program. Deacon Ron Nieman is currently serving us and leading us

through a process to discern the plans our Lord has for Cedar Crest in the future as we look forward to serving our Triune God in the White Lake area for another 80 years.

Circuit #27 – Livonia Circuit **Rev. Dean M. Davenport - Visitor**

The Livonia Circuit of the Michigan District consists of the following congregations: Grace, Canton – Rev. Steven Newton; Immanuel, Dearborn Heights – Vacant; St. Paul's, Farmington Hills – Rev. Andrew Becker (includes a Lutheran school); Prince Of Peace, Farmington Hills – Rev. John Straub; Hosanna-Tabor, Redford – Rev. Paul Undlin (includes a Lutheran school); St. Paul, Northville – Rev. Christopher Fairbairn (includes a Lutheran school); Christ Our Savior, Livonia – Rev. Dean Davenport, Rev. Robert Bayer and Rev. Joel Eden; and Salem National, Westland – Rev. Timothy Brand.

Over the past three years, the circuit has welcomed Pastor Andrew Becker – St. Paul's Farmington Hills and Pastor Joel Eden – Christ Our Savior, Livonia.

Grace, Canton: We have experienced God's blessings over the last three years! Our Lord has walked with us through hard times and brought us to good times. He has moved people to join our happy band and graced us with resources to do his ministry. Some of the efforts Grace has done are: growing vegetables on our property, which are then donated to a local food bank; committing to supporting the local women's safe house; and providing financial resources to A2E. The District led us through a mission and vision process and now Grace, a small church with a big heart, is seeking to be a place of grace. God is good to us!

Immanuel, Dearborn Heights: Rev. Milton Schemm (emeritus) stepped down from his responsibilities in January 2015.

Hosanna-Tabor, Redford: HT continues to joyfully serve the people of south Redford and the surrounding communities. Our summer Christian music festival, Hosanna-Palooza, has become a self-sustaining event and we continue to see new faces every year. In 2014, we celebrated 15 baptisms and 8 adult confirmations. Our Early Childhood Center is running at near capacity and our jointly-operated school, Concordia Lutheran School, continues to grow each year. We will be celebrating our 60th anniversary in September.

St. Paul, Farmington Hills is served by Rev. Andrew Becker.

St. Paul, Northville: With a desire to grow our music ministry drawing upon the talents of both members and friends of our church family, an orchestra was started, made up of mixed ages and talents. June of 2014 brought the retirement of Rev. Tom Lubeck, longtime (1984) senior pastor.

Prince of Peace, Farmington Hills is served by Rev. John Straub.

Christ Our Savior, Livonia: Over the last three years we have experienced the Lord's good and gracious blessings as we

continue to serve the people here in Livonia. An increased effort of reaching out to our community through our food pantry, Christmas Blessings (over 300 food baskets distributed during Christmas), children's backpacks for families in need, and serving people in Detroit, has given us avenues to share Jesus with others. By God's grace, individuals have been blessed here and there! The Holy Spirit led us to call Joel Eden as an associate pastor to fill a vacancy on staff – thanks be to God!

Salem, Westland: The past triennium at Salem has been directed and blessed by the Lord, as we have seen a marked increase in all aspects of parish ministry. As we continue to gather around Word and Sacrament—strengthening God's people to love Him and serve their neighbor—we are working towards two major goals: upgrading and improving our building and grounds, and making our Camp Emmanuel available to our sister congregations for outdoor ministry, retreats, and recreation.

Circuit #28 - Milan Circuit **Rev. Jakob Heckert, Circuit Visitor**

St. Paul's, Milan: Keeping a focus on moving to a full-time pastor; elders are working to identify actual membership; working with facility to prepare for future growth; working with youth group; the church has a weakness in intentional outreach.

Christ Our King, Saline is served by Rev. Thomas Schroeder.

Open Arms, Belleville: Currently going through a Pastoral Call process, keeping a focus on operating as a congregation and continuing to do things like their men's retreat. Starting to see more cross-over from their child care center to the church.

St. Paul, New Boston is currently served by an Intentional Interim Pastor, Rev. Joel Holls.

Faith, Ypsilanti has a part-time pastor, working to rebuild their aging congregation. Surrounded by low-income housing, they are starting a community garden on their 7 acres, with plots available to the community and later maybe sales of their produce.

St. Thomas, Ann Arbor currently has a pastoral vacancy.

Emmanuel, Britton: Vicar Dave was installed July 2014 for one year and continues to work with their youth, taking 8 to Texas for a youth conference. The weakness of intentional outreach is being acted upon by having outdoors Movie Night onsite at their church. Vicar Dave has a strong interest in Prison/Jail Ministries and is trying to work with first responders to offer ministerial support to both first responders and victims.

Tabernacle of Praise, Canton is served by Rev. Bertram Lewis.

Circuit #29 - Ann Arbor Circuit **Larry Courson, Circuit Visitor**

The Ann Arbor Circuit churches continue to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people in and around the Ann Arbor area. The Circuit pastors meet monthly at the District Office for worship, study, and fellowship.

Our Savior, Chelsea – We continue to be about the Lord's work in Chelsea and the world. Our pre-school (Lambs of Our Savior) has received a 4+ rating by the State of Michigan. Our goal is having a 5 rating by the State by this fall (5 is the highest rating that the State of Michigan gives). We are actively holding weekly Bible studies for the senior community in Chelsea: one Bible study at the Pines Apartments, and another at Silver Maples of Chelsea.

For the last two years we have had a booth at the Chelsea Community Fair, along with an annual car show. In 2014 we held a community bicycle blessing for cyclists of all ages. Along with these special outreach projects, we hold our annual VBS and Easter Egg Hunt. As a congregation, we have adopted and financially support a Nicaragua mission. The Lord continues to bless us both spiritually and physically. It's a privilege to see how He uses us to carry on the work in His Kingdom, both in Chelsea, surrounding communities, the state, nation, and the world.

Trinity, Pinckney – Trinity Lutheran Church began in 1977 as a daughter congregation of St. Paul, Hamburg. It had not had an expansion since the original construction was completed. After having many discussions, meetings and much prayer, we decided to move forward with a formal expansion and facelift of Trinity. In early 2012 we began work to establish a Capital Stewardship Campaign. Congregation members attended training and met with architects in an effort to develop a master plan. We asked for input from the congregation on the needs of the various ministries. We conducted prayer vigils and commitment events. Out of all of this, the congregation responded very favorably! We established a baseline for what we could afford.

Our architect developed a multi-phase plan for us. We were now in a position to move full-steam ahead with phase one of our addition. We reviewed our plan and the details. We interviewed construction managers, cleared trees, and submitted plans to the local planning commission. Things are going GREAT! God has blessed us with highly qualified and knowledgeable partners. We expect to break ground in the spring and to be enjoying phase one by mid- to late summer.

St. Paul, Hamburg – St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hamburg is a congregation that enjoys gathering around the Word and the Sacrament. We have found God gathering us around His Word during Sunday morning, Bible study, compassionate care, VBS, and many other ways during the last three years. We trust that God will continue to pull us into moments when we will share the Good News of Jesus with others.

St. Paul, Ann Arbor – In the last triennium, St. Paul Ann Arbor celebrated the 25th anniversary of their preschool program and the 50th anniversary of their elementary

school. God has richly blessed both ministries. Enrollment in preschool at both locations is very strong, and elementary enrollment is improving. We give thanks for the ministry of Pat Kalmes and Jan Allen, preschool directors who built the program and who retired in this triennium. And we welcome Nancy Rosenzweig and Monica Slack, who have taken up leadership of that ministry. Principal Brad Massey accepted a call to Big Rapids, and the elementary school is searching for a new administrator. In the interim, Principal Chuck Winterstein is leading the school into numerous improvements to both program and physical plant.

St. Paul also said farewell to Pastor Michael Wentzel, who accepted a call to St. Mark, Kentwood. We are in the process of calling a new associate pastor. The congregation just completed remodeling part of the school facility to add offices for some of the church staff, allowing a greater connection between church and school. And a remodel project at the church facility downtown enlarged the north narthex and added enlarged and improved restrooms. Annual worship themes in the past three years have emphasized elements of the congregation's mission statement: "Because God shows His love for us in Jesus, the people of St. Paul are a family in Christ, learning together, worshipping, reaching out, and caring."

Divine Shepherd, Ann Arbor – Divine Shepherd celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year and, as we have throughout our history, we continue to minister to those who are in the Ann Arbor area for a short time (graduate and post-doctoral students, automotive executives from overseas, etc.). Individuals and families who have been touched by Divine Shepherd's ministry (both recently and throughout the years) include folks from across the US, as well as Europe, Asia, Central and South America. We give thanks for our core membership that continues reaching out to both Ann Arbor's transient population as well as intentional outreach to younger people (under 40) who have not been in church for decades. God continues to bless us with a vital and energetic congregation and outreach. We give thanks, as well, for God's generous financial provision and undergirding of Divine Shepherd. We look forward to the next fifty years and beyond—confident in God's presence, provision, mercy and grace.

Cross and Resurrection, Ypsilanti – Cross and Resurrection is a unique ministry, as we are located across from the EMU Campus and serve both the University and our surrounding communities. We have a very committed faith family that is committed to providing "a family for students." Therefore, we provide programs for all ages so that we can "Know Christ and make HIM Known!" We provide opportunities for people to grow in knowing that they Belong to God, Believe in Christ, and Become growing Followers by the power of HIS Holy Spirit. We are presently served by Pastor Bryan Schindel. We have a full-time Administrative Assistant and a part-time Worship leader. We continue in the mentoring of an EIIT Deaconess.

During the last three years, Cross and Resurrection has:

- Dedicated the new Fellowship Hall, Digital Sign and expanded kitchen (a \$500,000 project that is paid off);
- Served the Synod by providing a training place for our EIIT Deaconess;

- Served the District and Students of EMU by providing Bible studies and services as a "Family for Students." We provide lunch after worship services and, on Fridays during the school year, we serve up to 700 students pancakes and waffles from 11 p.m. Friday – 2 a.m. Saturday;
- Served the Community by sponsoring UPward Basketball, reaching over 600 families in Washtenaw County. We also hosted and sponsored the Summer Camp each year with 150 participants. We assisted with the Sports Camps provided by A2E in Detroit over the last two years;
- Pastor Bryan is the Chaplain for the EMU police and active in the Rotary, Love Ypsi, Washtenaw Pastors Alliance for County Transformation, Unite EMU, etc;
- Our building (which is owned by the District) is well used by many organizations both EMU- and community-oriented. For example, MADD uses the building as well as many other groups;
- We continue to reach out to EMU and Washtenaw County. We have continued to pray for innovative ways to reach students and families in order to give glory to our amazing God!

St. Luke, Ann Arbor – St. Luke is a multi-site ministry. Pastor Justin Rossow is site director for the Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor site. Pastor Dan Flynn is the site director for the Whitmore Lake site. And Pastor Matt Hein is serving at University Lutheran Chapel while a new pastor is being called to serve at this site.

Peace, Ann Arbor – Peace, the daughter of St. Paul, Ann Arbor, celebrated the 20th anniversary of her charter in 2014. Peace has begun a service ministry to first responders in Washtenaw County called HART Huron Valley. Peace is in the process of making the first addition to their church building since moving into the church in 2000, with plans to complete the addition this fall. Peace is served by Pastor Larry Courson.

The Ann Arbor Circuit is the home of the Michigan District Office and Concordia University. The churches and members of the Ann Arbor Circuit are thankful for the opportunity to be in partnership with Concordia and the Michigan District staff.

Circuit #30 - Jackson Circuit **Rev. Joel Sarrault, Circuit Visitor**

St. John's, Adrian – Along with Pastor Joel Sarrault, St. John's is blessed with a staff that now consists of a full-time Family Life Educator (Eric Steinke), Learning Center Preschool director (Jenny Becerra), secretary/parish administrator (Kathy Scobie), part-time Worship leader (Heather VanDaele), and Outreach-Assimilation (Karmen Wilharms). Under our motto of "Pointing to Jesus," we have continued to strive for a Christ-like impact on our community and county. The AMen servants (men's group) have launched a community garden and the Adventures in Grilling, which financially supports the homeless children of Lenawee County. AMen guys have also been creating a Men's retreat each fall that meets at Camp Michindoh. Outreach has christened the "Gowns of Grace" ministry, which takes used wedding

dresses and transforms them into infant burial gowns to assist families in their grieving process. Our first Community Carnival was held to introduce area families to our location. We've continued with such wonderful events as the packaging of 20,000 meals with Kids Against Hunger, Annual Rib-Off to raise funds for our St. Louis seminarian Tim Wells (and to eat really good ribs!), a healthy preschool, and the servant-participation and financial support of many community ministries and charitable events. After 168 years, we're still having a great time following and sharing Jesus! 2014:

695 Baptized members

565 Confirmed members

316 Households

214 Active households (70% of member households are actively involved)

61 member families with children (preschool through high school)

48 active families (80% of active member families with children participate in FaithBuilders / Sunday School / Youth Groups)

285 Average worship attendance

Hope, Adrian – Rev. Paul Herter, Pastor
Baptized Membership – 224; Communicant Membership – 194; Average Worship Attendance – 109

Hope congregation celebrated our 40th Anniversary on November 30, 2012. Hope's worship services feature a variety of blended and traditional formats. Every Sunday morning we have two worship services along with Bible classes for all ages, including several choices for adults. Following our Wednesday night dinners served in the Fellowship Hall during the school year, additional study opportunities are offered, as well as several small groups that meet in homes at various times during the year. Hope has been blessed with a great staff, including several accomplished musicians. Our Director of Christian Youth & Family Ministries since June of 2005, Rebekah Martinal, finished her colloquy studies at Concordia, St. Paul last year and was formally called as Minister of Religion – Commissioned at our November 2014 Voter's Meeting. Rebekah helps our congregation to be more effective and focused on outreach and ministry to youth, from preschool through college and beyond. Our congregation has an active Men's Fellowship and the LWML-affiliated Hope Women in Mission. Last year, the congregation surprised Pastor Paul with an anniversary service and reception recognizing his 25th year at Hope.

Redeemer, Jackson – Redeemer is a Congregation of approximately 600 Baptized believers served by Rev. Michael Geml. Our Worship services are Sunday morning at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Over the past three years we have seen an increase of young families in attendance. We have also made considerable improvements to the facility, including: repairs to the roof; resurfacing the parking lot; updating our kitchen; and installing a new Communion rail. We also completed a New Structure and Governance which will guide our day-to-day as well as our long-term vision. We are currently exploring the possibility of adding a Family Life Educator (FLE) to our staff.

Our Savior, Hudson – Our Savior is on what some would consider the forefront of an increasing trend in ministry in the LCMS. For the past four and a half years, Pastor Troy Neujahr has been serving Our Savior as a bivocational pastor (also called a worker-priest). During this time, we have learned more of what is essential to church, and we have learned to adapt to increasing ministry demands in the face of decreasing resources. We have been blessed to know that, in the midst of trials, God continues to work in and through us, furthering His Kingdom and our witness of His grace in our community.

Lutheran Church of the Lakes, Addison – Lutheran Church of the Lakes (LCOL) is "receiving and sharing God's mercy together." Led by our five ministry boards (Christian Care, Evangelism, Elders, Education & Fellowship), we love people, make disciples, baptize and teach them together in Christ. The work of these boards involves us in the care and welfare of both the spiritual and physical lives of people in our five communities. Through our annual Daddy-Daughter Dance, Pumpkin Fest, VBS, and through a variety of other programs and events, communities outside the church are invited to hear the Gospel; people are brought to faith in Christ through the Word and Sacrament of Sunday mornings and become a ministering part of the Lutheran Church of the Lakes family. Every Sunday, approximately 10% of the 200 people attending LCOL are guests. Last year, 17 people were baptized into the Christian faith and six adults were confirmed at LCOL. We support: two missionaries; one full-time Young Life missionary serving Adrian and Addison High Schools; several camps; The Future is Now; and made a commitment to a local Congregational Church for their capital campaign. Marked blessings this year include nearly doubling the size of our board of elders, christening a "Divine Service in Song" to celebrate special holidays, and working with the District to discern new and better ways of communicating within the congregation (www.lcol.com).

St. Mark, Brooklyn
Baptized Membership – 212
Communicant Membership – 195
Average Worship Attendance – 82

Trinity, Jackson – Rev. Eric Ekong and Rev. Michael Hanson
Baptized Membership – 1,512
Communicant Membership – 794
Average Worship Attendance – 238

St. Matthew, Adrian – Rev. Daryl Etheridge
Baptized Membership – 198
Communicant Membership – 117
Average Worship Attendance – 52

Blessed Savior, Blissfield – Rev. Daryl Etheridge
Baptized Membership – 14
Communicant Membership – 12
Average Worship Attendance – 16

Circuit #31 - Petoskey Circuit **Rev. Todd Brunworth, Circuit Visitor**

It is bone-chilling cold as I write this, but ministry in Northern Michigan churches has greater challenges than that. Younger people leave for better opportunities and our aging remnant leaves us with a number of churches unable to support a full-time pastor. This presents us with unique challenges, and we pray God will give us the wisdom to sustain strong ministries.

Hope, Bellaire – In addition to offering the Eucharist every Lord's Day, we have added two more opportunities to receive the blessed Sacrament each week. A Low Mass replaces the praying of Vespers on Wednesday nights during Lent as well as Matins on Thursday mornings. On Reformation Sunday (2013), we held an Open House for the community to view our newly-completed stained-glass windows project of nine windows depicting the Life of Christ. A more recent high note is having finished a complete reading of the Book of Concord over a period of four years on Thursday evenings. A talented seamstress in the congregation will soon complete her project of making all-new paraments and vestments. We hope to blacktop our driveway this spring.

Zion, Petoskey is excited at the continued successes of the preschool program, and with great opportunities to share God's love in the community extending this year to a partnership in an after-school program for elementary-aged students. Pastor Peters was installed in March of 2014, just days after Zion's 135th Anniversary as a congregation, and is happily working with God's people to determine "what's next" for the church on Little Traverse Bay.

St. Paul, Kalkaska is being served by several retired pastors on a rotating basis and currently, at this writing, has applied for a Seminary graduate.

St. Matthew, Mancelona is being served by a retired pastor while they continue to call for a pastor.

Mt. Hope, Grayling is still being served by Pastor Brunworth of Gaylord. They are working hard to reach out to the Grayling community through a variety of outreach channels, including a successful airing of "God Is Not Dead" for the community, Easter Egg hunts, and the like.

Trinity, Gaylord is continually trying to impact their community through participation in the food bank called The Refuge (focuses in winter homeless people), a tutoring program, and being engaged in a variety of other events. We hosted a simulcast for the District's Theological Conference on the Holy Spirit. We are also in the process of completing the 2-year Today's Light Devotions which are getting a large majority of our congregation into the Word regularly.

Christ, Boyne City – Our congregation has continued the trend of decline in worship attendance but growth in Bible study attendance. We've been busy with our Kinder K'loset diaper pantry. It also seems that the members are growing closer to one another, spending more time with each other

outside of church.

Bethany, Charlevoix This congregation has been served by a Worker Priest, Rev. Dan Fulmer, for more than a year now.

I pray for God's blessing on our Convention and for the Holy Spirit to give guidance and power to all of our workers who do the ministry of sharing the Gospel of Christ.

Circuit #32 – Traverse City Circuit **Rev. Mark Berlin, Circuit Visitor**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The eight congregations that make up the Traverse City Circuit serve the residents and visitors of northern Michigan in Word and Sacrament ministry. We boldly proclaim the Gospel in a very beautiful but broken world. The effects of humanity's sin are ever present. The forgiveness of sin and the grace of God reign supreme as this present world is passing away.

While our main focus is proclaiming the "Good News" of Jesus Christ, we also serve our region in care ministries. Our region has a strange dichotomy. While there are many wealthy people that live and vacation here, there are many working poor people here as well. There is a saying, "By the Bay, half the pay." For this reason, the Northwest Food Coalition, in a five-county region, served 528,767 meals in 2014. The number served in 1997 was 25,988 meals. Many of our circuit churches have participated or currently participate in Food Banks. Trinity, Traverse City serves thousands of people on both Thanksgiving and Christmas.

As with most circuits, we attempt to meet in most months for worship, Bible study, discussions of casuistry, and to announce personal and congregational events. Several times a year, our churches are given the opportunity to worship together.

Who are we and what are we doing? We are...

Our Savior, Benzonia – With the blue waters of Lake Michigan, the sparkling waters of Crystal Lake, and the busy resort community of Crystal Mountain nearby, Rev. Michael Belinsky continues to serve the saints of Our Savior. In addition, he also serves the people of Norwalk Lutheran Church in Manistee, Michigan. He cares and serves the residents of these communities as well as those that vacation and seek peaceful retreat.

Grace, Elk Rapids – Elk Rapids is nestled in one square mile and is surrounded by crystal clear waters. Its claim to fame is water and all the fun that it offers. Life is not only about fun and games, however. The seriousness of sin and the balm of the Gospel are serious business. Rev. James Redmann continues to be about that business as he serves the brothers and sisters of Grace as God continues to add to their numbers. Soon they will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of their new sanctuary.

St. Paul's, Cedar (Good Harbor) – Good Harbor is located in the northern part of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. The village of Good Harbor was started in the mid-1870s. St. Paul's was officially founded in 1877. God

continues his work at Good Harbor through the Word and Sacrament ministry of Rev. Robert Wurst, Jr. Recently his brother, Rev. John Wurst, joined him as Assistant Pastor. Both men faithfully work long hours so that they can provide ministry to their flock.

Bethlehem, Glen Arbor – The beautiful waters of Big Glen and Little Glen, as well as the towering Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore Park sand dunes, make Glen Arbor a delightful place to live and vacation in the summer. It is host to D.H. Day National campground, situated on the shores of Lake Michigan. This small congregation is supported and sustained by the ministry of Rev. Charles Webb and SMP Pastor Dan Dockery. Both of these men also serve Trinity, Traverse City. We thank Trinity for graciously volunteering these men to sustain the proclamation of Christ in this beautiful town.

Redeemer, Interlochen – Redeemer Lutheran Church continues to be served by Rev. Mark Berlin. While Redeemer has a lot of visitors, both in the summer and the winter, there always remains a stable flock of God's precious sheep. Redeemer continues to be a light on the hill in this small community whose main claim to fame is the Interlochen Center for the Arts. One of the biggest recent changes for Redeemer is the change of status of SMP Rev. Jason Bauer. Pastor Bauer, while continuing his SMP ministry to the Interlochen Center for the Arts, has taken the full-time position of Program Director of Camp Arcadia.

Immanuel, Leland – After twenty years of ministry, Pastor Larry Matro has accepted a call back to the mission field. He and his wife Tina will be going back to Oceana and Papua New Guinea. Immanuel celebrated the work of the Lord through Pastor Matro as they said tearful good-byes at the end of last November. Now begins the task of finding and calling another faithful shepherd. In the meantime, SMP Rev. Jason Bauer and Rev. John Wurst faithfully continue Word and Sacrament ministry to Immanuel's saints. Thank you to both of these servants of the Lord as they work long and hard hours. Mark Peters continues to be the Church Musician/Music Director.

St. Michael's & All Angels, Traverse City – These saints have been faithfully and enthusiastically served by Rev. James Nihiser since 2008. During the last triennium, St. Michael has been blessed with slow and steady growth. The Lord of the Church has seen fit to bring them many young families, for which they are very thankful. This has led to the largest confirmation class anyone can remember. Currently, an effort is being made to assimilate the many new faces, as a way of utilizing their unique spiritual gifts, and to give them an opportunity to answer our Lord's call to discipleship. They have completed the renovation of their Fellowship Hall, and are now moving to improve the quality of sound in their sanctuary and add live video capability. A number of their senior members have been called to glory. Among them are Rev. Dr. Paul Zimmerman who, throughout his ministry, worked tirelessly in support of our Missouri Synod and its confessional theology. They look forward to serving

Jesus, supporting each other as a faith family, and bringing the Gospel to those whom God has placed in our community.

Trinity, Traverse City – Trinity is the largest congregation in the circuit and has been served by Rev. Robert Zagore since 2001. It is also served by Rev. Charles Webb (retired in name only) as he also serves at Glen Arbor and in missions. Trinity has been blessed by two women they fondly call "the two Sarahs." Deaconess Sarah Longmire was installed at Trinity August 15, 2013, and Sarah Schultz was called there on April 1, 2013. They were called to Trinity as deaconesses, charged with youth and mercy work. Deaconess Longmire works mainly in Trinity Lutheran School's early childhood program. Regarding Trinity's ministry to Traverse City, they do every part of Matthew 25 every day: preaching the Gospel in 4–7 services a week; ministering to the needs of the sick, shut-in, and those in prison; and feeding the hungry through the food pantry and Community Meals Program. Through the quilters, knitters, and LWML women they provide quilts, prayer shawls, school supplies, health kits, etc. to the world. While the above summary included the names of the called pastors, we are also blessed to have other pastors who live among us and worship with us, from whom we look for wisdom and advice, and also serve as they are able. These men are Rev. David Kaarre, Rev. Charles Koehler, and Rev. Theodore Staudacher. Rev. Bernhard Filbert left our circuit to head to warmer temperatures in the land of Tennessee. Our Circuit grieved the deaths and celebrated the new lives in Christ of Rev. Charles Pool and Rev. Paul Zimmerman. Brother Zimmerman entered Christ's glory on January 28, 2014 and Brother Pool entered Christ's glory on April 23, 2014. They were 95 and 93, respectively. To our Lord be the glory for 188 years of Gospel proclamation! These men are dearly missed. Please view the links for biographical information: recordeagle.com/obituaries/the-rev-charles-h-pool/article_ac19a5c5-77b2-550a-98af2525fadedb59.html and blogs.lcms.org/2014/paul-zimmerman-dies

Mark Peters (Church Musician at Immanuel, Leland) continues to work as our Circuit Cantor. He has also established a very successful Music Academy that offers musical training to young people and adults with a special emphasis in sacred music. While he serves our Circuit, he also serves the church of Christ in all places. Each week he records a professional YouTube video of one LSB hymn. His YouTube address is One LSB Hymn A Week. Hundreds of hymns are posted. Mark's work is indispensable ... especially if your organist is sick.

The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you!

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Mark Berlin

Circuit #33 – Manistee Circuit
Rev. Ainslie Wagner, Circuit Visitor

Manistee County and the surrounding area were hit very hard by the recession of 2008-2012 and are still feeling the economic impact of it. As a lingering result, we've had a significant loss of young people and families with young

children. Retirees moving into the area have helped us pick up some new members and transfers, and the recovering tourism industry in our area is helping summer attendance figures.

Peace, Ludington: SMP Rev. John Hansen has been doing a super job at sustaining Peace's small but very viable congregation, and has been a big help covering Lighthouse, Pentwater during Rev. Ron Cox's calls to active duty as a chaplain.

Faith, Mesick: Rev. Robert Low has been doing a commendable job keeping up the spirit and vision of Faith's people in the face of Mesick's very hard times during the past five years. He has also been invaluable covering our small mission congregation of Beautiful Savior, Wellston.

Trinity, Onekama, has seen the development of a vigorous youth program and growing involvement with the community, including a new, bi-monthly, free Movie Night at the church on Fridays.

Trinity, Arcadia: Rev. Ted Beiderwieden currently serves them as their pastor.

Emmanuel, Cadillac: Rev. Joel Hess is the sole pastor for the congregation.

Trinity, Manistee: Rev. Dennis Rahn is serving them as their pastor.

Our Savior, Scottville: Rev. James Schroeder is their current pastor.

St. John, Ludington: They are currently served by Rev. Thomas Boehne.

Norwalk, Manistee: Rev. Michael Belinsky, serving as pastor at Our Savior, Benzonia, also serves at Norwalk.

Circuit #34 - Big Rapids Circuit Rev. John A. Bookshaw, Circuit Visitor

Ministry is alive and well in the Big Rapids Circuit. Each congregation is working hard to disciple their members in the Word of God. You will see that all our congregations are looking for new ways of reaching those in each community who are not churched. We are excited about the ministry possibilities in our circuit.

Redeemer, Fremont – For the past three years, Redeemer, Fremont, like most churches in the United States, has been experiencing a steady decline. Most recently, the Board of Education has begun a program called *Thank God I'm Forgiven!* (TGIF). In this program, parents of our community are invited to drop their children off at the church for a child-friendly dinner and a VBS-style program afterwards. This free child-sitting program is designed to allow parents to have a little free time while allowing their children a safe environment to play and learn. In the future, Redeemer hopes to provide many other programs as an open door to the community.

Christ, White Cloud – Since the last District Convention, Christ Lutheran installed a new pastor, Rev. William Hooper. Despite a declining membership, Christ Lutheran is strong in its commitment to the ministry of the Circuit, District and Synod. Christ Lutheran is committed to the ministry of the greater church. Christ Lutheran continues to maintain their Sunday School as well their preschool to reach out into the community of White Cloud. The last two years the congregation has held a free Thanksgiving meal for the community with very good success. Future plans for Christ Lutheran include finding a road to reach out in Newaygo, where there is no Lutheran presence. With the leadership of Pastor Hooper, the ministry future at Christ Lutheran is exciting.

Chapel of the Lakes, Mecosta – There are a wide range of ministries offered at Chapel of the Lakes. The community ministries include the annual Children's Christmas Party, monthly gatherings in the summer to distribute Christian books, and Monday Night Supper, which offers a free meal to members of the community every Monday night. The children's ministries include Sunday school and Vacation Bible School, along with youth group for children of middle-school through high-school age. Adult ministries include ladies' Bible studies, adult Bible studies, home Bible studies and rotating studies for new members beginning with Discover CLLC Class, The Truth Project, and ending with Becoming a Contagious Christian. Chapel of the Lakes also has a Breakthrough Class which ministers to young adults with special needs. The congregation continues to minister to the residents at the assisted living center in Mecosta.

Grace, Baldwin – In April, 2014 Grace installed their new pastor, Rev. Daniel H. Fienen from Danville, Illinois. Pastor Fienen is semi-retired and half-time pastor at Grace. He and his family moved into the parsonage and are excited about their new ministry. Grace Lutheran has increased her on-line presence with new email and a new website to increase visibility in the community of Baldwin. With the new ministry of Pastor Fienen, Grace Lutheran Church will continue to be a witness for Jesus Christ in the community of Baldwin.

Trinity, Reed City – This is an active and busy time for the ministry of Trinity congregation reaching out to the communities surrounding Reed City, Mich. For the last two years, the congregation has been served by Interim/Vacancy pastors after the departure of their former pastor in the late winter of 2013. Pastor Tim Verity served as the interim pastor until Pastor Richard Collin took over in late Fall of 2014. The congregation continues the process of calling a replacement pastor with the hope that the office will be filled by early Spring 2015. During the last three years, the previous site for the church and school was sold and in the Fall of 2014 classes were being held at the new church site, NE of Reed City on US-10. Challenges were faced in obtaining the needed approval from a variety of state inspectors for the use of the church facilities until a new school plant can be erected. Fundraising has begun and pledges, which will help determine what facilities can be built, should occur in late April and early May, with construction to begin sometime in the Fall of 2015. The school staff continues to share enthusiasm,

even though space is limited at the present time. The former principal retired at the end of the last school year. The calling of a replacement has been delayed until a new pastor is on staff. The congregation continues to hold worship services on both Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings. These worship times offer a variety of settings using resources from the Lutheran Service Book, Creative Worship, and locally-developed material. Attendance has held reasonably steady during the vacancy, but hopes remain for growth once a settled pastor is installed.

St. Peter's, Big Rapids – The last three years have brought some major changes to the ministry of St. Peter's Lutheran Church and School. The school's principal, Mr. David Truog, retired after 33 years as principal. After a year of transition, Mr. Bradley Massey was installed as principal. The school looks forward to continued growth in the preschool and elementary school. The ministry of the congregation is active and strong. St. Peter's offers a variety of worship formats and has a vibrant and strong music ministry under the leadership of the Director of Worship. The ministry to the youth of the congregation continues to grow and is strong under the leadership of the DCE. The adult Bible study ministry continues to grow and is one of the foundational ministries of St. Peter's. The congregation is now in the process of developing a long-range ministry plan with the primary focus of outreach into the community of Big Rapids and Mecosta county. Future ministry plans include a daycare center and all-day preschool. The congregation is also exploring expanding the current campus with the addition of a child care center, new gym, youth center, and a new office complex.

It is an exciting time for the Big Rapids circuit. Each congregation is looking for more opportunities to bring the Gospel of our Lord Jesus to each community. It is great to see the congregations looking beyond serving themselves to reaching out in each community.

Circuit #35 - Capitol Circuit **Rev. Timothy W. Olson, Circuit Visitor**

The Capitol circuit is comprised of the following churches: First Lutheran, Charlotte; Grace, Leslie; Trinity, Lansing; Our Savior, Lansing; Good Shepherd, Lansing; Messiah, Holt; St. Matthew, Holt; and Heart of the Shepherd, Howell. Each church has a Word and Sacrament ministry to the communities in which they have been placed by God. All of these churches strive, by God's leading, to spread the Gospel message of Jesus Christ with the people in their neighborhoods (Mark 16:15). Here are some of the things that have happened in these churches over the past triennium:

First Lutheran, Charlotte – Rev. Timothy Olson

The people of God at First Lutheran have established a strong presence in their community with the preschool/daycare that was expanded about 3 years ago. Since then, more than 85 children per year have been ministered to with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The theme for the preschool/daycare is: "Let the Little Children Come to me ... for such belongs the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). Jesus spoke these words and

we as a congregation have welcomed the little children into our midst through this ministry. Our ham/turkey giveaway, which began three years ago, has grown from 100 hams and 100 turkeys to 200 of each. This last Thanksgiving, we had over 400 people come through our building while we ministered to these needy people with gospel music, the Word of the Lord, prayer and friendship. In October of 2014, we celebrated 30 years at our present location. We thanked the Lord for all of His blessings!

Good Shepherd, Lansing – Rev. Rodger Straub

"A small church with a big heart for Christ." Over the past three years, Good Shepherd has continued to face the challenges of a graying congregation, while remaining committed to its mission statement: "Good Shepherd seeks to gain people for God, gather around Word and Sacrament, and grow in Christ." Good Shepherd is going on its 8th year as a mission outpost with Lutheran Blind Missions, a ministry that has experienced significant growth. Each month, the congregation is focused on a mission outreach or partnering in our community. In October of 2014, Good Shepherd celebrated its 50th anniversary.

St. Matthew, Holt – Rev. Dean Poellet

St. Matthew celebrated the 50th anniversary of their founding this year. It was a one-weekend event, February 28th and March 1st. We are also very thankful to God that, after almost 40 years of operating a Lutheran High School on our own, last July 1st the new Mid-Michigan Lutheran High School Association came into being with the support of 5 other Lansing area congregations. Those congregations are providing much-needed stability and expertise to the program, and the first year has gone very well. As a congregation, our Lord continues to use us by sending several teams each year into the international mission field. Locally we work with and support the Friendship House International Student Ministry at Michigan State University. This year, we completed and passed the AdvanceED national accreditation renewal process for the elementary school and high school. Last fall, our Sonshine Early Childhood Center completed all the work for the Michigan Quality Rating Improvement System and passed with high scores in all areas. God's Holy Spirit continues to use the people at St. Matthew in order that they might know Jesus and let Him be known.

Messiah, Holt – Rev. Thomas Vanderbilt

Messiah in Holt had several major changes over the past triennium. In December, Pastor Stephen Grafe took a call to another church and on January 25, 2015, Thomas Vanderbilt was installed as their new pastor. Messiah continues to reach out to their neighborhood with the Gospel through their daycare center, Lenten fish fry, and other opportunities that God has given them. They feel blessed and privileged to do the Lord's work. God has blessed them in many ways.

Our Savior, Lansing – Rev. William Wangelin

Our Savior installed Rev. Bill Wangelin as senior pastor on November 10, 2013. The school enrollment is at 200 students, preschool – 8th grade, and in spring of 2014, Our Savior joined the Mid-Michigan Lutheran High School Association

to continue its commitment to Lutheran education. Former teacher Matthew Couser became full-time principal in August of 2013. In addition to the school ministry, the congregation serves the community through the Our Savior Food Bank, school backpacks, 200 Thanksgiving baskets, and fundraisers for Lutherans for Life, Hannah's House, and the MSU International Friendship House. Outreach events include the summer Freedom Festival, Living Nativity, and Easter Egg hunt with over 6,000 eggs.

Trinity, Lansing – Rev. Gary “Travis” Downs

Trinity has really committed to being a church that reaches out to its neighbors. They welcome their neighborhood to join them in worship and they have done an outdoor Christian concert to invite their inner-city neighbors to be part of their Christian fellowship. They have traditional worship with pages 5 and 15 from The Lutheran Hymnal (1941) edition. Movie nights, Creation Seminars, and other programs have been implemented to be an inviting presence to those around them. Inner city ministry is different and Trinity is striving to meet that culture around them and share the gospel of Jesus Christ with their community.

Grace, Leslie – Rev. Michael Martin

After a long vacancy, God has blessed Grace Lutheran with Pastor Michael Martin. Pastor Martin serves them half time with the goal to help them grow to be able to afford a full-time pastor. Many good things are happening there and the people have a positive attitude about their future. Please continue to pray for Grace that the Lord would bless the church to reach many more for His kingdom in the Leslie area. We thank God for the progress made so far and look for good things to come.

Heart of the Shepherd, Howell – Rev. John Hile and Rev. Galan Grulke

Heart of the Shepherd has been going through a transition over the past several years. The goal is for Pastor Grulke to be part-time and for Pastor John Hile to be the lead. As this transition happens, Pastor Hile will assume more responsibilities and Pastor Grulke will be part-time. Heart of the Shepherd has many different ministries happening. The most prominent is their Child Development Center. They reach many families through this ministry. Their current vision is to: GROW in grace. GIVE with joy. GO on mission.

It is our honor and privilege as the pastors and members of the Capitol Circuit Churches to serve God and extend His kingdom to more and more people through the preaching of the Gospel and administration of the Sacraments. “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade...” (1 Peter 1:3-4).

Circuit #36, Saint Johns Circuit
Rev. E. Anthony Sikora, Circuit Visitor

St. Paul, Fowler – We have been blessed by the Lord here at

St. Paul, as we are privileged to maintain a solid Lutheran presence in Fowler. God's Word is our great heritage – and we are dedicated to seeing that it is preached, taught, and confessed in its purity and truth. Our congregation is also involved in the support of several Mission projects, and we continue to be a strong pro-life voice in our community.

St. Peter's, Riley – With grateful and yet saddened hearts, the saints at St. Peter's said their good-byes to long-time pastor Rev. Jeff Heimsoth. Entering into a time of uncertainty, the congregation continued to be served by interim pastor, Rev. Bill Roper. In 2014, Rev. Quentin Nuttmann accepted the call to serve as pastor and acting school principal. The congregation continues to maintain a Christian day school and is committed to the mission of Christ's church.

St. John, Saint Johns – The members of St. John continue to grow in grace and knowledge of God's word. God's Word has not returned void, and in 2015 the congregation installed Rev. Steve Massey as their Associate Pastor. Rev. Dr. Bryan Salminen continues to serve as Senior Pastor.

Hope, DeWitt – In May of 2013, Hope dedicated a new addition to their facilities. A long-awaited fellowship hall, expanded kitchen, and ground-level classrooms were blessed by the Word of God and sanctified with prayer. In 2014, Hope installed Rev. Lance Klammer as associate pastor. The congregation continues to see an increase in Sunday worship attendance and is actively involved in the support of Rev. Roger James as missionary to Sri Lanka.

St. Luke's, Haslett – Our congregation focuses on helping people to *Know the Peace and the Power of the Cross*. Each year we challenge our people to read through the entire Scripture. Through an ever more dynamic and informed relationship with Jesus, we want to raise up people who can't help but talk about what we have seen and heard. Our major community project is a coat bank, through which we give away approximately 1,000 coats a season. Our VBS and Little Lambs Preschool help us to connect with families in our community. During the last three years, we have been building a ministry relationship with Christ Lutheran Church in downtown Lansing. In addition to our financial support of the District and Synod, we support International Student Ministries at Michigan State University and international LCMS missionaries David Erber and Chuck Tessaro. Since the last Convention, we have called Rev. Trevor Sutton as our Associate Pastor and Mr. Tom Chester as our Youth Director. Rev. David Davis serves as Senior Pastor. Our congregation includes 731 baptized members and 572 confirmed members. Our average attendance is 363.

Ascension, East Lansing – Ascension Lutheran Church is served by Pastor Dave Winningham, Deacon John Haubenstricker and Music Director Alix Jenkins. Ascension has enjoyed growth in participation, as well as growth in awareness and support of District and Synod programs. Stephen Ministry was instituted, with a recently-graduated class of seven Stephen Ministers. Ascension continues to lift

high the cross to the eastern area of greater Lansing and the MSU community.

St. Andrew's, Portland – God continues to bless St. Andrew Lutheran Church as He has throughout its 32-year history. St. Andrew has reached several landmarks since the last District convention. In January, 2013, the congregation celebrated the 30-year anniversary of its first meeting as Portland Lutheran mission. Then, in the fall of 2013, the congregation celebrated the 20th anniversary of the opening of WEE GROW Christian Preschool, a ministry to 3- and 4-year-old children which continues to serve 30 children and their families in 2015. In July of 2015, St. Andrew celebrated the 25th anniversary of ordination of its first full-time pastor, Rev. Edward Filter. Pastor Filter was ordained at St. Andrew in July of 1989 and has been blessed with the opportunity to serve St. Andrew throughout his entire pastoral ministry. St. Andrew and Pastor Filter were pleased to have Ray Zavada, Assistant to the President – Development for the Michigan District, LCMS be part of the celebration.

In November, St. Andrew was blessed to be part of the first Kids Against Hunger food-packaging event in the community. Many of the Christian congregations in Portland, with the help of Thrivent, raised over \$5,000 and packaged over 20,000 meals to be used at the food banks in Ionia County, across our country, and in other third world countries. The next event is already scheduled for November 14, 2015. The members of St. Andrew and Pastor Filter look forward to all future opportunities to celebrate Word and Sacrament ministry together in whatever form God guides them.

Calvary, Carson City – After nearly 18 years Rev. Ken Williamson accepted another call and Calvary found itself vacant. Served by Rev. George Brinley during the vacancy, the congregation began the call process and eventually called Rev. Robert Riggs, who accepted and was installed in January 2015. Excited by the many changes which the Lord is working in their congregation and community, the people of Calvary Lutheran Church are eager to take the Gospel to their friends, neighbors and family.

Circuit #37 – Tri-River Circuit Rev. Joe Fremer, Circuit Visitor

The Tri-River Circuit is an L-shaped string of congregations north-to-east of the greater Grand Rapids metropolitan area, stretching from Howard City in the north, south to Lowell then eastward to Ionia and Stanton, passing through Sand Lake, Greenville, and Belding. We are small-town and rural churches serving “bedroom communities” in the counties of Ionia, Kent, and Montcalm, representing a variety of worship styles. The pastors and emeriti of Circuit #37 meet monthly during the school year for the Divine Service, study of God's Word, lunch together, and casuistry discussions. Our monthly pastor's conference has always been a place of peace and mutual respect, marked by harmony and warm fellowship. We have a number of emeriti who are a blessing to our Winkel conferences and our congregations. We support each other as we all deal with common challenges posed by the economically-depressed region in which we serve, and by the

progressive secularization of American culture. Our congregations are small, aging, declining in numbers, but full of faith, hope, and love.

Holy Cross, Belding – served by the Rev. Bob Wagner since 2009. The congregation is moving into the technological age, with a new web page – holycrossbelding.org – and a Facebook page to update the members and friends with memos and reminders. They continue to grow in fellowship with one another through study and service, oftentimes with food set before them. The congregation is known for two delicious meals they serve – a Swiss Steak Dinner in Spring and a Turkey Dinner in the Fall, where most of the congregation, and many family members, pitch in to make it work.

Mt. Calvary, Greenville, served by the Rev. Jeff Wilhelm, is POINT-ing the Way: Proclaiming Christ, Offering Hope, Inspiring Service, Nurturing All, and Teaching God's Word. Pastor Wilhelm's wife, Grace, has gone through intensive cancer treatment, including two stem-cell transplants in the Detroit/Ann Arbor areas, after being diagnosed with Plasma Cell Leukemia in October 2012. An expanded worship schedule led to increased attendance for a year. Two annual Kids Against Hunger food-packaging events have been held (20,000 and 30,000 meals), with core support from Thrivent as well as the local Ministerial Association and area congregations. The church is considering adding a DCE position to lead ministry efforts in engaging more young families. The preschool and childcare center have steadily grown in serving families in the community, reaching a maximum capacity this past year of over 130 students. Mt. Calvary has also hosted an Annual Back-to-School Supplies Distribution event in cooperation with other local churches and the public schools. A Passover Seder Meal in 2014 was very well received. In addition to updating its constitution and bylaws, Mt. Calvary has developed a new Vision statement – to be a growing community of believers transformed by the power of God's love in Jesus Christ, positively impacting people's lives in our congregation and community, now and for eternity.

Bethel, Howard City, is served by the Rev. Steven Frentz. Bethel celebrated their 50th anniversary with a special service in 2012. Their former pastor, Rev. Dr. Don Matzat, was invited to preach for the service of celebration that remembered the merging of St. Peter's, Amble and Immanuel, Howard City in 1962. As the church looks forward to the next 50 years of serving God and the community, the members of Bethel continue to serve their neighbors through close participation with Helping Hands Ministry Food Pantry. The church also has a tradition of supporting several families that are in need during the Christmas season. The adult vocal choir has been joined by a chime choir that is now in its second year of existence. The church is also recognized in the community by its participation in the annual Howard City Harvest Fest in the Fall, and by offering a Living Nativity at Christmas time. Bethel also continues to serve the community through Pastor Frentz' service as both chaplain and firefighter with the Howard City Fire Department.

Good Shepherd, Lowell – Good Shepherd continues to be served by Pastor Joe Fremer, assisted by Licensed Deacon Ed Van Cott. In 2014 they sent four members on a mission trip to Haiti, to work on a Caribbean Children’s Foundation orphanage. Good Shepherd provides a large number of volunteers at the local food pantry. They seek to raise their profile in the community through booths at the Lowell Riverwalk Festival in the summer, and the Fallasburg Fall Festival. These activities do bring in some funds, but they are chiefly intended as a way for people in the area to see Good Shepherd folks having fun, serving the Lord with gladness. Our Sunday school, which was suffering from a dip in the demographics, has begun to rebound as dedicated parents of preschoolers step up.

St. John, Ionia has undergone many changes in the last three years. The Rev. David Bogda retired in August of 2012 and Pr. Richard Laeder served them as Intentional Interim Minister through November of 2013. The church determined that their numbers would not permit them to call a full-time pastor of their own, so they entered into a “shared ministry” agreement with their daughter congregation Good Shepherd, and called Pastor Fremer to be their pastor on a part-time basis. This arrangement seems to suit the needs of both congregations: both have traditional worship styles, and each congregation has a licensed Deacon who assists in making this arrangement work. Deacon Peter Carr was licensed in 2014 to assist with ministry there. St. John’s preschool/daycare continues to share Jesus with area children. The church hosts an annual German-style Chop Suey Supper that is highly anticipated each year by people in Ionia, and once a month they host a community breakfast that has many repeat customers.

Resurrection, Sand Lake – Intentional Interim Minister Rev. Lee Zabrocki has been serving since 2009. Resurrection has a preschool. On Easter Sunday, worshipers released more than a thousand balloons imprinted with “He Is Risen” (one made it as far as Ottawa!). VBS served over 100 kids from the community. The fourth annual Community Picnic they hosted served more than 700 people. This free event provided food and a live band, and the congregation gave school bags to all the children who attended. These picnics have resulted over the years in several new members joining Resurrection. In the past triennium, attendance has increased 45%, and offerings have increased 53%.

Hope, Stanton – In dual-parish with the English District church Holy Trinity (Lakeview), under the care of the Rev. Steven Voelker. This small but committed congregation has a mid-week daytime Bible study, with mid-week services also in Lent and Advent. The church has a food pantry that serves 30-40 area families each month. In addition to the members’ regular budgetary support and donations of food, Hope puts on an annual Ice Cream Social to raise funds for the food pantry. The partnership with Holy Trinity is appreciated, and celebrated by having joint services at different times during the year.

The Tri-River Circuit is blessed to have Camp Concordia, a Lutheran children’s camp that serves the Michigan District,

staffed year-round by commissioned ministers, and is a Registered Service Organization of the LCMS. Many of our circuit’s churches have been involved in this camp since its founding by local Lutherans in 1957. In the past triennium we said goodbye to Director Paul Golke, grateful for his years of leadership, and welcomed Dr. Craig S. Oldenburg, who has served in the LCMS Outdoors Ministry for over 17 years, and has been dreaming of directing this camp for 30 years!

Circuit # 38 – Muskegon Circuit Rev. Dennis Lassanske, Circuit Visitor

Circuit #38 of the Michigan District is located along the coast of Lake Michigan, between Muskegon and Shelby to the north, and Conklin to the east. These congregations are actively seeking to be caring, encouraging and witnessing churches to their communities.

Trinity, Conklin this year celebrates their 150th anniversary. “Great is Thy Faithfulness” is their overall theme, which is focused on God’s faithfulness in blessing the people of Trinity over the years. The celebration will culminate with a major anniversary celebration on July 12, 2015. For 146 of the 150 years, Trinity has maintained a Lutheran school that has been a key part of their ministry. The congregation continues to meet the increasing challenge of maintaining this vitally important ministry in our society. Rev. Mark Oswald has led the congregation for over 23 years.

Trinity Lutheran School – The congregation has expanded the school ministry to include a 3- to 5-year-old program. The school ministry continues to provide lower grade, Christ-centered education to the community.

St. Luke, Nunica is presently being served by an Intentional Interim Pastor, Rev. Dennis Lassanske, as they refocus the mission and ministry after being served for 18 years by Rev. Lahrman, who accepted a call to another parish ministry in Indiana. They have continued intentional outreach to the community through a food truck ministry, providing needed food and spiritual assistance. The congregation is involved in a total renovation of the parsonage in anticipation of the arrival of a new pastor. They have affirmed a new vision for their ministry together: “IN CHRIST – Loving People; Opening Doors; Volunteering; and Encouraging Others.” They look forward to shaping a new ministry with the leadership of a permanent pastor to lead and shepherd the ministry into the future.

St. Mark, Muskegon has been involved in the transition of the pastoral ministry under the leadership of Pastor Mark Gilson the past several years. The congregation is reflecting a growing passion for the study of God’s Word. They are expanding their mission involvement by sending out international service teams the last two years. The congregation is completing the construction of a memorial garden on the church campus. They have experienced changes in worship style and service times as they incorporate the use of multi-media into the church building and instruction areas. They are challenged as they move forward emphasizing diversified involvement and service that is driven by a deep

relationship with the Lord Jesus.

Our Redeemer, Muskegon on the East side of town has been served by Rev. Robert Conradt for 23 years and assisted by Deacon Bud Koppel. Working with the Board of Elders, an active shepherding program to members has been reestablished to build and strengthen the congregation. A newly-formed evangelism committee has been reaching into the community through movie nights and community nights, attempting to reach students from Baker and Muskegon Community College that live around them. The challenge continues to be adapting ministry to the changing neighborhood which has experienced a significant turnover in the last three years.

Trinity, Muskegon celebrated the arrival of their new shepherd, Rev. Paul Appold, to lead the ministry of the congregation. The congregation bid farewell and God's speed in retirement to Rev. Dennis Lassanske in 2012, and were faithfully served by Rev. George Hamilton as vacancy pastor from 2012–2014.

The congregation responded with a dramatic increase in giving on Consecration Sunday in 2014. Plans are in motion to send another mission team to "Groundwork Guatemala" in 2016. The congregation is developing a new strategic mission, vision and target thrusts into the community. The new mission Statement is: "Trinity is a spring of living water". Growth among young families encourages the spreading of the living water of the Gospel as the congregation seeks to reach the West Shore parents and students in the greater Muskegon community.

West Shore Lutheran School resides on the campus of Trinity, Muskegon. The school ministry in the area of preschool, child care and infant care continues to expand, and supports the continuation of Kindergarten thru 8th grade classes under the leadership of Principal Brad Feenstra.

Faith, Whitehall is being served by Intentional Interim Pastor Rev. Jim Eggert since 2014, after saying good-bye to a pastor in 2012 and an SMP pastor in 2014. The congregation celebrated their 60th anniversary in October of 2014. This summer they will celebrate the 50th year in their present sanctuary. Through the Intentional Interim process they adopted a new mission statement, vision, and major emerging ministry thrusts. The ministry is focused on the activation of God's people in expanding ministry of caring, encouraging and witnessing. Having just completed the renovation of the church parsonage, they are setting in motion plans for calling a new pastor.

St James, Montigue has been served by Pastor John Brooks for over 25 years. The congregation totally demolished the old fellowship kitchen in order to enlarge, remodel, and upgrade it. This last year, the congregation blessed their pastor with a wonderful gift celebrating his 25 years of service at St. James. The challenge of their ministry is to be continually equipping and strengthening people to face an increasingly hostile world and fast-changing society, focusing on the desire to see their members and all people in heaven!

St. Stephen, Shelby is served on a part-time basis by Pastor Thomas Bye who lives in Pentwater, MI. The ministry continues to serve Lutherans who live in the area. Regular summer worship services on Sunday morning are held outside in an amphitheater setting in the church woods. The challenge continues to be reaching into the small town and reaching out to the surrounding seasonal community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Circuit #39 – Holland Circuit Rev. Christopher Boehnke, Circuit Visitor

Ottawa County has been thriving in terms of economic growth, quality of life indicators, and steady population increase – including a growing racial diversity. The congregations of the Holland Circuit are faithfully striving, by God's grace, to reach out with the Gospel and the love of Jesus in a strong religious and Reformed environment, yet with "fields ripe for the harvest." The pastors and congregations of the Holland Circuit have a good relationship with each other as we serve in the Lord's vineyard together.

Grace, Coopersville: We continue to offer quality Christian Education, anchored in the Fit for Life in Christ Adult Confirmation class, other adult Bible classes, small groups, and Word and Sacrament worship. We are teaching membership expectations on a Biblical commitment level and are experiencing a steady growth in our membership and discipleship. We are working to continue to impact and support our families as they are often pulled away from worship with their children's club sports, tournaments, and other commitments.

St John's, Grand Haven: We are currently celebrating our 150th year of ministry which culminates on October 18th with President Maier in our midst and preaching. We just voted to add a Director of Children's Ministry to our staff. A new church roof is being put on as you read this report. Rev. Haupt will retire in November after serving at St. John's for 32 years. We are a tithing congregation to District & Synod, which significantly increases our mission gifts.

Christ Our Savior, Holland: Within this past triennium, the members of Christ Our Savior, Holland have worked through the ministry-study process of evaluating values, mission, and vision. From that, the following mission statement for our Christian life and service with our Lord is being implemented: Our Mission is to *Share God's Word - Grow God's Kingdom - Live Christ's Love*. One other unique emphasis was shared in the fall of 2014; we were challenged in our stewardship to be "Living Generously." A group of study and action topics under that title from RheMedia was used, well-received, and has led to increased giving and increased serving in our Savior's name.

Zion, Holland: Rev. John Westra retired in August 2012 after 16½ years of faithful service at Zion. In the subsequent months, Zion changed Rev. Ryan Winningham's call from Associate to Sole Pastor. In June 2014, Zion hired Trevor Berrian to serve full-time as the Director of Youth and Family Ministry.

Lakeshore Fellowship, Spring Lake: By God's grace we have seen a steady growth in numbers and in discipleship. We completed improvements to our facility through a campaign titled IMPACT. In worship, we focus on the Gospel and Sacraments in a contemporary style. To help grow people in faith, we have 15 Community Groups and a Crossways class on Monday nights with 35 people. More people now serve in the body as various ministry teams have been started (e.g. GAP Prayer Team, Women's Ministry Team, GO Local Team, GO Global Team, etc). Two ways we reach out is through our household necessity pantry and annual mission trips to Honduras.

**Circuit #40 – Grand Rapids North Central Circuit
Rev. Mark Love, Circuit Visitor**

St. Matthew, Grand Rapids – Rev. Robert Appold
Baptized Membership – 589
Communicant Membership – 415
Average Worship Attendance – 339

Family of Christ, Comstock Park – Rev. Mark Bowditch
Baptized Membership – 111
Communicant Membership – 81
Average Worship Attendance – 75

Immanuel, Grand Rapids – Rev. Craig Bickel
Baptized Membership – 594
Communicant Membership – 463
Average Worship Attendance – 343

Messiah, Grand Rapids – Rev. Thomas Bartzsch
Baptized Membership – 352
Communicant Membership – 287
Average Worship Attendance – 157

Mt. Olive, Grand Rapids – Rev. Kenneth Bomberger
Baptized Membership – 98
Communicant Membership – 79
Average Worship Attendance – 50

Our Savior, Grand Rapids – Rev. David Fleming and Rev. North Sherrill
Baptized Membership – 560
Communicant Membership – 246
Average Worship Attendance – 235

St. James, Grand Rapids – Rev. James Blain
Baptized Membership – 534
Communicant Membership – 425
Average Worship Attendance – 148

St. Peter, Rockford – Rev. Mark Love
Baptized Membership – 392
Communicant Membership – 319
Average Worship Attendance – 140

Redeemer, Grand Rapids held its Closing Service on December 30, 2012.

**Circuit #41 – Grand Rapids Southwest Circuit
Rev. Scott Sommerfeld, – Circuit Visitor**

St. Paul, Caledonia – Rev. Gary Siefert, Intentional Interim Pastor
Baptized Membership – 850
Communicant Membership – 638
Average Worship Attendance – 111

Bethel, Grandville – Rev. Robert Weidmayer
Baptized Membership – 198
Communicant Membership – 161
Average Worship Attendance – 53

New Hope, Hudsonville – Rev. David Rufner
Baptized Membership – 217
Communicant Membership – 154
Average Worship Attendance – 117

Holy Cross, Jenison – Rev. Scott Sommerfeld
Baptized Membership – 1317
Communicant Membership – 873
Average Worship Attendance – 407

St. John, Jenison – Rev. James Metcalf
Baptized Membership – 265
Communicant Membership – 194
Average Worship Attendance – 89

St. Mark, Kentwood – Rev. Michael Wentzel
Baptized Membership – 714
Communicant Membership – 530
Average Worship Attendance – 225

Good Shepherd, Middleville – Rev. Terry Kenitz
Baptized Membership – 30
Communicant Membership – 30
Average Worship Attendance – 30

Journey In Faith, Byron Center – Rev. Frank Graves, Vacancy Pastor
Baptized Membership – 93
Communicant Membership – 74
Average Worship Attendance – 70

**Circuit #42 – Battle Creek Circuit
Rev. David Sidwell, Circuit Visitor**

St. Paul, Albion – The congregation is at peace and well-led, pastored by Rev. Dennis Matyas. They have begun a preschool to serve the Albion community. They are becoming an anchor, supporting the many needs of a troubled community. St. Paul has a liturgical, hymn-and-organ worship style based on LSB. The congregation is a pastor-driven church moving toward program-driven.

Redemption, Battle Creek – The congregation is at peace and is well-led, pastored by Rev. Karl Streng. Also connected to Redemption is the chaplain of the VA Hospital, Rev. Jeffrey Wollberg. The congregation supports local and regional

mission activities of the church faithfully. It has a liturgical, hymn, organ-and-piano worship based on LSB. The congregation is a pastor-driven church.

St. Mark, Battle Creek – The congregation is at peace and is well-led, pastored by Rev. Brad Hubbard. They have a well proven record of serving the needs of their community. It has multiple worship services and styles including hymn-and-organ and song-and-praise band. The congregation is a program-driven church and has a successful preschool.

St. Paul, Battle Creek – The congregation is at peace. It has just installed a sole pastor, Rev. Larry Gorlitz. It is beginning a new phase of outreach to its community. It has a liturgical, hymn-and-organ worship style based on LW/LSB. The congregation is a pastor-driven church.

Immanuel, Kalamazoo – The congregation is at peace and is pastored by Rev. David H. Sidwell. They have a service oriented approach supporting local and regional mission activity. It has a liturgical, hymn, organ-and-piano worship style based on LSB. The congregation is a pastor-driven church.

Zion, Kalamazoo – The congregation is at peace and is well-led, pastored by Rev. Tim Seeber. Also serving is Rev. Mark Couch at Solid Grounds Campus ministry, Western Michigan University. They support the many local missions and ministries of the Kalamazoo community. It has a liturgical, hymn, organ-and-piano worship style based on LBW. The congregation is a program-driven church and has a successful preschool.

Christ, Marshall – The congregation is at peace and is well led, pastored by Rev. David Boedecker. It is also served by Deacon David Moran. It has a passion for supporting mission projects. It has a liturgical, hymn-and-organ worship style based on LBW. The congregation is a pastor-driven church.

Zion, Marshall – The congregation is at peace and is well led, pastored by Rev. Anthony Voltattorni. It has a passion for mission, supporting its former pastor, Rev. Roger James, in Sri Lanka, as well as Rev. Vincent Iqbal in the Battle Creek Circuit. It has a liturgical, hymn-and-organ worship style based on TLH. The congregation is a pastor-driven church.

Trinity, Paw Paw – The congregation is at peace and is well led, pastored by Rev. Eric Gledhill. It is centered in the county seat (Van Buren) and serves broadly and widely its community. It has multiple worship services and styles including hymn-and-organ and song-and-praise band. The congregation is a program-driven church and has a successful day school (K-8) and preschool.

St. Michael, Portage – The congregation is at peace and is well led, pastored by Rev. Dr. Paul Naumann. It is also served by SMP Pastor, Rev. Jason Toman. They well serve and support the Portage and Kalamazoo communities. It has multiple worship services and styles including hymn-and-organ and song and praise band. The congregation is a program-driven

church and has a successful day school (K-8) and preschool.

St. Peter, Three Rivers – The congregation is at peace and is well led, pastored by Rev. Robert Bartz, Pastor Emeritus. It is raising funds to host a Lutheran Comfort Dog ministry. It has a liturgical, hymn-and-organ worship style based on LSB. The congregation is a pastor-driven church.

Circuit #43 – St. Joseph Circuit Rev. Michael J. Roth, Circuit Visitor

Circuit 43 is the southwesternmost circuit in Michigan, bordering Lake Michigan on the west and Indiana on the south. There is positive collegiality and cooperation in Circuit 43. Winkels are well attended, installations and retirements are joyfully celebrated, and pastors and wives regularly enjoy fellowship. As a circuit we are active with the Benton Harbor Lutheran Outreach Ministry. Most congregations in the circuit support Rev. Richard Rudoswke and his work with Lutheran Bible Translators. We also regularly host a circuit-wide Reformation service. The following are reports of the church of the St. Joseph Circuit.

Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Berrien Springs – Pastor Doug Adams

Rev. Mel Meyer of South Bend, IN served Trinity as its Intentional Interim Minister throughout 2012. Rev. Meyer was encouraging to Trinity's challenges and supportive of its goals, including the Ebenezer Project to eliminate our debt. On September 30, 2012, Trinity celebrated its 100-Year Anniversary with the theme "A Century of God's Grace." An Anniversary Book was published, celebratory activities were held throughout the year, and the goal of paying off the church's debt by year's end remained on schedule. The day school, preschool program, and Ark Day Care continued to offer a Christ-based education and care to the children of our church and community.

Rev. Mel Meyer continued to serve Trinity in 2013. His leadership showed a growing interest in Bible study, so Bible studies were held each week at church and in parishioners' homes. The Ebenezer Project was completed in early 2013 and Trinity became debt-free, something we wanted to accomplish before we called a new shepherd to lead us. Rev. Douglas Adams was installed as our pastor on June 9. Interaction continued between congregation senior members and day school students through T.E.A.M. (Trinity Encouragers and Mentors).

Under Pastor Adams' direction, Trinity's members continue to grow spiritually with church attendance and Bible studies, have many opportunities to help those outside our congregation through a variety of service projects, and enjoy fellowship opportunities through participation in Trinity's many church organizations.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Bridgman – Pastor Jon Bendewald

Immanuel, Bridgman is currently served by Pastor Jon Bendewald, who is entering his 8th year at Immanuel, and Mrs. Barb Ackerman, entering her 16th year as preschool director and 3rd year as childcare director. Immanuel has

enhanced its dynamic guitar-led divine service at 11 a.m. with the addition of musicians—specifically a drummer.

Immanuel experienced a sanctuary flood in January of 2014 and re-dedicated a re-purposed and renovated sanctuary in August 2014. The lectern was replaced with a praise platform for a baby grand piano and singing of God's Word. The pulpit is now dedicated for the speaking and preaching of God's Word. God Connects and other LHM resources are regularly used within congregation and community.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Buchanan – Pastor Daniel Barz

Salem Lutheran Church, Coloma – Pastor Andrew Menz

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Cassopolis – Pastor Paul Doellinger

St. Paul, Cassopolis remains a strong, healthy, vibrant Communion of saints in Cass County. The Lord continues to call, gather, and enlighten her in His Name with His gifts and Means of Grace week in and week out. Weekly worship along with Bible study and Sunday school provide an environment for continued growth and nurturing in the Christian faith. St. Paul also conducts weekly worship services at two local nursing care facilities. St. Paul operates Open Arms Day Care and Child Development Center. Our director, Terri Steiner, along with her staff, serve the community with preschool and childcare in a Christian environment. Open Arms current enrolls 25 children.

Weekly Game Night has been made available for youth in the congregation and community; the activity is followed by a prayer service and pizza. St. Paul maintains her own food pantry that is open to the public while she financially supports a local thrift store in Cassopolis. Food baskets are delivered periodically to needy families in the area. The congregation has also become actively involved in Family Treatment Court of Cass County, a drug court which offers aid to children and victims of substance abuse.

Support for foreign and domestic missions include seminary student adoption, foreign aid, and contributions to LCMS World Relief and Human Care. The Ladies' Circle of St. Paul are extremely active in the congregation, LWML zone, and community with works of mercy, financial donations, and support. The crucified, risen, and ascended Lord Jesus continues daily and richly to bless His people at St. Paul. Soli Deo Gloria.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Glendora (Buchanan) – Pastor Jonathan Liebich

Events of significance these past three years include the retirement of Rev. Tom Brazinsky, the purchasing of a new parsonage, the installation of Rev. Jonathan Liebich, and the packaging of 34,000 meals for children in Guatemala through Kids Around The World.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Niles – Pastor Carl Bassett and SMP Pastor Joseph Liss

Community-wide clothing, baked goods, and rummage sale is held twice-a-year in our new Family Life Center (FLC) to benefit those who are living in Niles. Also, there is a Halloween celebration for our whole community in our

FLC, providing a safe place for children to come and receive healthy treats as well as free Bibles and other spiritually-related items. Over 1,000 participated in this event this past year, with over 60 of our members hosting this fun event. St. Paul's has offered this mission outreach for the past four years. Every year, the number of people attending dramatically increases as the word gets out!

Since the last District Convention, we have helped support a medical mission team to Haiti, led by one of our members who is a local physician. In addition, we have helped direct mission support activities in Cambodia, Vietnam, the Ukraine, Africa, and many other local, national and international locations.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Sawyer – Pastor Randy Lett

Trinity, Sawyer is in transition since the closing of our day school. God's faithful are thankful and hopeful as we continue to expand involvement and raise up new leaders. Our outreach and care ministries are developing into new areas through Headstart, a VBS Mission trip to Funny River AK, a Christian counseling office with Centered on Wellness, support and involvement with BHLOM, part-time music minister / young adult ministry facilitator, Vet Day special worship, and partnering with Wellspring ministries. Future plans include outreach to the summer tourists, parish nursing, and expanding youth ministry, as well as continuing to update the facilities to better serve present and future ministries.

Trinity Lutheran Church and School, St. Joseph – Pastor Michael J. Roth and Pastor Anthony Gerber

Trinity remains a very active congregation, providing Word and Sacrament ministry to her members and sharing the love of Christ with the community. Significant changes to the church staff of Trinity in the last three years include the calling and installing of Seminary candidate Rev. Anthony Gerber to focus on Youth and Family Ministry. Rev. Thomas Batsky went into full retirement at the end of 2014 and is an emeritus pastor. Trinity continues to be in the vicarage program of Synod and has enjoyed the mutual blessings of a vicar every year.

The congregation is blessed to maintain and operate a Christian Day School with a dedicated and experienced staff of highly qualified teachers. New to the staff in the past three years are Terry Bird, principal and Amy Roth, young fives' teacher. Trinity also operates a vibrant Early Childhood Center with day care and preschool. New to the ECC staff is Director Robyn Adams.

The Lord has opened many doors of ministry in Benton Harbor. Trinity is actively involved in community outreach there, including: a monthly community dinner; a monthly food truck through Feeding America; monthly service at the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen; a monthly food and preaching event called Meal and More; a weekly Bible Study/worship time called A Gather of Grace in a government housing complex; a clothing and household goods distribution ministry called Sort 'n Share; a benevolent funds ministry to assist people with utility shut-offs and evictions; a mentoring program for struggling families; in addition to ongoing annual events to feed, clothe, and enhance the lives of people in need.

Trinity also vigorously supports foreign missions, providing financial assistance to member Rev. Richard

Rudowske who works with Lutheran Bible Translators in Africa, and the support of Pastor Michael Roth's teaching at Concordia Lutheran Institute for the Holy Ministry in Yambio, South Sudan.

Christ Lutheran Church and School, Stevensville – Pastor Phillip Quardokus and Pastor Martin Measel

2015 marks a milestone year for Christ Lutheran Church. In January, we observed the 60th anniversary of our first service with a special celebration. Christ Lutheran has been in its present location for 48 of those 60 years. It has also been a time to refresh the church building. In 2014, the chancel was remodeled, complete with a new altar, font, refurbished pulpit, and new floor. Christ Lutheran is in the process of replacing its bell tower and reinstalling the bells. Christ Lutheran has been blessed with faithful works in the vineyard.

In the last three years we recognized the retirement from active ministry of four workers: Principal/DCE-Charles Strohacker, Teacher and Director of Instrumental Music-Tom Farrand, Kindergarten teacher and Director of Preschool-Joan Kern, and Teacher and Athletic Director-Dennis Kern. In 2015, The Rev. Dr. Philip Quardokus, Senior Pastor, along with Mark Steffens, Organist and Choir Director, celebrate 30 years of service to the congregation. Christ Lutheran School is currently being served by an interim principal, Danny Sandmann.

Circuit 43 looks forward to reaching out with the saving Gospel of Christ to southwest Michigan. We thank God for this opportunity and pray His Spirit will guide and bless us.

Circuit #44 - South Central Circuit **Rev. Aaron Chittick, Circuit Visitor**

It is a pleasure to serve the District as Circuit Visitor. I am excited for this opportunity to encourage unity and growth in our Synod. I pray that God will continue to bless each of the congregations that I will visit this year, and that the reports and accomplishments included here will bring glory to God.

St John, Burr Oak – St John Lutheran Church is a congregation of members striving to make disciples in God's kingdom on earth by living in the light of Jesus according to his Word. Established in 1864, St. John's Lutheran Church has been faithfully serving God in the community of Burr Oak, Mich. In 2014, we celebrated our 150th anniversary. Several former pastors of the congregation shared in the festivities culminating in a joint Reformation Celebration with Trinity, Sturgis, who was also celebrating its 150th Anniversary.

St. John's is very active in the community, reaching out to spread the Good News of the Gospel in many ways within our area. We regularly worship on Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in addition to partaking in a Java Time Fellowship gathering at 9:00 a.m. and offering a Bible study and Sunday school program at 9:15 a.m. each week. Since St. John's is the only church in Burr Oak with a full-time pastor in the community, we are blessed to have an active Sunday school and Youth Group program, in addition to a yearly daytime Vacation Bible School program.

Feed My People is the local community's food pantry

which is fully funded, staffed and housed by St. John's Lutheran Church. While the Feed My People food pantry is our church's largest outreach program, our Outreach Committee hosts several other events each year to encourage people to join us. Also, the St. John's Players (a tradition started over 100 years ago) hosts an annual dinner theater event, raising additional funds for various organizations or individuals in need within the community.

While St. John's is an aging congregation, we are truly blessed to have a number of young families return to their roots. God is definitely blessing the ministry here.

St Paul, Hillsdale – St. Paul, Hillsdale is a congregation committed to proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament. The gifts herein are daily invoked by the saints in their baptismal lives. We continue to gain familiarity and appreciation for the rites, hymns, and prayers of the Lutheran Service Book. Worship here is most often accompanied by the organ, but we continue to utilize a wide variety of instrumentation as well as a cappella singing. We have recently begun incorporating a "Catechism anthem" (setting: Phillip Magness) into our weekly worship led by the Sunday school children. This has been an effective tool for engaging youth in weekly worship. In a similar way, we have transitioned to beginning the Divine Services with a procession. High School and Confirmation-aged boys have been excited about participating as torchbearers or a crucifer.

The congregation is active in Christian education with multiple adult classes offered each week. Prospective/new members are asked to attend the Sunday morning Bible class on the lectionary as part of their preparation for joining the congregation and confessing the faith. We use the Catechism as the outline of our doctrine, which guides our study of the Scriptures so that Christ and His Gospel remain central.

Over the past year we have suspended the vicarage program while bringing on an associate Pastor and Deaconess. Rev. Scott Johnson and his wife Rebecca, respectively, have filled these positions since August, 2014. The expansion of ministry has been felt positively in the congregation.

St. Paul's Ability Resource Center (SPARC) is a ministry in downtown Hillsdale serving those with developmental disabilities. We have introduced devotions and Bible studies into the weekly routine of many unchurched community members there. SPARC continues to see growth and increasing opportunities for ministry.

Seasonal ministries continue to be highlighted by special services during the festival portion of the church year. During the summer, we offer Vacation Bible School and Confirmation camp.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Sturgis – In the past year, Trinity Lutheran Church has undergone a number of changes:

- We celebrated 150 years of ministry as a congregation;
- We launched a new discipleship process called "next steps." The idea is that each person will, on a quarterly basis, commit to some tangible next step in their faith walk, whether it is growing in their prayer life, attending worship more frequently, going on a mission trip, leading a Bible study, etc.;
- We changed our governance structure so that we are now

“policy-based,” and made appropriate changes to our constitution and by-laws;

- We have begun to place a greater emphasis on Deuteronomy 6 in our ministry, seeking to equip families to talk about their faith when they “sit at home, walk along the road, get up in the morning, and go to bed at night;”
- We began yearly short-term mission trips to Haiti.

Our Savior, Union City – Our Savior Lutheran Church, Union City, Mich. is a rural southwest Michigan congregation of 175 souls. The congregation celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2013. Utilizing traditional worship forms, its reputation is one of a Christ-centered and friendly fellowship, serving the local community in various ways, including housing the local Food Pantry. A very active Ladies’ group hosts its annual Sauerkraut Supper, and provides food and monetary donations to the Community Holiday Food Basket Project. As O.S.L.C. shares the Gospel in the area, it does so guided by its congregational slogan: “Keeping Christ First in Everything!” (Col. 1:18).

St. Paul, Coldwater – The congregation of St. Paul, Coldwater is growing in the warmth of our loving Savior. Aaron B. Chittick, a seminary graduate, was ordained as our pastor in 2013. Our membership has seen an increase in the number of families with children. The assimilation of these members along with other individuals into church worship and activities is improving. Fellowship opportunities offered on a regular basis, such as Family Movie Night and Game Night, as well as Bible study small groups, have nurtured the family closeness.

A recent upgrade in our sound system and electronic keyboard have helped with the development of the Praise Team and blended worship. St. Paul continues its outreach to the community with service opportunities, some fun, and by proclaiming the Gospel through the Praise Team; especially in the annual Neighborfest. The Sonshine Kids Preschool continues to thrive. Advent and Lenten meals before the midweek services are well-attended for that added time of fellowship. Our youth are engaged and involved in Youth Hangouts and will plan to attend the National Gathering again in 2016.

St. Paul, Colon/St. Paul, Centerville – These two congregations have agreed to serve as a Dual Parish. Rev. David Grimm is their pastor.

Salem, Sturgis – Emeritus Pastor, Rev. James Balzer serves them.

Prince of Peace, Quincy – Rev. Robert Eickmann is their current pastor.

May the Lord continue to use his servants in Branch County as His hands and feet until He returns.

Acts 2 Enterprise (A2E) Ministry

Acts 2 Enterprise has initiated the following mission and ministry activities since the arrival of Pastor Christopher Bodley on August, 2012:

- Provided leadership development to A2E churches in Detroit in the form of urban strategies for community engagement;
- Development of surveys for A2E community canvassing;
- Organized Community canvassing of A2E churches in Detroit: five congregations involved;
- Discipling training for A2E churches: five congregations from Detroit participated;
- Provided monthly empowerment sessions to Detroit congregations;
- Facilitated monthly intercessory prayer training to local Detroit Lutheran churches: four churches numbering 11 participants;
- Facilitated collaboration meetings with city, state and community organizations;
- Served as a catalyst to begin and support a “computer literacy café” as an outreach by Detroit Lutheran churches: 2 churches in Detroit are participating;
- Provided strategic community outreach plans to congregations in Flint, Pontiac, and Saginaw;
- Facilitated outreach collaboration between the Department of Human Services of Michigan and local Detroit Lutheran churches: 264 people have been serviced for either identification assistance, housing assistance, Affordable Care Act registration, employment readiness inventory, or residential treatment;
- Provided Strategic Evangelistic Seminar for A2E churches in Detroit: three congregations totaling 15 people were present;
- Provided Spiritual Gift Inventory Training to A2E congregations in Detroit and Pontiac: five congregations numbering 26 people were present;
- Initiated first city-wide Summer Sports Camp on Detroit’s East Side in 2013; two Sports Camps in Detroit on east and west side in 2014: A total of 323 community children have participated in these outreach events;
- Summer Sports Camps have become an opportunity for Summer Missionaries—total of four teams numbering 23 people have participated in two summers;
- Facilitated first Urban Ministry Institute in 2014. There were 53 participants from Michigan and neighboring states;
- Established first 8-week Soft Skills Training Outreach to Detroit community in 2014 – 14 students will have graduated by March 29, 2015;
- Established 5-year Philippian Ministry Partnership among churches in Detroit and Pontiac: Lutheran churches in the urban context have chosen to financially sow into each other’s ministry on a rotating basis, based on Philippians chapter 4.



Campus Ministry

Organized campus ministry is offered to students at Western Michigan University, Central Michigan University, Ferris State, the University of Michigan, and Eastern Michigan University. These ministries are facilitated in partnership with local district congregations. While the District supports campus ministry through prayer, financial assistance, and by maintaining some campus facilities, it is the partner congregations that lead ministry efforts for the students.

New Mission and Ministry Starts

Our District’s Vision Statement speaks directly to new mission initiatives. Taking “the love of Christ to our family, friends, neighbors, community, and the world in word and deed” is what MISSIONS is all about. As we bid “Godspeed” to the Lord’s faithful servant, Rev. Roosevelt Gray, who accepted God’s call to serve as the head of Synod’s Commission of Black Ministry, we have also affirmed our passion to start new ministries, reaching new people.

Taking our four strategic targets seriously, the mission focus has been to encourage and facilitate “Great Commission Ministries” and “Great Compassion Ministries” in each of our three ministry zones. With intention we have sought to come alongside congregations and circuits where God has already moved hearts to “start something new.” The new start may not be a new “church plant” yet; but it is an aggressive and faithful expression of God’s grace reaching out to new people with His love in Jesus!

Here are a few highlights of mission support through the Michigan District in the Metro Zone:

New Missions/ Ministries:

- See all the A2E initiatives on this page.
- Summer and after-school food distribution sites in many of our Detroit congregations initiated through the District’s partnership with CrossBridge Action Network (CAN), serving more than 100,000 meals in 2014, and allowing congregations to develop ministry relationships with children and families.
- The Gathering Place, Clarkston, Mich., gathers weekly for worship and Bible study, and offers a variety of services to its community to build redemptive relationships. This ministry is in partnership with Faith, Grand Blanc, St. Stephen, Waterford, with support also from the Flint Tri-circuit.

On-going Missions/Ministries supported by the Michigan District through partnerships:

- Genesis Center (Harper Woods) works in conjunction with St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Eastpointe and reaches out through Saturday morning radio broadcasts (1340 AM) on substance abuse-related issues. They lead both a weekly worship service and weekly Bible class at a St. Clair Shores senior center. The Genesis Center also provides one-on-one counseling and group therapy.
- Family of God, Detroit continues to serve the under-served

homeless with food, fellowship, worship and Christ-centered teaching. Many ministry partners are helping Pastor Jim Hill and his team to touch lives with God's love every day of every week. Visit the FOG website for moving stories of God's transforming power at work in the lives of people (*james215.org*). Here are just a few of the highlights:

- Meals served from 2013-2014: 630
- Baptisms from 2013-2014: 13
- Confirmations from 2013-2014: 11
- Number of first-time visitors grew by 69% in one year
- Bible study attendance grew by 61% in one year
- Worship attendance exceeds seating capacity
- Addition of Tuesday night and Women's Discipleship Group has expanded our outreach
- Increased involvement by Lay Leaders from supporting congregations
- St. Paul Community Lutheran Church, Pontiac continues to impact the people of the inner city of Pontiac with creativity, care, personal relationships, and the love of Jesus. Numerous partners of this ministry (including the LWML) are enabling and encouraging Pastor Dietrick Gladden as faith partners and workers, making a difference one life at a time. This congregation was mentioned in a recent Lutheran Hour Ministry report as one of the top 10 congregations in member-to-Baptism ratio. (Less than three members to every adult or child baptized in 2014!) Here are just a few highlights:
 - Summer VBS
 - Future Leaders Program: Weekly after-school high school youth program
 - Community vegetable garden
 - Voice of Truth: a week-long community service program
 - Father's Hand Food Pantry and Clothing Closet (Served over 2,000 people in 2014)
 - Weekly Wednesday night family dinner and Bible study
 - A Hispanic Ministry has begun
- Freedom Township: St. Thomas Lutheran Church, with a grant from the Michigan District, opened a child care facility. It has reached its capacity (20) and is seeking to expand. It is now self-supporting, and two children have been baptized through this ministry in 2014, along with their mother joining the fellowship of the church.
- The Hills Ministry Development: initiated with minimal funding from the MI District, Pastor Tom Fisher (Gethsemane, Auburn Hills), in partnership with the English District congregation Epic and its pastor, have launched a community-wide mission emphasis that has developed contacts within the local public school, merchants, service agencies and businesses, as well as Oakland University. While still in the formation stages of its efforts, grace-filled relationships are already bearing fruit.
- University Campus Ministries are carried out in the metro zone at EMU through Cross and Resurrection, Ypsilanti, and at UM through University Lutheran Chapel as an extension of St. Luke, Ann Arbor. These two ministries are partially supported through the District. In addition, Historic Trinity, Detroit has initiated a Bible study and fellowship opportunity on the campus of Wayne State University. A few highlights from EMU and UM:

- Midnight breakfasts, prayer place, free coffee, and study space during Finals Week (hundreds of attendees between both campuses)
- Theology pub night (UM)
- Common Cup, a full-service coffee house-based ministry (UM)
- CUAAs internships
- Concerts
- Several adult baptisms
- Peer ministry training and activity
- Community service events
- Ethnic/Immigrant ministries: With Michigan District support and through a unique partnership with Faith, Troy, the Word of God is reaching into the ethnic immigrant communities in the metro zone. The District also continues its mission efforts to the growing Hispanic population. Here's a brief snapshot:
 - Arabic Ministry:
 - 10-12 in weekly Bible study (‘14)
 - five new Iraqi members joined Faith (‘14)
 - two Iraqi members of Faith have a non-profit organization called “Jesus is the Way,” to reach out to Arabic-speaking refugees.
 - Urdu Ministry:
 - 10-20 in weekly Bible study (‘14)
 - 19 new Faith members that speak Urdu as their first language (‘14)
 - Bengali Ministry:
 - One infant baptism (‘14)
 - L.A.T.I.N.O. Mission Society has redirected its focus from urban Hispanic populations to the underserved rural areas of the state. Since the middle of 2014, the MI District has not given direct financial support to LATINO; but we still value them as an important ministry partner and individuals and congregations are encouraged to support them and may do so through the District if desired.
 - Ecclesia Luterana de Pan de Vida continues to reach out to the Hispanic community in SW Detroit. The congregation presently worships at Outer Drive Faith Lutheran Church but hopes to return to SW Detroit when pastoral leadership and facilities concerns are adequately addressed. Pray for these dear brothers and sisters during this time of transition, and for their future effectiveness in their mission to the larger Hispanic community.

Here are a few highlights of mission support through the Michigan District in the North Zone:

New Missions:

A new mission under the ministry umbrella of Grace, Germfask began worship and Bible study in Manistique, Mich. in January of 2015. The group is currently under the pastoral leadership of Rev. Art Bode, with the hope of calling another pastor to help develop the mission. The Michigan District will provide a portion of the funding needed for the position cost.

A mission start is being considered for St. Ignace, MI in 2015.

On-going Missions/Ministries supported by the Michigan District through partnerships:

Messiah, Midland (Restoration Fellowship), Messiah, Midland (Journeys Coffeehouse) and the Chesaning Mission have received financial assistance to enable them to accomplish the work of reaching the unchurched and building relationships in their communities.

Here are a few highlights of mission support through the Michigan District in the Southwest and Thumb Zones:

Two mission congregations were active in the past triennium and received financial support from the Michigan District: Grass Lake in Grass Lake, connected with Trinity, Jackson, and Light of Christ in Marysville. Additional opportunities to begin new mission congregations in partnership with existing congregations continue to be evaluated and explored.

In addition to mission congregations, there are also specialized outreach efforts being carried out through congregations:

Many communities experience a variety of ethnic groups within their area, and many congregations in these communities endeavor to serve these diverse populations as God brings the nations to our doorstep. Ethnic ministry is being carried out to Ethiopian, Hispanic, Hmong, Pakistani, and Sudanese communities in Battle Creek, Kalamazoo, Lansing, and other areas.

The urban context provides unique, changing, and challenging opportunities to serve people with basic necessities of life. These opportunities bring hope of revitalizing the community and the faith life of those living and working in urban areas. One such endeavor is being done in Benton Harbor as food, clothing, daily needs, hot meals, life skills, and compassion are shared in the name of Jesus. Plans are underway to launch a similar outreach in the summer of 2015 on the east side of Flint.

What a joy it is to see how God is at work among us as His Spirit empowers His people in such a variety of ways to “take the love of Christ to our family, friends, neighbors, community and the world in word and deed.” The death and resurrection of Jesus was for all, and His commission is to share His message with all people and serve Him as we serve all people, wherever and in whatever circumstance of life we encounter them. Thanks and praise to God for congregations and their faithfulness in proclaiming Him and loving and serving others in the name of Jesus.

Rural Ministry

Congregations have faced—and continue to face—concerns, challenges, and opportunities as they carry out their mission. This is true no matter their location, be it urban, suburban, or rural. Yet each setting offers a unique context in which to approach ministry. One of the networks established focuses on rural and small town settings of ministry. Workshops, small group and regional gatherings provided opportunity for pastors and lay leaders to learn and discuss opportunities that could be applied in their own congregation and community.

Social Media Ministry

The Communications Department has put a large emphasis on building out social media communities to meet the objectives of continued learning and resource sharing amongst professional church workers and laity. We continue to tell the story of the Michigan District, LCMS and share in lifting up congregations in prayer throughout our social profiles. Some highlights of 2012-2015 include:

- Growth of Social profiles
 - At the 2012 convention, we crossed the 500 Likes mark on Facebook. Since that time, we have built our Facebook community to 3,750—an increase of 750% in fewer than three years. Our Twitter following is nearly 1,600 and growing steadily.
 - facebook.com/miLCMS
 - twitter.com/miLCMS
 - pinterest.com/miLCMS
 - youtube.com/michiganLCMS
- Facebook Groups
 - The Michigan District, LCMS created and continues to help maintain several Facebook Groups for the purposes of networking and resource sharing among professional church workers. The groups include (membership included in parentheses): Pastors of the Michigan District, LCMS (135); Youth Leaders – Michigan District, LCMS (124); LCMS Resource Sharing (262); Early Childhood Educators (35); and Lutheran Communicators (357).
 - In the Lutheran Communicators group, a weekly chat is moderated by the Assistant to the President – Web/Media Director or a guest host. Topics range from social media networking to print communications to overall communication strategy. It is an active group that has grown to include church communication professionals and volunteers from around the country.
- Michigan In Touch Online
 - During the past three years, the District blog, *michiganintouch.com*, was developed to increase the District’s online presence. Story leads to support the District’s Critical Targets are submitted through the District Storybucket and a staff writer and copyeditor was hired to assist the team in creating and online community.
- Group Purchasing Agreements
 - Established group purchase agreements with two reputable ministry website providers: Cloversites and FaithConnector.
- Church, School, and Ministry Consultations
 - During the past triennium, several congregations requested consultations concerning strategy development for digital outreach to the local community. A presentation and discussion was held with Circuit #6 pastors Winkel on social media and its opportunities. Saginaw and Bay area principals were consulted and discussion centered on digital marketing strategies to establish a path for prospective parents to become aware of and consider Lutheran Schools

for their children's education. Other congregation, school, and District committees and organizations consultations included: Peace, Shelby Township; Christ Our Savior, Livonia; Bethlehem, Saginaw; St. Luke, Haslett (Men's Retreat to discuss digital citizenship and discipleship); St. Paul, Ann Arbor (church and school websites); and St. Paul, Northville (school websites and digital communication). Other ministry and organization consultations and presentations included: Concordia University Ann Arbor students (launch of a new campus worship event and a social media and technology use in the classroom presentation); Wellspring Lutheran Services (marketing and planning for a summer event); Michigan District's Professional Church Workers' Conference (breakout session on digital strategy); Michigan District Early Childhood Conference (Social Media and digital strategy); MOST Ministries; and Michigan District Snowtire Administrator's Conference. Synod-wide opportunities included serving as the National Youth Gathering Social Media Manager and presentations to the LCMS Youth Ministries (webinar on digital citizenship); Lutheran Hour Ministries SENT Conference (Social Media Breakout session); KFYO Radio (Social Media networks); and Synod's Joint Business Administrator's Conference (Michigan District communications).

Blind and Deaf Ministries

Many congregations throughout the Michigan District have ongoing ministry efforts to the blind and deaf people.

Blind Ministry is taking place at churches in Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing, and Midland. In partnership with Lutheran Blind Ministry, the District supports and lifts up in prayer the ministry among the blind and visually impaired. Bob Mates is the contact person in the Michigan District for the work among the blind and visually impaired.

Deaf Ministry

Deaf Churches in Michigan

- Christ the King – Flint
- Our Savior – Birmingham

Interpreted Worship in Michigan

- Immanuel – Kalamazoo
- Zion – Marshall
- Trinity – Paw Paw
- Peace – Saginaw
- Zion – Tawas
- Trinity – Traverse City
- Trinity – Utica

Other ministries to the Deaf and Blind

- American Sign Language Vacation Bible School at Mt. Hope, Allen Park
- Annual Deaf Mission Festival at St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
- ASL Preschool with Crossbridge Action Network at Mt. Hope, Allen Park
- Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society

This ministry is possible because of partnerships with Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society, and most recently Lutheran Friends of the Deaf, a member of the Mill Neck Family of Organizations. Rev. Thomas Dunseth, who formerly served as Missionary-At-Large to the Deaf for the District, now continues service as District Liaison under the auspices of Lutheran Friends of the Deaf. He is available for consultation, leadership development, and assisting District congregations to launch local ministries to the deaf and hearing impaired.

If your congregation is interested in ministry to the blind or deaf, or is currently engaged in this important ministry, please contact Rev. Dr. Robert E. Kasper at the District Office: robert.kasper@michigandistrict.org.

Chaplaincy

Michigan District Chaplaincy flows from the Good News in Christ Jesus and Christian compassion to those who are hurting. In most instances, our chaplains are on staff and serve as directors of pastoral care at the institutions where they are serving, with endorsement and ecclesiastical supervision through the District.

During this past triennium we have made no additions to the full-time chaplains, while one has been called to serve

elsewhere, and another has retired.

Chaplains currently serving are:

- David McNeil – Oncology Chaplain, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ypsilanti
- Julie Nielsen-Schmidt – University of Michigan Hospitals, Ann Arbor
- John Schinkel – Lutheran Home, Monroe
- Roger Stauffer – Mid-Michigan Medical Center, Midland
- Jeffrey Wollberg – VA Medical Center, Battle Creek

A joint chaplaincy and congregation ministry is carried out through Immanuel, Grand Rapids to area medical and correctional facilities. Providing Disaster Relief, Civil Air Patrol, FBI, Police or Fire chaplaincies are Roger Stauffer, Carl Bassett, Pete Nickel, Paul Theiss, Lang Yang, and Deacon Bill Storm.

Emeriti chaplains are Gerald Grimm, Carl DeMeritt, Ray Thomas, Warren Paulson, and Michael Martin.

A grant through the St. Lorenz Family Advisory Committee from the Leona M. Geyer Trust provides tuition for the first quarter of Clinical Pastoral Education for those considering chaplaincy, as well as for pastors, deaconesses, and others who would like to increase their pastoral care skills.

If your congregation is interested in this important ministry or needs more information regarding the grant, please contact Rev. Dr. Robert E. Kasper at 888.225.2111 ext. 230 or robert.kasper@michigandistrict.org.

Disaster Response Report

The District Disaster Relief Coordinators, Rev. Dr. Richard J. Wolfram and Dr. Bruce N. Braun, appointed Rev. Paul R. Hinz of Peace, Saginaw as the training and LERT coordinator for the Michigan District. He attended the annual training at LCMS World Relief and Human Care Disaster Response Conferences in September of 2013. Over the past three years, under his direction, there was directed response to tornados in Michigan and Mississippi; a power outage in Saginaw County; eight individuals were trained as LERT trainers; sandbagging, chainsaw operation and CPR training were provided. A variety of individuals responded to Hurricane Sandy by helping in Long Island, New York and at Village Lutheran Church in Lanoka Harbor, New Jersey. In all, eleven congregations were involved. The District website maintains links to other disaster response sites that provide information for individual and congregational involvement, including financial support, personal involvement, and other aspects of meeting the needs of those affected by disasters.

Parish Nurse/Health Ministry

Parish Nursing / Health Ministry is committed to promoting and supporting physical, emotional, and mental health as part of the Christian stewardship of the whole person. There are over 60 congregations with active health ministries in the Michigan District.

Functions of parish nurse / health ministry:

- Integrator of faith and health – Health is not the absence of disease. Health is a holistic way of living that includes healthy spiritual, physical, emotional, and relational life. The parish nurse seeks to promote an understanding of the relationship between faith and health by lifting up lifestyle practices as a matter of stewardship and faith.
- Health educator – Provides opportunities for individuals and groups to learn about health issues.
- Health counselor – Discusses health concerns, answers questions, encourages healthy lifestyle.
- Referral advisor / liaison – Provides referrals to health care and social services resources in the community.
- Health advocate – Helps members of the congregation or community to obtain needed health-related services. Empowers people with information/resources to make wise healthcare decisions.
- Home health visitation – Provides home health visitation upon request to offer support and encourage safety, adherence to healthy lifestyle behaviors. Does not replace home health care services which are ordered by a physician.
- Developer of support groups – Facilitates the development of support groups for the church and community.
- Volunteer coordinator – Recruits, prepares, and oversees congregational volunteers who help those in need.

Qualifications for a parish nurse:

- Registered nurse, licensed in Michigan, functioning under the American Nurses Association Scope and Standards of Practice for Parish Nursing.
- Member in good standing of the congregation.
- Person of spiritual maturity.
- Two or more years of nursing experience.
- Completion of a recognized parish nurse preparation program, which consists of 35 contact hours.

Parish Nurse/Faith Community Nurse Preparation Courses

Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon
Distance Learning format available
Contact: Carol A. Lueders Bolwerk, Program Director
Parish Nurse Ministries
Email: carol.lueders.bolwerk@cuw.edu
Phone: 262.243.4233

Henry Ford, Faith Community Nursing Network, Clinton Twp., MI
Contact: Ameldia Brown, MDiv, BSN, RN
Henry Ford Macomb Hospital
Email: arbrown82@sbcglobal.net
586.263.2119
Cell: 586.295.0616

Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI
Contact: Bethany Gordon, Instructor
Email: bg22@calvin.edu
Phone: 616.526.6012

Parish Nurse Newsletter:

This is a quarterly publication created by LCMS World Relief and Human Care. To receive the e-newsletter, visit lcms.org/enews. Enter your address, password, and then select the “caring for others” folder to find the Parish Nurse Newsletter.

Websites:

- lcms.org/health/parishnursing
- michigandistrict.org/congregations/christian-care/parish-nurse

Resource books:

- “Faith Community Nursing, Scope, and Standards of Practice, 2nd Edition” nursesbooks.org
- “The Essential Parish Nurse” by Deborah Patterson. ISBN 0-8298-1571-6. Excellent for beginning parish nurse.
- “Nursing in the church” by Judith Shelly. ISBN 0-9723123-0-7.
- “Christian Caregiving: A Way of Life” by Kenneth C. Haugk. ISBN 0-8066-2123-0

Meetings:

Yearly December gathering of Parish Nurses and Chaplains with professional presentations; information in District e-news.

District Contact:

Christie Hansard, Parish Nurse
Synodical District Representative
Trinity, Fenton
Email: tlcparishnurse@gmail.com
Phone: 810.750.8243

Prison Ministry

During the 2012 Michigan District Convention, Resolution #3-08 “To Encourage the Establishment of Prison Ministries by Local Congregations and Clergy” was adopted:

Resolved, that the Michigan District in convention encourage congregations with prisons (county, state, federal, and forensic centers) in their communities to establish a prison ministry; and be it further

Resolved, that we encourage these congregations to joyfully allow their pastors to have clergy visits with referred prisoners; and be it further

Resolved, that the Michigan District assist pastors in cutting through the red tape and hurdles established by the Michigan Department of Corrections which impedes clergy visits; and be it further

Resolved, that the Michigan District provide a link on the District website for families of inmates to connect with a local pastor for the purpose of requesting clergy visits; and be it further

Resolved, that the Michigan District assist in providing the resources (conferences, training, and materials) needed to assist congregations in establishing these ministries.

In response to the above resolution, research was conducted, a training meeting was held, and information is herewith forwarded to the 2015 District Convention.

From the Department of Corrections, State of Michigan:

ADMISSION OF CLERGYMEN TO VISIT PRISONERS (EXCERPT)

Act 185 or 1859

800.291 Admission of clergymen.

Sec. 1. That it shall be the duty of the keeper, or other person having the control of any prison, jail, alms-house, house of correction, hospital or poor-house in the state of Michigan, to fix and appoint some suitable and convenient time, in each week, during which clergymen of all religious denominations may visit the inmates of such prison, jail, alms-house, house of correction, hospital or poor-house; and when any inmate of any jail, prison, alms-house, house of correction, hospital or poor-house, is dangerously sick and desires religious counsel, the clergyman of his choice shall be admitted to visit such inmate, and be permitted to administer to such inmate the rites of his church. History: 1859, Act 185, Eff. May 18, 1859, 3/4 CL 1871, 8189, 3/4How.9901, 3/4CL 1897, 2153, 3/4CL 1915, 1832, 3/4CL 1929, 17658; 3/4CL 1948, 800.291.

ADMISSION OF CLERGYMEN TO VISIT PRISONERS (EXCERPT)

Act 185 of 1859

800.292 Duty of keeper.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of such keeper or other person in control, during the time fixed, in pursuance of the first section of this act, to give free access to any clergyman of any religious denomination, and to furnish such clergyman all reasonable facilities for interviews with the inmates, named in the first section: Provided, however, that the keeper or other persons, having the control of said prison or jail, alms-house, work-house, house of correction, hospital or poor-house shall first be satisfied that such clergymen are in good and regular standing in their profession, and are pastors of any church or religious congregation in this state. History: 1859, Act 185, Eff. May 18, 1859; 3/4CL 1871, 8190; 3/4How. 9902; 3/4CL 1897, 2154; 3/4CL 1915, 1833; 3/4CL 1929, 17659; 3/4CL 1948, 800.292.

Qualified Clergy – Leaders of religious organization or entity such as a church, mosque or synagogue, or persons who have been granted clergy status by a recognized religion and have ecclesiastical endorsement from a religious authority. This does not include anyone who is self-ordained or designated as clergy by a prisoner. Policy Directive 05.03.140, C

These are still in place and valid. Any issues that an individual clergyman may experience with any correctional institution should be taken up with the institution's warden. If there is not a satisfactory solution, or visitation is not granted, the issue should be taken to the Department of Corrections for the State of Michigan, whose office is in Lansing, Mich.

The following information may also be helpful:

- There are 22 State correctional facilities throughout Mich.
- A clergy ID card will be most helpful at most facilities and may be requested from the President's Office of the Michigan District, LCMS.
- A clergyman may request to visit a prisoner by name; and

the prisoner may choose to reject such a visit.

- A prisoner may request a visit by a clergyman.
- Initiating a worship service or Bible study in a corrections facility must first be vetted by both the facility's chaplain's office and the warden. It is advised to make initial contact with the Chaplain's Office of the facility to request permission and establish procedure.

What's happening now?

- Rev. Charles Burhop serves as a visitor to correctional institutions in the Upper Peninsula and may be contacted directly if a particular inmate needs to be visited.
- Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids has a joint chaplaincy and congregational ministry to a nearby correctional facility.
- Other LCMS pastors who have a working relationship with a local correctional facility are encouraged to list contact information on the District website. Please contact Rev. Dr. Robert E. Kasper at the District Office, *robert.kasper@michigandistrict.org*.
- Several congregations are initiating a prison ministry by connecting to inmates as pen pals, and also providing ministry to families of inmates. There are specific procedures as anyone begins this ministry, and some training is needed. For more information you may contact Rev. Dr. Robert E. Kasper at the District Office, *robert.kasper@michigandistrict.org*.
- As per Resolution R-3-08, congregations are encouraged to initiate Christ-centered, caring ministry to inmates and their families; and they are encouraged to make use of existing programs and training.

Church Extension Fund

This year marks the 114th anniversary of the Church Extension Fund of the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The CEF Articles of Incorporation date back to August of 1901, when a group of clergy and laymen, meeting in Frankenmuth, founded what is now known as the Church Extension Fund.

The Michigan District Church Extension Fund in Ann Arbor is the largest in the Missouri Synod, with total assets of \$274.1 million at fiscal year-end December 31, 2014. There are seven “District” Church Extension Funds, including Michigan, within the Missouri Synod. They are operated independently from the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, headquartered in St. Louis, Mo. The majority of the districts in Synod established a Church Extension Fund 100+ years ago; however, they were unable to serve the borrowing needs of their congregations due to lack of adequate assets. Over the past three or four decades, 28 of the districts in Synod have amalgamated into the LCEF. The Church Extension Fund in Michigan has been blessed with adequate resources, however, to provide the financing requirements for congregations in the Michigan District to buy, build, and expand.

The following chart is a comparative snapshot of financial statement highlights for the past three fiscal years:

	2014	2013	2012
Deposits & Investments (Reserves)	\$ 95,375,208	\$ 86,336,141	\$ 76,961,501
Net Loans Receivable	\$ 166,278,384	\$ 176,761,471	\$ 185,161,370
Investor Notes Payable	\$ 217,698,249	\$ 222,628,151	\$ 224,906,076
Net Assets (Equity)	\$ 56,027,962	\$ 52,634,205	\$ 50,446,081
Total Assets	\$ 274,078,328	\$ 275,631,729	\$ 275,658,350

The downturn in the Michigan economy, beginning in 2008, certainly had an impact on loan activity as most congregations curtailed any expansion plans, with others working diligently to pay-down mortgage debt. Hence, we have seen a reduction in total loans receivable over the past several years. That trend is turning around as evidenced by new loan activity in the past 12 months or so, with new construction projects currently underway in 2015. A significant portion of CEF’s lending activity is providing low-cost housing loans for professional church workers; housing loans represent about 15% of the CEF total loan portfolio.

The strength of a financial institution is measured by the capital ratio of the organization, simply dividing net assets by total assets. Many banks and credit unions commonly operate with a capital ratio in the range of 10 – 12%. CEF total net assets stood in excess of \$56 million at year-end 2014, thereby providing a very strong capital ratio of 20.44%. This measurement should certainly provide investors with a high level of confidence as they place their savings dollars with CEF.



Church Extension Fund

For over 100 years, the Church Extension Fund mission has been primarily to help build (construct) churches. Such continues to be the primary mission of the Fund. As the needs of congregations change in this ever-changing world in which we live, CEF is refocusing the use of the Fund’s assets toward helping to build up churches in the Michigan District. To that end, CEF has and is offering the following services to congregations, in addition to just making loans:

Excel In Giving, an electronic funds transfer service that enables automatic contributions, tithes, tuition payments and donations. Regular electronic payments are automatically transferred from the person’s bank account and deposited directly into the bank account at the church, school or organization. Over 150 congregations in the Michigan District are utilizing this service, provided at no cost by CEF.

Leadership Coaching For Pastors And Principals is a subsidized program to help professional church workers sharpen their leadership skills. The program consists of a leadership profile assessment and six (individual) hours of coaching. Total cost of the program is \$1,000, with CEF subsidizing one-half of the cost.

Gift Planning Services are provided free-of-charge to the churches of the Michigan District and their members. CEF deploys a full-time Gift Planning Counselor to help folks with their estate planning, hopefully to leave a legacy for their family, their church, and other ministry. Of course, proper estate planning will result in more dollars for family and charity as directed by the donor (rather than a court system), and possibly avoid excess taxation.

Green Grant & Loan Program began mid-2012 and ended December 31, 2013. During the course of the Green Grant Program, CEF reimbursed 84 congregations in the Michigan District with grants totaling \$236,913. The grants represented 10% of the amount expended on energy cost-saving improvements. Windows and doors were replaced, insulation added, upgrades in lighting and heating systems that extrapolated to facility improvements (for those congregations), totaling \$2.4 million in project costs.

Grant & Loan Program For Technology was introduced in August of 2014 and will run until December 31, 2015. CEF

is currently granting congregations \$1,000 plus an additional 10% of the money expended for technology upgrades. Additional information can be found on the CEF website at www.mi-cef.org.

Loan Interest Rebates totaling over \$338,000 were distributed to borrowers in December of 2014. CEF was blessed with a particularly healthy “bottom line” this past year and was able to return to the borrower a rebate equivalent to one-quarter percent of the unpaid loan balance.

The Church Extension Fund Board of Trustees consists of nine members, three rostered church workers and six laypersons. This 2015 Michigan District Convention will elect five seats on the CEF Board. Two of the seats are incumbent positions held by rostered church workers. The other three seats are being vacated by layperson positions. A sincere thank you is extended to Mr. Jim Saalfeld from Grand Rapids, who has faithfully served for the past 12 years and several years as Chairman of the Board. Mr. David Vallie from Grand Blanc was appointed to the Board in 2008, subsequently elected in 2009 for a six-year term, and we give thanks for his years of service as a member of the Board and several years as Treasurer. Also, gratitude to Mr. Joseph Carabell from Shelby Township, who has faithfully served as a member of the Board for the past six years.

The Mission Statement of the Church Extension Fund in the Michigan District recites: *CEF is a ministry of partnering Christians to make resources available for members and churches of the Michigan District in carrying forward the Great Commission.* Your Church Extension Fund in the Michigan District has been blessed to fulfill our mission, but not without the great support for this ministry from thousands of investors, the congregations and professional church workers in the Michigan District!

Congregation Mission And Ministries

The Congregation Mission and Ministries Department focuses on supporting, encouraging, resourcing, and networking for effective ministry the congregations of the District and those who serve in them, primarily Ministers of Religion – Ordained and Commissioned, but also lay leaders and workers. Conferences, workshops, seminars, training and other opportunities are provided through the Department for church workers and congregations to be equipped for ministry and encouraged to live as God’s Forgiven and Forgiving Family. Rev. Dr. Richard Wolfram serves as Director of the Congregation Mission and Ministries Department.

The 380 congregations of the District are served by three Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators: Rev. Dr. Robert Kasper, Rev. Galan Walther, and Rev. Dr. Richard Wolfram. Dr. Bruce Braun, also part of the Department, serves Lutheran schools in the Michigan District.

Early in 2014, Rev. Roosevelt Gray, Jr., who had worked with mission and subsidized congregations and specialized

ministries in the District, went on to head the Black Ministries Department of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. His duties have been reassigned to the three Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators, and the District has been divided into three zones. Rev. Dr. Robert Kasper serves the Metro Zone, Rev. Dr. Richard Wolfram serves the North Zone, and Rev. Galan Walther serves the Southwest and Thumb Zones.

Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators have regular contact with their assigned congregations, most often with the pastor, and periodically with staff and lay leadership teams in the congregations. Congregations most often request assistance in some form of strategic planning. Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators provide a process for the congregation to plan, organize, and implement action steps and strategies which the congregation determines and which expand the effectiveness of the congregation. Almost one-fourth of District congregations received assistance in the planning process this past triennium.

Additional ways Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators provide assistance are through: encouragement in ministry for pastors and ministry staff; congregation assessment for church health and effectiveness; governance, structure, and organizational issues; staffing needs and evaluation; and resourcing specific areas of ministry (i.e., family life, stewardship, evangelism, elder training, lay leadership development, etc.) to strengthen local ministry or identify potential future ministry opportunities.

An intentional effort to provide resources to congregations occurs when the congregation experiences a vacancy in the pastoral office. The Circuit Visitor, the Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitator, and the District President meet with congregations as the call process begins, providing a wonderful opportunity to walk together with the congregations during this important time. 28% of District congregations received assistance in evaluating their ministry and staffing needs in the calling process of professional church workers in the past triennium.

In the reality of daily life in the church, conflict does occur. The Circuit Visitors and Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators often work together to identify and address these situations before they escalate to divide congregations and impair ministry. In the past triennium, 18% of District congregations received help as they dealt with conflict within their congregation. If additional assistance is needed, there are organizations available to assist (Ambassadors of Reconciliation, etc.), as well as the process identified in the bylaws of Synod.

A way to reduce the likelihood of destructive conflict is to encourage healthy relationships within the congregation. Just as a healthy lifestyle influences our bodies toward better health, so healthy relationships within congregations encourage healthy ministries. The Scriptures have much to say about how, as God’s redeemed children, we are to live in relation to one another. Healthy Congregations workshops

provide the framework for congregations to discuss how we live and serve together in a loving and compassionate community of faith.

Because congregations can benefit from other congregations who have or are facing similar situations in their ministries, Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators link and network congregations with one another in order to learn from or share resources with one another.

Support for workers occurs in many and various ways, from personal contacts from District staff to conferences to training events to resources for ministry. One of the vital ways of supporting church workers is carried out by the Michigan District Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support (see report elsewhere in this workbook).

In addition to Michigan District conferences, which provide a setting for fellowship, learning, and refreshment where pastors, teachers and other church workers may gather to grow in skills and enhance their ministry, Directors of Christian Education and Directors of Family Life in the Michigan and Ohio Districts meet together to grow in ministry skills and fellowship.

The District Lending Library, which had provided print and media resources for congregations to utilize in their ministry, was dissolved in the past triennium. Its use was declining and resources were available through other avenues, so it was decided to end this service. In its place, webinars have been offered on various topics and are archived on the District website for use by congregations and individuals. Also, resources on topics that had been in the resource library are offered on the District website for viewing and downloading.

The Congregation Mission and Ministries Department also tries to help congregations look toward future ministry endeavors. The Michigan District has made available a demographics resource whereby congregations can study the population, economic, and cultural trends of the area around them. MissionInsite is a free online program that provides instant and unlimited access to community information for congregations. It moves beyond the static reports to a powerful “discovery tool” for exploration and “out-of-the-box” thinking about church ministry, church planting, church growth, and outreach.

Several areas of the Congregation Mission and Ministries Department are highlighted in other reports included in this workbook: Michigan District Lutheran Schools (preschools, elementary schools, and high schools), Family Life, Stewardship, Chaplaincy, Intentional Interim Ministry, the Deacon program, Committee on Mental Illness, Parish Nursing and health ministry, and Church Work Student Aid.

What a blessing it is to share ministry together throughout the Michigan District in congregations, schools, and other ministry settings, Living as God’s Loved and Compassionate Community of faith!

Communications Department

Over the past triennium, the Communication Department has aligned its communication strategies, avenues, and staff to support the four critical targets of the District: Great Commission, Great Compassion, Healthy Congregations, and Healthy Workers. Beginning with the launch of a new website, a new logo, tagline, and branding in 2012, the team has been able to connect to the various District audiences through *Michigan In Touch*, *Michigan Minute* Enews, District website, email, Webinars, and Social Media outlets. Here are a few indicators of the range of connections made:

- Since the last convention, the District website has been visited 198,694 times and Michigan In Touch Online (blog) has received 45,775 visits. That is nearly a quarter of a million visits to our presences on the web. Be sure to visit: michigandistrict.org and michiganintouch.org.
- The Michigan Minute Enews current subscribers are 5,439. This weekly enews includes prayer requests, Manpower and Personpower Reports, District News and Events, other auxiliary and Recognized Service Organization news, a Community Calendar of congregational events, and an E-classified section. Subscribe at: michigandistrict.org/connect/publications/michiganminute.
- The Michigan In Touch supplement to The Lutheran Witness provides discount individual and bulk subscriptions. The current circulation is 6,000+. Find out how to subscribe at: michigandistrict.org/connect/publications/lutheranwitness.

SEE THE SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT on page 42 for more information.

A few shifts made in the overall communication strategy include:

- Integrating the *Michigan In Touch* magazine into *The Lutheran Witness* as a District supplement;
- Hiring a part-time staff writer/copy editor and shifting the part-time art director to full-time; and
- Incorporating more professional photography and videography.
- Clearer focus on “telling the story.”

The communications team continues to collaborate and provide services towards District events and conferences in the form of consultation, publicity strategies, print material, graphic design, writing, copyediting, online registration, and event tech support.

In 2015 and beyond, the team looks forward to launching a new website, enlarge its reporting capabilities through circuit and regional reporters, create learning modules through webinars and events, and tell more stories of the Michigan District congregations as they seek to reach out to the lost, care for those in need, imagine and carry out new ministries to reach new people, and develop healthy relationships to be *People of Hope ... Vigorously sharing the love of Christ.*

Commission on Deacon Qualifications

The Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ) carries out its duties under the supervision of the Office of the President. We give thanks to God for His hand of favor upon the church and the congregations served by 48 trained deacons. The mission of the CDQ is to oversee the instruction of deacons and Pre-SMP students and offer recommendation of candidates to the District President, who then issues a license so that candidates may serve a congregation.

A deacon is a well-trained layman who serves only under a supervising pastor and through the support of a sponsoring congregation. Over the course of more than two decades, the CDQ has outlined and designed a program of study for the training of deacons in the Michigan District. Each of the 13 seminars includes a minimum of 24 contact hours with a qualified instructor. Courses in Lutheran doctrine, Old and New Testament, Christian care-giving, evangelism, education, church history, Lutheran worship, leadership, office of the ministry, Greek, and homiletics are offered, along with other learning events and an internship. (While these seminars are designed to prepare deacons and Pre-SMP students, anyone may audit a course being offered for a reduced fee.)

After successful completion of all course work, each deacon candidate is interviewed by the CDQ before he is recommended to the District President for licensing. In addition, once licensed, the deacon must acquire at least one unit of continuing education annually, be interviewed by the CDQ, evaluated by their supervising pastor, and provide a renewal of request from the sponsoring congregation before being relicensed by the District President for another year. In order to provide for the unit of continuing education, and for rich fellowship, the CDQ offers an annual two-day retreat for the deacons, as well as a one-day conference for deacons and their supervisors.

The policies of the CDQ, as well as seminar information, are available on the District website. Contact information for Chris Brown, registrar, is also available there.

Since 2012, the District's Deacon / Pre-SMP training program has grown dramatically.

Average number of students per class:

2012	7
2013	13
2014	17
2015 (so far)	28

Total number of students in at least one class:

2012	52
2013	101
2014	136
2015 (so far)	55

Number of instructors:

2012	3
2015	10

Number of former Deacons now ordained through "Traditional," "Alternate," or "SMP" routes at one of our seminaries:

2012 – present 21

The members of the CDQ are Rev. Todd Frusti (Ordained), Mr. Dale Vorwek (Commissioned), Mrs. Chris Brown (Lay), Mr. Bill Storm (Deacon), and Rev. Dr. Bob Schultz (Faculty). Ex-officio members are Rev. Dr. Robert E. Kasper (District President's Office), Dr. Jim Bolt, and other faculty members.

Development Department

The Future is Now in partnership with *Fan into Flame*

At the 2012 Convention it was announced that the District-wide capital campaign completed its five-year active duration, and a “final” campaign report was given to the assembly. The final report stated that no new gifts/pledges were being solicited for the campaign; however, numerous pledges, both congregational and individual, would continue to be fulfilled over the next several years. This assumption proved to be very accurate as campaign pledges continue to be fulfilled even through 2015, although they are becoming few in number. Also, new pledges and gifts continued to be

received from congregations and individuals, although no active solicitation of gifts was occurring.

In the final report to Convention in 2012, it was reported that \$7,179,000 in total campaign gifts, pledges, goals and legacy gifts were made. It was also reported that \$4,444,000 in cash was received. Through December 31, 2014, these totals have continued to change significantly. Campaign activity through that date indicated that there was \$7,429,000 in total campaign gifts, pledges, goals and legacy gifts received, as well as \$5,849,100 in cash received. The cash received totals will continue to increase through 2015 as commitments continue to be fulfilled.

Campaign Summary (through December 31, 2014)

\$7,429,000	Total campaign gifts, pledges, goals, and legacy gift
\$5,849,100	Cash received
\$579,900	Outstanding commitments (pledges and goals)
\$1,000,000	Planned Legacy Gift
1,892	Total Contributors
1,662	Individual Contributors
230	Congregations Contributing
62	% of Michigan District Congregations currently participating
\$2,904,000	Total given/pledged for Mission Planting*
\$2,425,000	Total given/pledged for Student Aid*
\$913,000	Total given/pledged for International Ministries*
\$42,000	Total received from Campaign Support/Sponsorships
\$177,000	Fan into Flame Administration
	*Does not include goal money of \$187,000 or legacy gifts
\$234,000	Total student aid awarded for 2014/15 school year (\$117,000 from campaign dollars)
120	Number of students receiving aid for 2014/15 school year
	44 - Seminary students
	40 - Concordia University Ann Arbor students
	36 - Other Concordia University System students
14	Total number of Mission Congregations financially supported through <i>The Future is Now</i> campaign.
\$38,000	Funding for Hmong Hymnal Project
14	Total number of Michigan District Missionaries financially supported through <i>The Future is Now</i> campaign.



District Budget Support

The Development Department continually seeks sources of funding to assist the Michigan District in carrying out its mission and ministry. It provides funding avenues for support of the four District critical targets: Great Commission Ministry, Great Compassion Ministry, Healthy Congregations and Healthy Church Workers.

Since the 2012 Convention, the Development Department has focused significant attention on identifying and developing funding sources for the Acts 2 Enterprise (A2E) urban ministry, which through now has included the Detroit community. Funding for A2E ministry has come from a wide base of support including congregations, individuals, groups and organizations, businesses and grants. Two of the grants

received were gifts that made an immediate impact on the funding available for A2E: the Lutheran Legacy Foundation based in Paris, Illinois, and the Michigan District Church Extension Fund each made grants in the amount of \$150,000 for a total of \$300,000. The total was disbursed to the A2E ministry over a three-year period beginning in 2013.

Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) Michigan District provided an impact grant of \$19,000 in 2014, which provided a majority of the funding necessary to purchase a new 12-passenger van for A2E. An individual donor gifted the remaining funding need of \$10,000. The van immediately became a very important component of the A2E ministry. In July, 2014, LWML Michigan District also voted in Convention to approve another grant in the amount of \$25,000 for general support of A2E in 2015.

A cornerstone ministry of A2E is the Summer Sports Camps/VBS. The inaugural camp was held on Detroit's east side in August, 2013 and was attended by over 100 children. Because of the success of this camp, two camps were offered in 2014: a repeat camp on Detroit's east side and a new one on the west side of the city. Between the two camps, over 200 children attended in 2014. The Development Department was able to procure the funds necessary to provide both Sports Camps/VBS at no cost to children attending through generous congregations and individual donors. We thank and praise God for these acts of compassion and generosity that many extended to A2E.

Spring and Christmas Appeals

The Board of Directors and staff of the Michigan District would like to extend a very heartfelt "Thank you" to the hundreds of donors who have responded to one or both of these appeals each of the past three years. These two appeals have generated over \$130,000 during the past three years, impacting several areas of District mission and ministry including A2E and youth ministry and, in some way, each of the District's four ministry critical targets that were previously identified.

Congregational Capital Campaigns

Since the 2012 Michigan District Convention, the Development Department, upon request, provided capital campaign consultation to 15 small to moderate-size congregations. The amount of consultation provided varied by congregation, from giving basic direction and "how to get started" information, to helping develop, design, implement and direct a comprehensive capital and/or debt reduction campaign extending over a period of several months.

Congregations who requested and received capital campaign consultation services during the past three years include:

Peace, Ann Arbor
Trinity, Davison
Lamb of God, Flint
Pilgrim, Burton
Emmanuel, Cadillac
Christ, Milford
Immanuel, Sebewaing
Trinity, Onkama
St. Martin, Birch Run
St. John, Pinconning
St. John, St. Johns
Faith, Port Huron
Family of God, Comstock Park
Guardian, Dearborn
Historic Trinity, Detroit

Here We Stand Campaign Planning

Delegates to the 2015 Michigan District Convention will be asked to approve a request to allow the Michigan District to move forward with a new District-wide capital campaign titled Here We Stand. The campaign, upon approval, will

recognize the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, as well as help provide the Michigan District with significant financial resources for four specific areas of District mission and ministry. In order to be able to make the request for campaign approval to Convention delegates, a great amount of planning has already gone into preparing for the campaign, including the formation of a 12-member Blueprint Committee, chaired by Rev. John Bush. The committee first studied the feasibility of conducting a district-wide 500th Anniversary Celebration Campaign, then established the campaign theme, scriptural foundation, case statement, initiatives, and financial goal.

Pre-campaign approval planning has also included establishing a 27-member Campaign Steering Committee, selecting the Steering Committee Chairman, identifying 44 Pastoral Circuit Coordinators, creating both a campaign booklet and video to show at Convention, and identifying four Circuit Coordinator training workshop sites and 17 congregation training workshop sites strategically placed throughout the Michigan District. All of this pre-Convention planning is necessary to allow for the campaign to have its kick-off upon the approval of Convention, with all of the campaign infrastructure already in place.

Michigan District Endowment

Fulfilling the broad mission and vision of the Michigan District requires funding from multiple sources of revenue. One of those key sources of District funding is an Endowment Fund, authorized by the Michigan District Board of Directors to receive gifts which will support multiple aspects of District ministry. The Endowment Fund may receive gifts that are restricted for specific purposes, as well as unrestricted gifts which the Michigan District can designate to general projects that support the outcomes of the District.

When a gift is given to the Michigan District Endowment Fund, whether to an existing fund or one that the donor establishes, the initial gift never goes away. It is there forever because the principal is never touched. Only the earnings, or a designated portion of the earnings, are used for current or future ministry in the Michigan District. As the Endowment Fund increases over time from investment growth and/or from funds being added, the likelihood of more funds being available for ministry purposes also increases.

The result of a well-funded Endowment is more, and better, Michigan District ministry. To guide and monitor the Michigan District Endowment program is the Endowment Advisory Council (EAC). The EAC watches over the investment of the Endowment funds to ensure that the investment strategy is being adhered to, resulting in acceptable levels of growth within the current market capability. The EAC meets four times annually to review fund status and to make any necessary adjustments to continue maximum Endowment Fund growth. The EAC oversees an Endowment that is currently valued at approximately \$3 million.

Endowment Fund allocations are made in the following manner: Student Aid (39%), Missions (36%), Special Purposes (19%), and Unrestricted (6%). A good example of Endowment Funds making a significant impact is found in our Professional Church Worker Scholarship Program. Since

2004, nearly 700 students from Michigan District congregations have been financially supported through the Michigan District Endowment Fund.

The Michigan District Endowment Fund is a perpetual fund which is prepared to receive gifts during a person's lifetime or as part of a legacy gift. These gifts may include, but are not limited to:

- Bequests from Wills or Trusts
- Real Estate Gifts
- Charitable Lead Trusts
- Beneficiary Designations
- Retirement Plan Gifts
- Gifts of Stock
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Life Insurance Gifts
- Cash Gifts
- Gift Annuities

Please allow us to talk with you about the Michigan District Endowment Funds and the impact they are having on Michigan District ministry. For more information, please contact Ray Zavada, Assistant to the President—Development at 734.904.2773 (mobile) or 734.213.4264 (direct line), or by email at ray.zavada@michigandistrict.org. You may also find four very informative video presentations and answers to many Frequently Asked Questions about endowments at michigandistrict.org/fund.

Family Life

In the midst of a culture that no longer embraces God's values, when many families are struggling under the pressures and burdens of everyday life as they face significant challenges in communication, sexuality, finances, and faith, many families are looking for help. Families—that is, the individuals within them: husbands and wives, parents and children, younger and older, single and divorced, widow and widower—are looking for hope. Not just a fig leaf that things will get better, not a wishful desire for improvement, but solid, firm, sure hope—the hope that “*does not disappoint*” (*Romans 5:5*). Strengthening the families according to God's design in Holy Scripture continues to be a significant challenge in ministry. Gathering families of all shapes and sizes around Word and Sacrament, where they receive the tremendous blessings God has for His people in His Son, Jesus Christ, continues to be the goal toward which the Michigan District strives in the area of family life, that District congregations may be resourced for ministry so that the lives of many—both young and old—be blessed both now and in eternity.

Ministry opportunities and resources with individual congregations seeking to give support for families have been provided by the Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators as they have worked with their assigned congregations. In addition, several task forces, standing committees and volunteers at events, involving nearly 150 professional church workers and laity, have provided more formal opportunities for both professional church workers and congregation leaders and members to be better equipped to carry out ministry to children, youth, adults, and families

in their local congregations.

In the past triennium, many opportunities under the broad heading of “Family Life” were sponsored or supported by the Michigan District:

In the area of Family Ministry, the third Family Friendly Partners Network process was completed and the fourth training is being planned. Thus far, 35 congregations have completed the process, nearly 10% of District congregations. The Special Friends Camp was offered annually for mentally impaired youth and adults, as well as a Special Friends Winter Weekend in February. What a wonderful opportunity for youth and adults with developmental disabilities to enjoy the beauty of God's creation as they learn of Him who created them and loves them in Jesus. Events in partnership with Concordia University Ann Arbor included quarterly Family Connections gatherings of family, youth, and/or children's ministry workers and students in the Family Ministry study program, as well as Forums and Symposiums and other family ministry training opportunities. A newly begun venture under Concordia's auspices is the Concordia Center for the Family. Workshops, seminars, and other resources for congregations in marriage, parenting, and passing on the faith to the next generation are being planned.

In the area of Children's Ministry, print and web-based resources, as well as Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, as well as keeping children safe workshops for those involved in children's ministry, were provided to the congregations of the District. In addition, there are three trained Children's Ministry Consultants available to assist congregations in evaluating and refocusing their ministry to children and their families.

In the area of Youth Ministry, the annual Junior High Youth Gathering, held on the campus of Concordia University, Ann Arbor, provided opportunities for youth in grades 6-8 to grow in and live their faith. This gathering is moving from Concordia's campus to Frankenmuth in 2015 under the theme “Cornerstone”—a new location and schedule, but the message of the Lord Jesus as the Cornerstone of life and faith remains the foundation. The triennial High School Youth Gathering at Mackinac Island provided the opportunity for 1,035 youth in grades 9-12 and their adult leaders, as well as those in their early college years, to grow in and live out their faith under the theme “Lighthouse.” Training opportunities for adults working with youth were included at both the Junior High and High School Youth Gathering. Also, annual retreats were held for Directors of Christian Education and Directors of Family Life in the Michigan and Ohio Districts. Michigan District congregations participated in “Live Love[d],” the LCMS National Youth Gathering in San Antonio, Texas. Four youth and adults received leadership training at the annual Council of Lutheran Youth Fellowship Representatives (CLYFR) and are available to participate in youth events in congregations or circuits. Also, one of the youth representatives from Michigan, Connor Lukas from Faith, Port Huron, was elected to serve on the National Lutheran Youth Fellowship Board of Directors.

In the area of Adult Ministry, the triennial Lutheran Adult Gathering on Mackinac Island provided opportunities for fellowship and growth to 243 participants from 69 congregations.

Also in the past triennium, a Confirmation Ministry workshop was offered, and resources from this workshop are available from the District website. In addition, the District has partnered with Camp Arcadia to provide in the month of October a Pre-confirmation Retreat for congregations to include as part of their confirmation ministry. The first year, one weekend was planned, but registrations dictated a second weekend was needed. Last year, two weekends were provided. In 2015, three weekends are scheduled.

Families, as they always have, come in all sizes, shapes and configurations. The church, God's Family, gathered around Word and Sacrament, has the unique opportunity to provide support for all families. In the next triennium, the Michigan District will continue to provide resources for congregational use and encouragement for professional and lay leaders providing support for families within congregations, as well as opportunities for celebrating support for families, through...

- The on-going service of Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators.
- Resources and links on the Michigan District website.
- On-going Family Friendly Partners Network opportunities.
- Training opportunities for those involved in children's, youth, and family ministry.
- Consultants equipped to assist congregations in the areas of Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry.
- "In Christ Alone," LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 2016.
- The Lutheran Adult Gathering on Mackinac Island in 2016.
- District Junior High Youth Gatherings at Concordia University.
- District High School Youth Gathering on Mackinac Island in 2017.
- It is a joy to share that Mr. Chuck Anderson will be working part-time for the District to enhance ministry to youth.

In *Ephesians 3:14-21*, St. Paul prays for the Ephesians that they grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. That is the desired outcome of family ministry: to connect people with Jesus Christ. The purpose of Family Ministry in the Michigan District is "Building homes and relationships where faith in Christ is nurtured and shared in congregations and beyond—encouraging and resourcing ministry to, by, and with children, youth, and adults." Each congregation is different. But all people are in need of the hope that is ours in Jesus. May God bless our efforts to minister to families—and the children, youth, and adults who comprise those families—in the name of Jesus, that they may be a blessing to each other, to those around them and to the next generation.

"I pray that out of His (the Father's) glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and establish in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people,

to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:16-19).

Intentional Interim Ministry

Interim refers to a time between. It is the time between what has been and what will be. In congregations, it is the time between resident pastors. It is a time following saying goodbye to a pastor who no longer serves the congregation, letting go of his ministry and getting ready to say hello to another pastor. It is a time of uncertainty between the past and an unknown future. It is a time of anxiety, anticipation, and hope.

The good news is that, rather than just maintaining itself and urgently seeking a new pastor, this in-between time provides an opportunity for renewal, congregational development, and spiritual growth. It is a period when a congregation can come to a better understanding of its ministry, grow in effectiveness, and commit to faithfulness in mission with the new pastor it calls under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Further, when a congregation becomes vacant, the entire church rises to assist it. The circuit visitor coordinates ministry, the congregation ministries/ministry support facilitator assists with the self-study, and the District president prepares the call list. All are available for consultation. In addition, dozens of congregations during the past three years have chosen the option of an intentional interim pastor for the time between resident pastors.

More than 50 District pastors have received District-sponsored introductory training for serving congregations with intentionality during an interim and are involved in continuing education events twice a year. Twenty-two men have been newly trained in the last triennium. In addition, most of them have taken 60 hours of education currently conducted by the National Association of Lutheran Interim Pastors through the Continuing Education Department at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. or similar recognized education. In addition, they completed six months of monitored field work, being recognized as having completed basic education according to national standards. This is in accordance with the guidelines of Synod's Council of Presidents. The Michigan District and Indiana District jointly conduct training of Intentional Interim Pastors, and Continuing Education Contact Hours are given to participants by Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Because of the recognized need for providing greater assistance to congregations during vacancies, and seeing that it is a prime time for renewal, there is an increasing use of specially trained intentional interim ministers throughout Synod.

Rev. Dr. Robert E. Kasper serves as Michigan District Director of Intentional Interim Ministry. Retired pastors, and other pastors of the Michigan District who may be available and who would like to know more about this ministry or participate in it, should contact Rev. Kasper at the District office. Congregations that would like to know more about this ministry, or would like to consider it when they face an interim, should also contact him at 888.225.2111 ext. 230 or robert.kasper@michigandistrict.org.

Lutheran Day Schools Department

Early Childhood Education (Infants through Kindergarten)

“Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare Your power to the next generation, Your might to all who are to come” (Psalm 71:18).

Living in a compassionate community means helping the weakest among us grow. Young children need patience and compassion because they often do not have the skills necessary to make it on their own. Since its inception, the LCMS has been involved in education. Today in the Michigan District, that education includes 5,253 students who meet in 147 different locations to learn more about Jesus in Early Childhood Centers. In many families, these young children help connect mom and dad to their spiritual journey by reminding them of God’s love through a song, Biblical account, or prayer. These young children unashamedly share Jesus to congregations when singing up front and visiting with aged members in a nursing home. Over 17% of our families have no church home, so an inviting Early Childhood Center can be used by God to make a tremendous difference in the lives of busy families. Our centers often use CPH materials to share Jesus in an organized curriculum. Teachers like Kelley Fehn and Shirley Schewecke provide role models for both children and parents who want to be more like Jesus. Biblical accounts of historic events are shared in age-appropriate formats that remind even the youngest among us that God loves them and His grace is available to them.

Elementary Education (Kindergarten through Grade 8)

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and purity” (1 Timothy 4:12).

Imagine ... 8,042 students who daily come to 78 Lutheran Elementary schools scattered between Traverse City and Monroe and between Berrien Springs and Port Hope. Every year, these students spend 1,098 hours in the company of Christian role models like Sally Buss and Warren Priehs. They learn to apply prayer to all situations, even athletics. Each Lutheran School strives for academic excellence, like St. John, Rochester which has won the State Future City Competition for five years and, in 2014, won the National Competition. These Lutheran schools daily handle the saint and sinner that is in each of us. They remind the sinner of the need for a Savior and share the blessings of the saint with the community that surrounds them. They daily imagine living as a community of young believers who share His love through their compassion with those in need. Thankfully, they are often supported by congregations who provide spiritual and financial support, as well as generational role models to share wisdom and perspective.

High School Education

“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have” (1 Peter 3:15).

Imagine ... 2,014 young adults who are shaped by the passion of John Brandt(s), with the creativity of Steve Zill and Jeff Davis, and the wisdom of a biblical worldview integrated into all aspects of their classroom learning. Imagine ... these 2,014 students divided into seven different learning communities called Lutheran High Schools. Everyday these students practice living as God’s Loved and Compassionate Community. They are taught how to defend their faith in a world filled with challenges based on Science, reason, and a secular worldview. Yet, they remain faithful and optimistic in sharing Christ with their community. They seek to apply not only 21st century technology and skills to learning, but also seek to apply the teachings of Christ to a world that knows about Him only from observing His disciples.

Lutheran Schools face many challenges like rising costs, increasing technology needs, slow economic growth and competition for enrollment. But we have a God who has promised to be with us always! This promise shapes the imagination and reality of the congregational communities blessed to minister through a Lutheran School. Please continue to lift up prayers for our administrators, teachers, students, and parents who are daily reminded to see the God of the Old and New Testament in 2015.

Michigan District Archives Report

Barbara Laughlin Adler, LTD, Ph.D.
Archivist, Michigan District, LCMS

Kathleen Anne Graham, BS Library Science
Assistant Archivist

Archival Mission Statement

Our archival mission is to collect, preserve, and make available institutional records about the history, administration, and congregations of the Michigan District, LCMS. The Lutheran church in Michigan has a rich history to preserve; what a blessing that our District finds its preservation an important task.

To accomplish our mission, the archive maintains a collection of historical materials aimed at preserving the history of the Michigan District for future reference and research. This collection includes proceedings from past district conventions, minutes of district board meetings, financial reports, personal papers and correspondence, past issues of the *Michigan Lutheran* and *Michigan in Touch*, photographs, and files on Michigan congregations. These materials are continually updated, catalogued, and preserved.

Archive Location, Access and Use

The archive is located in a secured room in the Zimmerman Library on the campus of Concordia University in Ann Arbor. Access is by appointment only. Congregational historians sometimes use the archive to find information for anniversary booklets or celebrations.

The Michigan District Archive does not maintain family history records, or congregational records of official acts. These records may be found in other locations:

- Baptismal, marriage, or burial records can usually be found

at the appropriate congregation or, in the case of disbanded congregations, at the Concordia Historical Institute in St. Louis (*chi.lcms.org*). For congregations that have merged, records should be available at the continuing parish.

- Michigan District school records, including transcripts from Lutheran High East, can be found at Lutheran High Northwest. Their phone number is (248) 852-6677.

Use of the archive for historical research about Michigan District history is welcomed. Access is possible by appointment only. Contact the district archivist, Barbara Laughlin Adler (*adlerb@cuaa.edu*). She can help with congregational archives, or with preparing to celebrate a major anniversary.

A booklet of guidelines for your congregation's archive will be available at the Convention and upon request; we ask that each congregation designate an archivist/historian who will be responsible for maintaining the proper environment for congregational records. A manuscript of the return form is included here for your reference:

(Your Congregational Archive)

Congregations are asked to submit to the District Archive the following types of materials: congregational histories, special installations, dedications, anniversary booklets, pastoral biographies, and any significant press clippings. These materials may be sent directly to the archive at the address below, or they can be sent to the Archive in care of the District Office: 3773 Geddes Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

Congregations that permanently disband are required by Synodical Bylaws (Handbook, 3.207j) to transfer all records (registers of official acts, minutes, and other historical materials) to the District Office. From there, essential records will be transferred to Concordia Historical Institute. If you know of any such records, please contact us with the information.

We recommend that each congregation of the district have its own archivist/historian who is charged with preserving the history of the congregation.

We would like to maintain a listing of all congregational archivists and historians throughout the district, so that we can assist them whenever possible. If this individual is just getting started, we can provide them with some initial training and resources. Please complete and submit contact information (either by post or email) to help us maintain this listing.

Name and location of your Congregation:

Your Congregational Archivist/Historian

- Name:
- Address:
- City/State/Zip:
- Email address:

Stewardship Committee

The purpose of the District Stewardship Committee is to serve the church by promoting stewardship resources. It will articulate Stewardship principles and review and recommend resources to the congregations for the stewardship programming.

Committee Members

- Rev. Dr. Richard J. Wolfram – District Rep.
- Rev. R. William Roper – Dev. leader (9/30/15)
- Mr. Ronald J. Chewning – Chairman (9/30/15)
- Rev. Stephen E. Schilke – JH Award (9/30/15)
- Rev. John M. Duerr – (9/30/15)
- Rev. Daniel C. Meckes – Secretary (9/30/15)

John E. Herrmann Award

This award is given annually by the Michigan District in memory of Rev. John E. Herrmann, one of Synod's most dynamic stewardship leaders. Each fall, every congregation receives a reminder that nomination forms are available on the District website to submit for consideration any individual who has exemplified daily stewardship living in his/her church or community. These forms are to be returned by October 15. Once received, the Committee reviews each submission and selects a winner and a runner-up. The winner's congregation receives a \$1,000 gift to be used in furthering the congregation's stewardship goals. The winner is recognized during a church service in the winner's home congregation by Rev. Stephen Schilke of the District Stewardship Committee. The past triennium's winner and runner-ups are as follows:

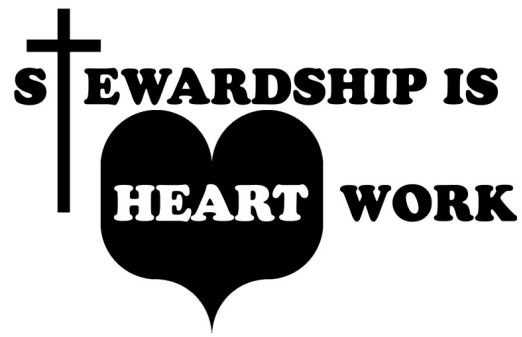
Year	Winner	Runners-up
2013	Dorothy Schultz <i>Trinity, Jackson</i>	Gordon and Eileen Ritter <i>St. John's, Grand Haven</i>
2014	Jim and Carlyn Roth <i>East Bethlehem, Detroit</i>	Chuck LaNore <i>Redeemer, Fremont</i>
2015	Bill Boice <i>St. Matthew, Spring Lake</i>	Ken Neitzke <i>Nativity, St. Charles</i>

Annual Stewardship Emphasis

One of the primary purposes of the District Stewardship Committee is either to provide an emphasis or to suggest biblically-based, Christ-centered stewardship resources which help church members understand their high calling as God's stewards. The emphasis provided to each District church in 2013 was "Empowered by Grace to Tithe." In 2014, the committee provided information on two different emphases: "Empowered by Grace for Faithful Stewardship" and the "Stewardship Empowerment Series: Bearing Fruit for Jesus." In 2015, we are providing online materials on the District website for "Experiencing the Joy of Generosity." At no cost, Michigan District churches may download the material they need for this three-week stewardship emphasis.

Churches that offer a stewardship emphasis help members not only grow as stewards but also deepen their relationship with Jesus, as well as increase the giving of their members

by more than 23 percent versus churches that do not offer an emphasis (from Rev. Eugene Grimm in his book, *Generous People*. Rev. Grimm's study also shows that congregations that ask their members to estimate their giving had a 30 percent higher average giving levels than those churches not using written commitments.)



Faith Aflame Workshops

Approximately 80 Michigan District Congregations have participated in "Faith Aflame" stewardship education workshops. At the present time, no additional "Faith Aflame" workshops are planned. The most recent workshop was at Trinity, Monroe in February, 2014.

Webinar Offered

On August 20, 2013, Dr. Richard J. Wolfram and Rev. Daniel C. Meckes offered an informational and educational webinar to our congregations. Churches were encouraged to use this as a teaching tool for their stewardship leaders.

Stewardship Synodical Workshop

This May 2014 educational workshop was attended by Rev. Dr. Richard J. Wolfram and Rev. Daniel C. Meckes from the District Stewardship Committee along with Rev. David C. Fleming and Rev. David J. Rufner.

District Stewardship Workshops

For the next two years (2015-2016), the Committee has a goal of offering an educational stewardship workshop focusing on the "Building Blocks for an Effective Stewardship Ministry" and "Reaching the Millennials" at four or five different locations in Michigan. On January 24, 2015, we offered our first workshop at Shepherd of the Lakes, Brighton.

District Stewardship Leaders Conference (DSLCL)

The Michigan District participates in the annual District Stewardship Leaders Conference held in Tempe, Ariz. each February. The conference is made up of the stewardship leaders of the various LCMS Districts, along with Synodical and Seminary personnel to create and implement stewardship strategies for the LCMS. Each year, a member of the committee and Rev. Dr. Richard J. Wolfram, the Michigan District Stewardship Executive, attend the conference. In addition to his position in the Michigan District, Rev. Wolfram also serves on the Executive Committee for the LCMS and the steering committee for the DSLCL. He has helped bring many biblically and doctrinally sound stewardship materials to our Michigan District.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald J. Chewning
Chairman, Michigan District Stewardship Committee

Commission on Ministerial Growth & Support

The mission of the Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support is to enrich the whole person’s health (emotional, spiritual, physical, financial, and relational) of professional church workers through promotion, education, referral assistance, and advocacy. Its on-going efforts include the sponsoring of health advocates/parish nursing and conducting pre-seminary interviews. The Commission also hosted a conference featuring Rev. Dr. Bruce M. Hartung on the need for congregations to consider forming “Worker Support Teams” as a way to encourage and support professional church workers. The Commission also gave out free resources at the Professional Church Workers’ Conference in Dearborn, October 2014 . Promotion of resources can be accessed at michigandistrict.org. Healthy church workers do healthy God-pleasing ministry! Current projects of the Commission include:

- Hosting Retirement planning workshops for all professional church workers. (The next one will take place January 29-30, 2016).
- Continuing to work on a program to help with the needs of our seasoned servants.
- Collaborating with Grace Place Lutheran Retreats to help support wholistic health retreats in Michigan, as well as encouraging and supporting our workers to participate in the retreats.
- Providing Rev. Dr. Bryan R. Salminen as Michigan District Director of Church Worker Care (part-time).
- Providing resources, potential counselor contacts, and counseling for professional church workers at michigandistrict.org/pcw/care/counselingresources.
- Providing resources for congregations to use as they support the ministries of professional church workers.

Sower’s Fund

The Sower’s Fund of the Michigan District, LCMS was initially established in February 1992. The fund was established as a result of needs that developed from time to time, for which there were no budget funds available. These were various emergency needs of professional church workers who had nowhere else to turn.

This fund is used for the immediate assistance of health care or shelter issues, to provide counseling services, etc. Requests for funds come to the President’s Office usually through the Circuit Visitor, Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitator, or the Superintendent of Schools. They are made aware of special emergency needs where there is no immediate assistance to be found from local congregation, city, state, federal, Commission on Ministerial Health, etc.

This assistance has been a tremendous blessing in providing help for needs of church workers in times of crisis in their lives or ministry, helping to relieve the stress and difficulty that our workers face in such times. Aid is offered confidentially. We thank and praise God for the continued strong support for the Sower’s Fund and for the kindness of all who contribute.

Michigan District Student Aid Program

The Michigan District, LCMS Student Aid program is designed to provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships to

- members of Michigan District, LCMS congregations;
- preparing for and intending to enter full-time church work (as defined as any position available through the Board of Assignments of the Synod); and
- at one of the seminaries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or one of the colleges or universities of the Concordia University System.

Annual distributions are based on the available funds for the year and the number of eligible students. A three-tier system is used. Students attending one of the two seminaries receive aid at the highest rate; students attending Concordia University Ann Arbor receive aid at the middle rate; and students attending one of the other nine CUS schools will receive aid at the base rate.

The Student Aid Program administration falls under the Congregation Ministries Department of the District with the guidelines being approved by the Endowment Advisory Council. More detailed guidelines and the required forms can be found at michigandistrict.org/pcw/future/financial-aid.

The charts below show the student aid amounts and number of students for the past three school years.

Student Aid Distribution

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Seminary Students	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300
CUAA	\$1,840	\$1,840	\$1,840
9 CUS Schools	\$1,380	\$1,380	\$1,380

Students Receiving Aid

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Seminary Students	52	42	44
CUAA	41	44	40
9 CUS Schools	56	50	36
Total Students	149	136	120

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#3-06	To Memorialize the 2016 Synod Convention regarding Bylaw 3.10.5.2. Election Process for College & Univ Bd of Regents	34
#3-07	To Memorialize the 2016 Synod Convention regarding Bylaw 3.10.5.5.2. Election Process for College & Univ Presidents	35
#3-08	To Recognize and Thank Those Who Serve in the Office of Circuit Visitor	36
#3-09	To Amend the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Michigan District	38

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-01
3 SUBJECT: To Take Responsibility for Outreach in our Local Community
4 and the State of Michigan
5

6 **WHEREAS**, The Great Commission (Matthew 28: 18-20) is the mission of the Christian Church and is the
7 Lord’s will for each of us as Christians and our congregations; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, The reason for the incarnation and resurrection of our Lord was to seek and save the lost
10 (Luke 19:10); and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, A passion for the souls of people is a component of the existence of the LCMS as evidenced
13 in a sermon preached by the sainted founder and first president of the LCMS, Dr. C.F.W. Walther,
14 entitled “Bringing Souls to Christ: Every Christian’s Desire and Duty”; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, In that sermon, Dr. Walther proclaimed, “This holy desire is inseparable from a true faith.
17 Whoever has no desire to bring someone else to the knowledge of the saving Gospel has certainly not
18 yet come to know the heavenly power himself.” (This sermon, first preached in 1842, was published in
19 Walther’s sermon collection, Gnadenjahr. Predigten ueber die Evangelien des Kirchenjahrs (Saint Louis,
20 Concordia, 1891), pp. 439-445) and can be accessed at
21 <http://www.lsfmissiology.org/Essays/WaltherBringingSoulstoChristEveryChristiansDesireandDuty.pdf>;
22 and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, Our District President, Rev. David P. E. Maier has called our Michigan District congregations
25 to address Critical Outcomes: Great Commission Ministry, Great Compassion Ministry, Healthy
26 Congregations, and Healthy Church Workers; and
27

28 **WHEREAS**, Each congregation is situated to its unique community in which non-Christians surround
29 them; therefore be it
30

31 **Resolved**, Every congregation develop at least one new attempt to reach out to people in its own
32 community in the next triennium; and be it further
33

34 **Resolved**, These actions be reported in Michigan District communications; and be it finally
35

36 **Resolved**, That the Circuit Visitors report on the actions and effectiveness of such actions of each
37 congregation in their 2018 report to the Michigan District Convention.
38

39 Submitted by: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-02
3 SUBJECT: To Establish a Task Force for Ministry to and with People with
4 Disabilities
5

6 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord ministered to the needs of all people and asks His followers to emulate His
7 example; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, "All people" includes individuals with disabilities (those who are blind or visually impaired,
10 deaf or hearing impaired, have developmental disabilities, live with severe mental illnesses, currently
11 about 16 % of the total population) which significantly limit major life activities; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, The Son of God embarked on a ministry of mercy and restoration for those who live on the
14 margins of life, that they too might hear that their sins are forgiven by Him who shows mercy and
15 restores body, soul and spirit, and thus "all people" were welcomed and participated in the Body of
16 Christ; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, People with disabilities are often faced with physical and attitudinal barriers to full
19 participation in worship, education, fellowship, and service activities, with many church members having
20 difficulty in accepting people with disabilities, identifying their needs, and providing ways to welcome
21 them into their congregations; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, The removal of physical and attitudinal barriers significantly enhances the spiritual,
24 emotional, and social life of people with disabilities, and is a sign of Christian love and hospitality to all;
25 and
26

27 **WHEREAS**, People with disabilities are able to make positive contributions to parish life lived under the
28 cross; therefore be it
29

30 **Resolved**, That the Michigan District establish a Disability Ministry Task Force modeled after the LCMS
31 Disability Ministry Task Force, and under the supervision of the President of the Michigan District; and
32 be it further
33

34 **Resolved**, That the Michigan District Disability Task Force (DTF) be established for an initial 3-year term
35 and, thereafter, through convention resolution, be considered for renewal of a 3-year term at every
36 convention; and be it further
37

38 **Resolved**, That the President of the Michigan District appoint members to the DTF from members of the
39 Michigan District with representation by people with disabilities, and including professionals in the areas
40 of spiritual life supports, medical care, education, building design, law, and others as needed, to give
41 pertinent information to congregations and church workers that they may provide excellent services to
42 people with disabilities; and be it finally
43

44 **Resolved**, That the DTF address the following (including but not limited to):
45

- 46 1. A Mission Statement for the work of the Task Force;
- 47 2. A congregational self-assessment tool to assess the needs of people with disabilities;
- 48 3. Plans and Guidelines to address physical, attitudinal, and other barriers in churches;

- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5
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 - 7
 - 8
 - 9
 - 10
- 4. Suggestions whereby people with disabilities can more fully participate in the life and ministry of the congregation;
 - 5. Provide a list of available resources which will help individuals with disabilities, their families, and congregation members network with nearby agencies and other families with disabilities.
 - 6. Request financial support from LCEF and other synodical auxiliaries (e.g. LWML's mission mite grants) to provide funds necessary to make physical changes to existing buildings to improve services for meeting the needs of people with disabilities.
- Submitted by: St. Michael's, Richville

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-03
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage Participation in Theological Conferences
4
5 **WHEREAS**, the Michigan District has provided excellent annual theological conferences during the past
6 triennium; and
7
8 **WHEREAS**, these conferences provide excellent opportunities for lay people to examine key areas of the
9 Church and its doctrines; and
10
11 **WHEREAS**, such conferences build unity; therefore be it
12
13 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention thank the District leadership for providing such
14 conferences and encourage it to continue to do so, and be it finally
15
16 **Resolved**, that all congregations be encouraged to send their members to future theological
17 conferences.
18
19 Submitted by: St. Luke, Haslett

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-04
3 SUBJECT: To Protect Children from Sexual Abuse within the Michigan
4 District Congregations, Schools, and Communities
5

6 **WHEREAS**, the prevalence of child sexual abuse is difficult to determine because it is often not reported,
7 experts agree that the incidence is far greater than what is reported to authorities; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Children's Bureau report Child
10 Maltreatment 2010 found that 9.2% of victimized children were sexually assaulted; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, studies by David Finkelhor, Director of the Crimes Against Children Research Center, show
13 that:

- 14 • 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 20 boys is a victim of child sexual abuse
- 15 • Self-report studies show that 20% of adult females and 5-10% of adult males recall a
16 childhood sexual assault or sexual abuse incident
- 17 • During a one-year period in the U. S., 16% of youth ages 14 to 17 had been sexually
18 victimized
- 19 • Over the course of their lifetime, 28% of U.S. youth ages 14 to 17 had been sexually
20 victimized
- 21 • Children are most vulnerable to CSA between the ages of 7 and 13; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, victims of child abuse are found in every community, every socio-economic category and
24 every walk of life; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, child sexual abuse can and does occur even within our congregations and our communities;
27 and
28

29 **WHEREAS**, God has given children to love and cherish, nurture and guide; therefore be it
30

31 **Resolved**, that the President of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod be
32 directed to appoint a task force to study this issue as it might relate to the congregations, schools, and
33 other programs within the Michigan District; and be it further
34

35 **Resolved**, that this task force develop an educational program to detect and deter child sexual abuse
36 within our congregations, schools, and communities; and be it further
37

38 **Resolved**, this task force develop guidelines for member congregations to adopt concerning best
39 methods for educating and deterring occurrence of child sexual abuse within our congregations, schools,
40 and communities; and be it further
41

42 **Resolved**, that this task force make a report to the president of the district at its earliest convenience;
43 and be it further
44

45 **Resolved**, that if the president of the district finds this report satisfactory, that it be disseminated among
46 the various circuits, committees and school associations for comment; and be it further
47

1 **Resolved**, that the final report be submitted to the Michigan District in Convention at the next regular
2 convention of the district with a recommendation for implementation of its findings; and be it finally
3

4 **Resolved**, that we pray to God for guidance for all who work with, mentor, or parent children in all our
5 vocations and that He would give each of us the grace to be His hands of protection and nurture.
6

7 Submitted by: Rev. Erwin Hutter on behalf of Downriver Circuit #23

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-05
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage Lutheran School Ministry
4

5 **WHEREAS**, in Matthew 19:14 Jesus says, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for
6 the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these;” and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, in the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19-20, Christ reminds the church to teach Scripture
9 to all nations, including children: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of
10 the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have
11 commanded you”; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, in Acts 2:39, Peter reminds the church that the gift of the Holy Spirit and forgiveness is “for
14 you and your children”; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, some congregations of the Michigan District have had Lutheran schools that have been
17 involved in teaching children about Christ even before the Synod was formed in 1847, and these schools
18 have developed faithful laypeople, dedicated church workers, and countless church leaders; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, 7 high schools, 78 elementary schools, and 158 early childhood centers daily serve the
21 educational needs of 14, 824 students in Michigan; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, these same schools seek to develop Christian disciples by integrating faith development into
24 all academic disciplines and encourage Lutheran teachers to be role models, and pray for the students
25 and families they serve; and
26

27 **WHEREAS**, 17% of students (according to national synodical statistics) have no church home and often
28 become connected through pastors and teachers who introduce Christ to them through Lutheran
29 Schools; and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, research by George Barna indicates the highest probability of embracing Jesus Christ as Lord
32 and Savior is during elementary school, ages 5-12 (*Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions*, page
33 34); and
34

35 **WHEREAS**, Lutheran schools teach a biblical worldview that stands in sharp contrast to the culture and
36 secular worldview taught in society; and
37

38 **WHEREAS**, Lutheran schools and a biblical worldview are needed in our culture, and the need for
39 teaching children about their Savior is greater than ever in a post-Christian society; and
40

41 **WHEREAS**, the annual amount of time a child spends in a Lutheran School is ten times greater (1098
42 hours) than the time a child with perfect church and Sunday School attendance will spend in church only
43 (104 hours); and
44

45 **WHEREAS**, these commissioned ministers have enormous impact on the faith formation of children in
46 their school and congregation; therefore be it
47

- 1 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in its 2015 convention thank God for the congregational ministry
2 accomplished through Lutheran schools; and be it further
3
- 4 **Resolved**, that congregations without a school ministry pray for their neighboring Lutheran schools and
5 investigate how they might encourage Lutheran parents in their parish to consider enrolling their
6 children in a Lutheran school; and be it further
7
- 8 **Resolved**, that congregations consider forming associations and collaborating together to increase the
9 mission impact of Michigan District Lutheran schools; and be it finally
10
- 11 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District LCMS encourage “People of Hope” to help Lutheran schools to
12 continue to grow in academic excellence, community connectedness, and spiritual effectiveness in
13 preparing future citizens of our country and heaven.
14
- 15 Submitted by: Michigan District School Committee

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-06
3 SUBJECT: To Support the “Here We Stand” Initiative in Celebration of
4 the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation
5
6 **WHEREAS**, the Lutheran Reformation has been an inestimable blessing to all Christendom and the world
7 by upholding the central Christian doctrine of justification by faith in Christ Jesus; and
8
9 **WHEREAS**, the confessional heritage of our district is traced in large measure to the influence of Martin
10 Luther and those confessors with him who believed and bravely taught the Word of God which declares
11 salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, for the sake of Christ alone; and
12
13 **WHEREAS**, the commonly marked anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation is celebrated in
14 commemoration of the posting of Ninety-five Theses by Martin Luther, October 31, 1517; and
15
16 **WHEREAS**, the year 2017 will be the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, a unique
17 opportunity to invite again the world’s attention to the pure Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions;
18 and
19
20 **WHEREAS**, all congregations of the Michigan District, by expressing acceptance of the Holy Scriptures as
21 the written Word of God and all the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as a true
22 exposition of that Word of God, share the foundation of confessional unity; and
23
24 **WHEREAS**, a celebration of our Reformation heritage and unity under the Word of God is a powerful
25 witness to the world and encouragement to the whole church; therefore be it
26
27 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District, under the auspices of the District President, will commence a
28 District-wide Reformation celebration; and be it further
29
30 **Resolved**, that the celebration of this historic anniversary be entitled *Here We Stand*, in honor of the
31 historic “Here I Stand” statement of the Reformation ascribed to Martin Luther at the Diet of Worms on
32 April 18, 1521; and be it further
33
34 **Resolved**, that the *Here We Stand* initiative be inspired by the words of Psalm 71:17-18 to do all that we
35 can humanly do to insure that the true and pure Word of God is boldly proclaimed to this generation
36 and generations to come; and be it further
37
38 **Resolved**, that the *Here We Stand* celebration include a District-wide thank offering capital campaign
39 with a goal of \$10,000,000, which prayerfully will have an impact on four areas of the Michigan District
40 mission and ministry, including Professional Church Worker Scholarships, Innovative Missional Ministry,
41 Michigan District Endowment and International Ministry; and be it further
42
43 **Resolved**, that the *Here We Stand* emphasis include organized events and activities throughout the
44 district during the summer of 2017 to serve as a celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation
45 and to intentionally spread the Word of God to the neighborhoods and communities in which these
46 events will be held; and be it further
47

1 **Resolved**, that a district-wide worship service be held on October 15, 2017 at the Breslin Center on the
2 campus of Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan which will give Michigan District
3 congregations an opportunity to thank and praise God with 15,000 voices in worship and song; and be it
4 finally

5
6 **Resolved**, that the congregations and individuals of the Michigan District be encouraged to participate
7 by financially supporting the initiatives, by participating in community celebration events and the
8 District-wide celebration worship service, and by diligently praying that the *Here We Stand* thank
9 offering will make an impact for the sake of Christ's Kingdom for generations to come.

10
11 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-07
3 SUBJECT: To Root Men and Women in their Baptismal Identity
4

5 **WHEREAS**, Holy Scripture (Genesis 1: 27) and the Lutheran Confessions (SA 11:2) are unequivocal that
6 we are created male or female and that a husband is the husband of one wife and a wife is the wife of
7 one husband; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the LCMS in Convention has consistently affirmed the same (2013 Res. 2-07A & 2004 Res. 3-
10 05A); and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, our only lasting and true identity is our baptismal identity in the name of the Triune God –
13 God the Father who created us, God the Son who redeemed us from sin, death, and the devil, and God
14 the Holy Spirit who calls, gathers enlightens, and sanctifies us; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, in our contemporary culture there is much confusion about identity, and the proliferation of
17 false identities such as homosexual, transexual or bisexual; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, the title ‘heterosexual’ seeks to defend against false teachings, but itself falls into the same
20 trap of granting an identity that is outside of Scripture and our baptismal identity in the Triune God;
21 therefore be it
22

23 **Resolved**, that we eagerly confess the vocation of marriage – the life-long union of one man and one
24 woman which itself points to Christ and His church (Ephesians 5:21-33), without mistaking this to be our
25 Christian identity; and be it further
26

27 **Resolved**, that we seek to confess our identity where it is located: men and women created of the
28 Father, men and women redeemed and recreated by the Son, men and women called, gathered, and
29 enlightened by God the Holy Spirit; and all of this in the Word and Water of Baptism; and be it further
30

31 **Resolved**, that we avoid falling into any and all traps that seek to ground our identity beyond what was
32 given and restored to us in Baptism; and be it further
33

34 **Resolved**, that we celebrate that this Baptismal identity is anchored in the death and resurrection of
35 Christ Jesus, Himself the bridegroom of his bride, the church, and that this baptismal identity will endure
36 at His second coming; and be it finally
37

38 **Resolved**, that as our young people are being encouraged by the voices of the age to “discover who they
39 are,” we, the church, be prepared to eagerly point them to who the Triune God has already made them
40 to be as men and women baptized in Christ Jesus.
41

42 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors
43

44 *NOTE: This resolution is in part a response to two very insightful articles by Michael W. Hannon in ‘First*
45 *Things.’ Those Articles are:*

- 46
 - ‘Against Heterosexuality’ (<http://www.firstthings.com/article/2014/03/against-heterosexuality>),
 - 47 • And ‘Against Obsessive Sexuality’ ([http://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2014/08/against-](http://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2014/08/against-obsessive-sexuality)
48 [obsessive-sexuality](http://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2014/08/against-obsessive-sexuality)).

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-08
3 SUBJECT: To Intentionally Initiate Mercy Ministries in our Communities
4

5 **WHEREAS**, our Lord Jesus said, “whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of
6 mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40); and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the Apostle Paul by inspiration instructs us, “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at
9 the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do
10 good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers” (Gal. 6:9-10); and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, common needs are experienced in unique and various ways in every community where
13 God’s people gather around Word and Sacrament; and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, God’s people are called to be “neighbor” to our fellow human regardless of his/her station in
16 life, as demonstrated by Jesus in His recounting the episode of the Good Samaritan, and as Luther
17 expressed in his explanation to the Fifth Commandment; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, Jesus consistently demonstrated mercy through His many healings and thereby also gave
20 express testimony to the presence and power of God’s kingdom ; and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, the church, as the body of Christ, “doesn’t do acts of mercy to get people into the church but
23 because we are the church” (comments by LCMS President Matthew Harrison at a conference in
24 Saginaw, MI in 2010); and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, St. Peter instructs us, “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an
27 answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have” (1 Peter 3:15); and
28

29 **WHEREAS**, Selflessly serving to meet the needs of others gives evidence of Christ’s love within us and
30 builds relationships of trust through which the message of salvation in Jesus Christ can be
31 communicated with compassion and relevance; therefore be it
32

33 **Resolved**, that every congregation of the Michigan District be encouraged to intentionally study their
34 respective communities to determine the needs of individuals or groups of people that are not
35 adequately met; and be it further
36

37 **Resolved**, that each congregation also evaluate their unique position and abilities to meet those needs
38 with the love of Christ through acts of service and mercy; and be it further
39

40 **Resolved**, that each congregation of the Michigan District, LCMS intentionally initiate at least one new
41 mercy ministry to address the needs of their local community in the next triennium; and be it further
42

43 **Resolved**, that where existing programs may already be in place in the community with whom the
44 congregation may not be able to officially enter into partnership, that individual members be
45 encouraged to participate in these community organizations who are doing good in their communities,
46 thereby giving witness to God’s love in Jesus; and be it finally
47

- 1 **Resolved**, that stories of God's mercy at work through His people be shared through the
- 2 Communications Department of the Michigan District office for the purpose of continued
- 3 encouragement to God's people and to glorify God for the privilege of serving as we bear His name.
- 4
- 5 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-09
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage our Congregations Toward Demonstrations of
4 Mercy
5

6 **WHEREAS**, there is no Christ-centered theology that is not practical and relational; and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, Luther wrote in the Introduction to the Book of Romans: “Faith cannot help doing good
9 works constantly. It doesn’t stop to ask if good works ought to be done, but before anyone asks, it
10 already has done them and continues to do them without ceasing.” St. Paul wrote in the Epistle to the
11 Galatians: “The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love” (Galatians 5:6b); and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, Christianity in our culture is moving into an era reflecting the earliest days of our faith, where
14 the saints lived with active government opposition and a hostile, pagan society. The church suffered,
15 flourished, and ultimately triumphed because of its acts of love, expressed in mercy and compassion. At
16 no other time in the history of Christianity did love so characterize the entire church as it did in the first
17 three centuries. And Roman society took note. Tertullian reported that the Romans would exclaim, “See
18 how they love on another!” Justin Martyr described Christian love this way: “We who used to value the
19 acquisition of wealth and possessions more than anything else now bring what we have into a common
20 fund and share it with anyone who needs it. We used to hate and destroy one another and refused to
21 associate with people of another race or country. Now, because of Christ, we live together with such
22 people and pray for our enemies”; and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, in this increasingly hostile and humanistic culture, it is not enough to just gather ourselves
25 together within the walls of our churches and preserve the pure preaching and the right administration
26 of the Sacraments. If that is our sole focus, then how will the spiritually dead be gathered to hear the
27 Gospel and partake of the Sacraments? “How then will they call on him in whom they have not
28 believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to
29 hear without someone preaching?” (Romans 10:14); and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, Christianity is actively persecuted in many parts of the world and soon will be overtly
32 persecuted within our own nation. The very fact that Christians were willing to suffer unspeakable
33 horrors and to die rather than disown their God was, next to their lifestyle, their single most effective
34 evangelistic tool. Few, if any, Romans would die for their gods. There had to be some substance to
35 Christianity if it meant so much to those who practiced it; and
36

37 **WHEREAS**, our Lord commands acts of mercy in Matthew 25, and used them as an authentication of His
38 sheep, condemning to eternal punishment those who refused to be merciful; and
39

40 **WHEREAS**, the witness of mercy prepares the hearer for the witness of the Word, because mercy
41 experiences validate truth. Mercy is our seal of authenticity. St. John wrote: “By this we know love, that
42 he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the
43 world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide
44 in him? Little children, let us not love in word and talk but in deed and in truth” (1 John 3:16-18);
45 therefore be it
46

47 **Resolved**, that examples of successful ministries of mercy and compassion be commended to and
48 modeled to all District congregations, and be it further

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Resolved, that all LCMS Circuits be encouraged to work together in support of mercy and compassion projects, and be it further

Resolved, that LCMS members be encouraged to evaluate their current or potential contributions to charitable institutions in order to fund/enable acts of mercy which are directly linked to promoting the Gospel, and be it finally

Resolved, that all LCMS congregations be encouraged to actively seek opportunities to express the Gospel and the love of Christ through acts of mercy directed toward their communities.

Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-10
3 SUBJECT: To Address How Best to Deal with Same-Sex Marriage
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the LCMS in Convention (2013 Res. 2-07A) stated: “God created man in his own image, in the
6 image of God he created him; male and female He created them” (Gen. 1:27), which is foundational for
7 all teaching about marriage and family (Matt. 19:4-6); and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, that same convention resolution noted that “The earthly relationship between husband and
10 wife is to reflect Christ’s relationship to His bride, the Church” (Eph. 5:21-33); and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, the LCMS in Convention (2004 Res. 3-05A) affirmed “on the basis of Scripture, marriage as
13 the lifelong union of one man and one woman” (Gen. 2:2-24; Matt. 19:5-6); and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, the LCMS in Convention (1973 Res. 2-04) stated “that the Synod recognize homophile
16 behavior as intrinsically sinful” (Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Rom. 1:24-27); and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the LCMS in Convention (2004 Res. 3-05A) stated: “Homosexual behavior is prohibited in the
19 Old and New Testaments (Lev. 18:22, 24; 20:13; 1 Cor. 6:9-20; 1 Tim. 1:10) as contrary to the Creator’s
20 design” (Rom. 1:26-27); and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, that same convention resolution stated: “The Gospel declares that Jesus Christ is the atoning
23 sacrifice for the sins of the world (1 John 2:2) and that Christ, who knew no sin, was made to be our sin
24 so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Cor. 5:21); and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, that same convention resolution stated: “The church’s proper evangelical work is to proclaim
27 the reconciliation of the sinner to God in the death of Jesus Christ” (2 Cor. 5:18-19); and
28

29 **WHEREAS**, the LCMS in Convention (2001 Res. 2-08A) encouraged its congregations “to minister to
30 homosexuals and their families in a spirit of compassion and humility, recognizing that ‘all have sinned
31 and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is
32 in Christ Jesus’” (Rom. 3:23-24); and
33

34 **WHEREAS**, many states have legalized same-sex marriages and the Supreme Court is considering
35 whether same-sex couples have a right to marriage, despite the fact that no society has ever legalized
36 same-sex marriages; therefore be it
37

38 **Resolved**, that, with regard to gay marriage, all Christians should prayerfully seek how best to
39 compassionately care for the erring, while maintaining the truth of God’s Word (Matt. 10:16), loving the
40 sinner while hating the sin (Jude 22-23); and be it further
41

42 **Resolved**, that, on the basis of the clear Word of God noted above, pastors of the LCMS should not bless
43 or perform a wedding of a same-sex couple (Jer. 8:11), even if it means that the government denies
44 those pastors from performing any weddings (Acts 5:29); and be it finally
45

46 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District requests Synod to look into the ramifications, legal and otherwise,
47 of pastors performing only religious unions, not civil weddings.
48

1 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors
2

1 COMMITTEE NAME: GREAT COMMISSION & GREAT COMPASSION
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 1-11
3 SUBJECT: To Let our Light Shine in the Darkness Around Us
4

5 **WHEREAS**, our United States of America has become increasingly secularized and is, in fact, now a major
6 mission field; and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, Jesus commissions His church to make disciples of all nations, including people living in our
9 own nation (Matthew 28:19-20); and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, Jesus urges his disciples to love others the way he has loved us (John 13:34) and states: “By
12 this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35 ESV);
13 and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, Jesus entreats us to “let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works
16 and give glory to your Father, who is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16 ESV); and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, God the Holy Spirit reminds us: “How good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!”
19 (Psalm 133:1 ESV); and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, God the Holy Spirit reminds us that “we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against
22 the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the
23 spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:12 ESV); and
24

25 **WHEREAS**, St. Paul entreats us to be “eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace”
26 (Ephesians 4:3 ESV), in our battle against the spiritual forces of evil; therefore be it
27

28 **Resolved**, that in our personal lives we seek to love others as Jesus loves us and that we live in such a
29 way so that He is glorified, and be it further
30

31 **Resolved**, that in our congregations, our Michigan District, and our Synod, we intensify efforts to reach
32 others with the Gospel message, and be it further
33

34 **Resolved**, that in our congregations, our Michigan District, and our Synod, we treat one another with
35 gentleness, love, and respect, and be it finally
36

37 **Resolved**, that our dealings with individuals, congregations, and church bodies that are not a part of our
38 LCMS be conducted with the utmost kindness and the greatest cooperation that is possible while still
39 being faithful to our church body’s fellowship principles.
40

41 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-01
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage and Support Members of our Congregations to
4 Read and Reflect Upon the Bible
5
6 **WHEREAS**, God has promised the reading of His Word: John 20:31, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Romans 10:17,
7 and other passages; and
8
9 **WHEREAS**, One of the Michigan District's Critical Outcomes is Healthy Congregations; therefore be it
10
11 **Resolved**, That the Michigan District congregations annually encourage, support, and exemplify the use
12 of at least one model of ongoing and diligent reading of the Bible to their members.
13
14 Submitted by: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-02
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage an Ethic of Bible Reading
4
5 **WHEREAS**, God reveals himself through His Word and invites us to find Him in it; and
6
7 **WHEREAS**, the Holy Spirit works through the Word of God to draw us to and build us up in Jesus; and
8
9 **WHEREAS**, we find that revealed Word of God recorded in the 66 books of the Bible; and
10
11 **WHEREAS**, Article V of the Augsburg Confession encourages regular use of God’s Word; and
12
13 **WHEREAS**, having the Bible available for reading by lay people was a central issue of the Reformation;
14 and
15
16 **WHEREAS**, the Bible has never been more accessible for people; and
17
18 **WHEREAS**, the church needs the power of the Word now as much as ever; therefore be it
19
20 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention call, encourage, and challenge each District
21 congregation to maintain or implement programs that will encourage and enable its members annually
22 to read through the Bible, and be it finally
23
24 **Resolved**, that the District provide continued encouragement, tools and programs that will build an
25 ethic of Bible reading in our congregations.
26
27 Submitted by: St. Luke, Haslett

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-03
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage an Ethic of Bible Reading
4

5 **WHEREAS**, God reveals himself through His Word and invites us to find Him in it; and
6

7 **WHEREAS**, the Holy Spirit works through the Word of God to draw us to and build us up in Jesus; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, we find that revealed Word of God recorded in the 66 books of the Bible; and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, Article V of the Augsburg Confession encourages regular use of God's Word; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, having the Bible available for reading by lay people was a central issue of the Reformation;
14 and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the Bible has never been more accessible for people; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the church needs the power of the Word now as much as ever; therefore be it
19

20 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention call, encourage, and challenge all Michigan District
21 congregations to maintain or implement programs that will enable members to annually read through
22 the Bible, and be it finally
23

24 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District elected leaders and staff provide continued encouragement, tools
25 and programs that will build an ethic of Bible reading in our congregations.
26

27 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-04
3 SUBJECT: To Assist Fellow Congregations in Utilizing Practices of
4 Excellence for Ministry
5

6 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod is composed of approximately 6,000 congregations and
7 numerous organizations, all with unique gifts, talents, and experience; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, Each congregation and entity of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod deeply desires, by
10 God’s leading, grace, and power to disciple followers of Christ and share His love in the most winsome,
11 effective, and powerful way possible; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, Each of these congregations and entities has, over time and with the blessing of our
14 Heavenly Father, developed practices of excellence in various areas of ministry; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, Communication of these “practices of excellence” within the Synod among congregations
17 and entities cannot typically be accomplished in an effective and efficient manner; therefore be it
18

19 **Resolved**, That The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod will undertake the creation of a “Practices of
20 Excellence” Electronic Database which will allow congregations and entities within the Synod to
21 efficiently participate in an exchange of information; and be it further
22

23 **Resolved**, This information will consist of “practices of excellence” which individual congregations and
24 other entities have shown to accomplish the sharing of God’s Gospel and His Love in a powerful way;
25 and be it further
26

27 **Resolved**, The “practices of excellence” database will also contain demographic, geographic, and other
28 information which will allow congregations and other entities to determine appropriate application of
29 these practices within the context into which our Lord has placed them; and be it finally
30

31 **Resolved**, Through the exchange of these “practices of excellence”, our congregations and other entities
32 will, by God’s grace, power, and will, become more effective in the glorious task of reaching into this
33 world with the love, grace, and glory of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
34

35 Submitted by: Birmingham Circuit #18

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-05
3 SUBJECT: To Provide Congregational Unity in Financial Support of Our
4 Synod
5

6 **WHEREAS**, we have a long standing practice of congregations sending a portion of their offerings to the
7 District to support mission and ministry in the District and with an expectation that the District will send
8 a portion of those funds to the Synod to support mission and ministry; and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the model has never been officially reversed, removed or replaced; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, we have seen a proliferation of appeals from all corners of the Synod for funds which has
13 created an “every man for himself” approach to fund raising and which negatively impacts the Biblical
14 practice of tithing; therefore be it
15

16 **Resolved**, that each District congregation be encouraged to honor Synodical fellowship by remitting at
17 least 5% of its offerings to the District and not contribute its offerings directly to the Synod; and be it
18 further
19

20 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District continue in its leadership of remitting to the Synod a third of the
21 payments it receives from its congregations; and be it finally
22

23 **Resolved**, that neither the District nor the Synod make personal appeals for funds to individual members
24 of our congregations.
25

26 Submitted by: St. Luke, Haslett

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-06
3 SUBJECT: To Support Congregational Accent
4
5 **WHEREAS**, God instituted congregations; and
6
7 **WHEREAS**, God entrusted the Keys of the Kingdom to congregations; and
8
9 **WHEREAS**, the Synod as an organization is of human origin; and
10
11 **WHEREAS**, an undue concentration on the bureaucracy and work of the Synod can dilute the efforts of
12 local congregations; therefore be it
13
14 **Resolved**, that the District leadership will focus on the health and vitality of local congregations and to
15 resist creating programs or ministries that do not grow out of local congregations, and be it finally
16
17 **Resolved**, that the District will submit a similar overture to the 2016 Synod Convention calling on the
18 Synod and its various Districts to resist creating programs or ministries that do not grow out of local
19 congregations.
20
21 Submitted by: St. Luke, Haslett

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-07
3 SUBJECT: To Build an Ethic of Tithing
4

5 **WHEREAS**, tithing is the ancient and consistent practice of the people of God; and
6

7 **WHEREAS**, tithing has great promises attached to it; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, tithing serves to reduce our personal confidence in money and increase our trust in God; and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, tithing by congregants to their local congregation would provide ample resources for local
12 kingdom work and thereby eliminate non-Biblical and worldly forms of fund raising; therefore be it
13

14 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention call, encourage, and challenge all District
15 congregations to maintain or implement programs that will enable members to grow in the grace of
16 giving generally and develop the discipline of tithing specifically, and be it finally
17

18 **Resolved**, that the District elected leaders and staff provide continued encouragement, tools, and
19 programs that will build an ethic of tithing in our congregations.
20

21 Submitted by: St. Luke, Haslett

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-08
3 SUBJECT: To Support an Ethic of Tithing
4
5 **WHEREAS**, tithing is the ancient and consistent practice of the people of God; and
6
7 **WHEREAS**, tithing has great promises attached to it; and
8
9 **WHEREAS**, tithing serves to reduce our personal confidence in money and increase our trust in God; and
10
11 **WHEREAS**, tithing by congregants to their local congregation would provide ample resources for local
12 kingdom work and thereby eliminate non-biblical and worldly forms of fund raising; therefore be it
13
14 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention call, encourage, and challenge all Michigan District
15 congregations to maintain or implement programs that will enable members to grow in the grace of
16 giving generally and develop the discipline of tithing specifically, and be it finally
17
18 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District elected leaders and staff provide continued encouragement, tools,
19 and programs that will build an ethic of tithing in our congregations.
20
21 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-09
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage Sabbath Rest (Sabbaticals, etc.)
4
5 **WHEREAS**, our God created the world in 6 days and on the 7th He rested; and
6
7 **WHEREAS**, God’s people, both lay and clergy, need times of rest and refreshment around Word and
8 Sacrament; and
9
10 **WHEREAS**, God’s people also need rest and refreshment from duties and responsibilities connected with
11 work; and
12
13 **WHEREAS**, the pressures of today continue to mount and increase substantially; and
14
15 **WHEREAS**, there is an increasing sense of guilt for church workers who do take a “Sabbath rest”; and
16
17 **WHEREAS**, it is vital for the life of the worker to make God, family, and rest of paramount importance;
18 therefore be it
19
20 **Resolved**, that congregational leaders and church workers work collegiately to develop, maintain, and
21 ensure that the church worker(s) take a minimum of one day off, but also time off on Sunday afternoons
22 and evenings when possible.
23
24 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH WORKERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 2-10
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage Congregations to Provide Health Insurance
4 Benefits to Church Workers
5
6 **WHEREAS**, the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) and Healthy Church Workers
7 are better equipped to serve Healthy Congregations; and
8
9 **WHEREAS**, the traditional practice for LCMS congregations has been to provide comprehensive health
10 benefits for their workers, either through the Concordia Health Plan or other health plan providers; and
11
12 **WHEREAS**, health insurance costs for Michigan District congregations and their workers continue to
13 increase, often at or near double-digit annual percentage increases; and
14
15 **WHEREAS**, the Affordable Care Act has attempted to provide easier and sometimes subsidized access to
16 healthcare on the Marketplace, which could provide some opportunity for congregations to abandon
17 group health care plans, forcing their workers to find coverage on the Marketplace or elsewhere; and
18
19 **WHEREAS**, the Marketplace and other health plans may include coverage for procedures, such as
20 abortion, that are not in line with the sanctity of life beliefs of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod;
21 therefore be it
22
23 **Resolved**, that congregations be encouraged to allocate financial resources for health coverage for their
24 workers and families, giving special consideration to Concordia Health Plan and other plans that are
25 designed to allow for religious conscientious exceptions.
26
27 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 3-01
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage Concordia Plans Services to Require
4 Participating Workers to Countersign their Annual
5 Compensation Reports
6
7 **WHEREAS**, errors can and have occurred on the Annual Compensation of Participating Workers' form
8 submitted yearly to Concordia Plan Services (CPS); therefore be it
9
10 **Resolved**, that the form shall now additionally require church workers to countersign the same;
11 attesting that they have read both the directions and the report as it is to be filed.
12
13 Submitted by: Circuit #41 Forum

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 3-02
3 SUBJECT: To Restore the Historic Composition of Synodical Floor
4 Committees
5

6 **WHEREAS**, scriptures clearly speak of all as members of the royal priesthood (! Peter 2:9) and warns of
7 being unequally yoked; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, a vibrant and thriving congregation (and, as such, the Synod) recognized the importance of
10 lay involvement in the decision making process; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, the founders of the LCMS recognized the need to share equally in the decision making
13 process as the foundation of its church polity; and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, the newly instituted practice of appointing floor committees disenfranchises our lay
16 members of the royal priesthood; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the historic view was an equality of representatives (lay and ordained) on Synodical floor
19 committees; therefore be it
20

21 **Resolved**, the Synod return to its historic position of equal representation on all floor committees at
22 Synodical Convention; and be it finally
23

24 **Resolved**, that the Synod return to its historic position of equal lay representation on Synodical floor
25 committees beginning with the 2016 Synodical Convention.
26

27 Submitted by: Messiah, Clio

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 3-03
3 SUBJECT: To Give "Assistant" Pastors Equal Status As Other Ordained
4 Men
5

6 **WHEREAS**, ordained pastors equally hold the authority of the Public Ministry (John 20:21; *Tractate*;9);
7 and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, Paul regards all pastors as equal both by his words and deeds (1 Cor 2:2, 6; Gal 2:11;
10 *Tractate*; 11); and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, God has instituted the Holy Ministry for the obtainment of faith in Christ by the Holy Spirit
13 through the Word and Sacraments (AC V); and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, the Word and Sacraments are performed by one who is properly called (AC XIV); and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, the Predigtamt is an office distinct from the priesthood of all believers (*Church & Ministry*,
18 Part II, Thesis I); and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, the Predigtamt is the highest office within the organization of the church (*Church & Ministry*,
21 Part II, Thesis VIII); and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, Assistant Pastors, who have been called and ordained in the office of the Holy Ministry are,
24 according to the Constitution of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, Article V, Section B, ineligible to
25 vote at district meetings but instead are relegated to being "Advisory Members" along with non-
26 ordained member of synod such as teachers, Directors of Christian Education, Directors of Christian
27 Outreach, Directors of Family Life Ministry, Directors of Parish Music, Deaconesses, Parish Assistants,
28 and Certified Lay Ministers; and
29

30 **WHEREAS**, this fact presents the false assumption that an Assistant Pastor of a congregation is somehow
31 lesser in degree or authority than a Pastor, Associate Pastor, Administrative Pastor, or Senior Pastor, or
32 that he has lesser authority to forgive sins, preach, and administer the sacraments, and provide
33 meaningful leadership at Synodical functions; and
34

35 **WHEREAS**, many men graduate from the seminaries and are called as Assistant Pastors even though
36 they assist no one in the exercise of their public office, but fully act in the stead and by the command of
37 Christ; therefore be it
38

39 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District of the LCMS compose an overture for the 2016 Synodical
40 Convention that aims to strike "Assistant Pastors" from the list of Advisory Members of the Synod from
41 the Constitution of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, Article V, Section B, and place them on equal
42 voting eligibility with other ordained pastors; and be it finally
43

44 **Resolved**, that congregations of the Michigan District be discouraged from calling men with the title of
45 "Assistant Pastor."
46

47 Submitted by: Battle Creek Circuit #42

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 3-04
3 SUBJECT: To Consider Voting Privilege for Advisory Delegates
4
5 **WHEREAS**, the LCMS has allowed Commissioned Ministers to be Advisory Delegates and have a voice at
6 District and Synodical Conventions; and
7
8 **WHEREAS**, each Advisory Delegate represented sixty rostered workers; and
9
10 **WHEREAS**, each District, including Michigan, financially supports these Advisory Delegates to attend the
11 Synodical Convention; and
12
13 **WHEREAS**, these Advisory Delegates often attend the Synodical Convention and are disappointed to find
14 no one is seeking their advice; and
15
16 **WHEREAS**, Commissioned Ministers now serve as Music Ministers, Directors of Outreach, Family Life
17 Directors, Directors of Christian Education, Early Childhood Directors, Worship Arts Coordinators,
18 Principals, and Teachers are currently on the Synodical Roster and members of Synod as individuals
19 serving in congregations of the Synod; and
20
21 **WHEREAS**, called Commissioned Ministers have a critical ministry impact in the lives of families as an
22 outreach arm of congregations; and
23
24 **WHEREAS**, the financial obligation of Districts would be lessened by sending Voting Commissioned
25 Delegates at a ratio higher than the current sixty-to-one ratio; therefore be it
26
27 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District ask Synod in 2016 to allow Advisory Delegates to become Voting
28 Delegates at future District and Synodical Conventions; and be it further
29
30 **Resolved**, that this ratio be increased to one voting Commissioned Minister for every 120 on the
31 Synodical Roster; and be it further
32
33 **Resolved**, that this increase ratio maintain a balance between voting Pastoral Delegates and Lay
34 Delegates while giving Commissioned Ministers voting representation; and be it further
35
36 **Resolved**, that this discussion begin at the 2016 Synodical Convention with a decision reached by the
37 2019 Synodical Convention; and be it finally
38
39 **Resolved**, that the LCMS Constitution and Bylaws be edited to reflect this change which allows
40 Commissioned Ministers to vote at future District and Synodical Conventions.
41
42 Submitted by: Michigan District School Committee

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 3-05
3 SUBJECT: To Allow Family of Christ Lutheran Church, 7191 Imlay City
4 Rd., Imlay City, MI 48444 to Change From Circuit 16 Macomb
5 NW to Circuit 13 Lapeer
6

7 **WHEREAS**, Family of Christ Lutheran Church is located in Lapeer County MI and is within the
8 geographical area of the Lapeer Circuit 13; and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Family of Christ Church is located in a rural area which has different challenges than a
11 metropolitan area and has a commonality for ministry with the Lapeer Circuit; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, Family of Christ is in a ministry covenant with St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lapeer which is
14 located in Circuit 13 and is sharing the ministry; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the changing of Family of Christ to the Lapeer Circuit 13 would allow Family of Christ to
17 honor its covenant with St. Pauls and facilitate that ministry to God's glory; therefore be it
18

19 **Resolved**, that Family of Christ Lutheran Church, Imlay City change from Circuit 16 Macomb NW to
20 Circuit 13 Lapeer.
21

22 Submitted by: Family of Christ, Imlay City

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 3-06
3 SUBJECT: To Memorialize the 2016 Synod Convention regarding Bylaw
4 3.10.5.2. Election Process for College and University Board of
5 Regents
6

7 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Regents of each school in the Concordia University System currently consists of
8 elected or appointed as follows:
9

- 10 Elected at Synod Convention
- 11 Elected at geographical district convention
- 12 District President(s); and

13
14 **WHEREAS**, the local and regional constituents of each CUS school are highly invested in the direction
15 and future of the CUS school, involved in the support and teamwork of the school’s leadership. The local
16 influence and voice of the students (and their LCMS families) attending each school is essential;
17 therefore be it
18

19 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention submit to the 2016 LCMS Convention an overture
20 with the above stated WHEREAS statements and the following *Resolved* statement:
21

22 **Resolved**, that the CUS Board of Regents will be elected or appointed at the geographical district
23 convention as the board itself determines.
24

25 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 3-07
3 SUBJECT: To Memorialize the 2016 Synod Convention regarding Bylaw
4 3.10.5.5.2. Election Process for College and University
5 Presidents
6

7 **WHEREAS**, the current process of election of a president of a Concordia University System (CUS)
8 college/university now happens at a board of regents meeting of the given college/university, using the
9 short list approved by the prior-approval panel (the President of Synod, the District President on the
10 institution's board of regents, and the chair of the CUS board of directors); and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, the current bylaw provides that the panel may choose to remove names from the list but
13 only with a two-thirds majority vote. When these votes come from the Synod President and the chair of
14 the CUS board, it removes the process from the local and regional constituents of each CUS school; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the local and regional constituents of each CUS school are highly invested in the direction
17 and future of the CUS school, involved in the support and teamwork of the school's leadership. The local
18 influence and voice of the students (and their LCMS families) attending each school is essential;
19 therefore be it
20

21 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention submit to the 2016 LCMS Convention an overture
22 with the above stated WHEREAS statements and the following Resolved statement:
23

24 **Resolved**, that the singular approving party be the District President(s) on the institution's board
25 of regents, who alone provides a short list in the same fashion as he would to any congregation
26 seeking a pastor within his district.
27

28 Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 3-08
3 SUBJECT: To Recognize and Thank Those Who Serve in the Office of
4 Circuit Visitor
5

6 **WHEREAS**, the circuit visitor is the principal officer of the circuit and serves in accordance with the
7 duties assigned to this position in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and the Bylaws of the
8 Districts; and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, each circuit visitor shall assist the district president within the circuit (Bylaw 5.2.3), as
11 follows:
12

- 13 • He shall serve under the direction of and be accountable to the district president and
14 shall serve as his spokesman when so authorized and directed and shall assist him in
15 doctrinal and spiritual supervision.
- 16 • He shall serve in a servant role.
- 17 • He shall seek to remind and encourage members of the circuit of their responsibilities as
18 God's people and the privilege they have in being about His mission.
- 19 • He and any other officers of the circuit shall have the primary responsibility for
20 maintaining liaison between the circuit and the Synod at the national and district levels.
- 21 • He shall be conversant with and supportive of Synod-wide and district resolutions and
22 programs.
- 23 • He shall seek to strengthen the spirit of cooperation among pastors, commissioned
24 ministers, and congregations.
- 25 • He shall assist in the development and attainment of Synod-wide mission and ministry
26 emphases.
- 27 • He may, when requested to do so by the district president, serve as a mediator to effect
28 reconciliation of disputes within the circuit not under dispute resolution of the Synod as
29 outlined in section 1.10 of these Bylaws.
- 30 • He shall regularly convene the pastors of his circuit for circuit conferences.
- 31 • He shall regularly report on his activities to the district president.
- 32 • The district president shall meet with the circuit visitors of the district at least once per
33 year to discuss their work, to encourage them, and to conduct ongoing training for
34 congregational and pastoral visits; and
35

36 **WHEREAS**, the circuit visitor shall, when requested to do so by the district president, serve as his
37 representative in the triennial visitation of the congregations of the circuit; and
38

39 **WHEREAS**, the circuit visitor shall serve the pastors of the circuit as a collegial and brotherly advisor,
40 reminding them of the joy of the ministry and of its great responsibilities, as follows:
41

- 42 • He shall encourage the pastors of the circuit in their preaching and teaching; in the
43 exercise of church discipline in an evangelical manner; and in the proper supervision
44 of Christian education and training in the parish.
- 45 • He shall encourage, in a brotherly manner, the pastors of the circuit in their spiritual
46 and family life.
- 47 • He shall encourage the pastors of the circuit to pursue both formal and informal
48 continuing professional education; and

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WHEREAS, the circuit visitor shall assist the district president, as assigned in the ecclesiastical supervision of the other members of the Synod in the circuit; and

WHEREAS, circuit visitors have faithfully served their circuit churches while seeking to fill vacancies through the calling process; and

WHEREAS, most circuit visitors serve the circuit and the district, while actively serving their own congregations; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Michigan District in Convention recognize the significant contribution made by the circuit visitors of our district; and be it further

Resolved, that the pastors and congregations of the district continue to support and thank their own circuit visitor; and be it finally

Resolved, that the Michigan District Convention assembly rise and thank God for the dedicated work of our circuit visitors by singing the common Doxology.

Submitted by: Michigan District Board of Directors

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 OVERTURE NUMBER: 3-09
3 SUBJECT: To Amend the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the
4 Michigan District
5

6 **Rationale:**

- 7 • The Michigan District Board of Directors proposes the following amendments to the District’s
8 Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The Board has focused on three broad areas:
9 ○ Revisions required by changes in the Constitution and Bylaws of Synod and changing
10 conditions;
11 ○ Matters pertaining to Michigan law and compliance;
12 ○ Working for greater clarity and efficiency in the language and structure of the Bylaws.
13

14 **Required Revisions:**

- 15 • The Board proposes a revision of Bylaw 2.4, making the quorum required for a legal convention
16 “at least one-third of the voting member congregations represented by at least one of their
17 respective representatives (pastor or lay delegate)” as mandated in Synod Constitution XII.14.
18 This same quorum rule has also been applied to regional assemblies (cf. proposed Bylaw 3.5).
19
- 20 • Bylaw 5.8c currently directs the regional nominating committee to draw up from its region a list
21 of candidates and alternates for the board of directors and the nominating committee.
22

23 Synod Bylaw 4.7.2 states that nominating committees of any kind are not to be used to develop
24 slates for regional board of director positions, even if such nominating committees are regional.
25 Bylaw 5.8c is therefore no longer valid: a nominating committee of any kind may not be used to
26 draw up a list of candidates and alternates for regional board of directors positions (see Synod
27 Bylaw 4.7.1). The example of Synod Bylaw 4.2.1(a) would indicate the use of a regional
28 nomination process.
29

30 The Board proposes a nomination process for regional Board of Directors candidates similar to
31 that currently used for the nomination of regional Vice-Presidents. The proposed procedure is
32 included as Bylaw 5.13 below.
33

- 34 • The Synod adopted Resolution 7-02A, “To Return to Use of Title ‘Circuit Visitor,’” at its 2013
35 convention, and the amendment to the Synod constitution included in the resolution was
36 ratified by the congregations of the LCMS. The Board proposes replacement of the title “circuit
37 counselor(s) with “circuit visitor(s)” in all instances (proposed Bylaws 5.1, 5.5, 5.12, 7.3b and
38 current Bylaw 8.6).
39
- 40 • Since Concordia University-Ann Arbor (CUAA) has entered into an alliance with Concordia
41 University Wisconsin (CUW), under which CUW’s Board of Regents assumed responsibility for
42 governance and CUAA’s Board of Regents was dissolved, the Board proposes that all references
43 to the Concordia University-Ann Arbor Board of Regents be removed from the Bylaws (current
44 Bylaws 5.7a, 5.7b, 5.8d and 5.15).
45

46 **Proposed Revisions (Michigan Law, Clarity and Efficiency):**

- 1 • The Board proposes a revision to the Articles of Incorporation to remove the word “Inc.” from
2 our name. It is not required, or even necessary, to include “Inc.” in the name of either an
3 ecclesiastical or nonprofit corporation.
4
- 5 • Article I – Membership and Organization is revised for greater clarity.
6
- 7 • Working toward a more efficient Bylaw structure, Articles III (Regional Assemblies) and XIV
8 (Regions) are combined into a proposed Article III - Regions and Regional Assemblies. The
9 proposed Article III is revised for greater clarity.
10
- 11 • Article V – Elections is retitled (see below) and revised for greater clarity.
12
- 13 • To enable the District to continue to find qualified servant leaders with the necessary financial
14 expertise, the Board recommends adopting an amendment to Bylaw 5.1, allowing the Board of
15 Directors to appoint the District Treasurer (cf. Constitution XII.3.e). Note that, according to
16 Bylaw 5.3, the Treasurer is still appointed for 3-year terms, and still may serve no more than 4
17 consecutive terms before taking a 3-year break.
18
- 19 • Working toward a more efficient Bylaw structure, Bylaws 5.5. (If President Is Unable to Serve)
20 and 5.6 (Vacancies) are incorporated into Article VI (Succession). The proposed Article VI is re-
21 titled Vacancies and Succession, and is revised for greater clarity.
22
- 23 • Article VII – Board of Directors is revised for greater clarity. Two additional items are included:
24 ○ The board’s power to appoint committees and task forces has been relocated from the
25 present Article XII (Committees) to proposed Bylaw 7.2(a).
26 ○ A provision allowing for electronic participation in board meetings has been added as
27 proposed Bylaw 7.4(c). This is allowed under Michigan law, provided provision is made
28 in our governing documents.
29
- 30 • Working toward a more efficient Bylaw structure, Articles XII (Committees) and XIII
31 (Commissions) are reworked and combined into Article XII – Commissions and Task Forces. The
32 article now refers solely to the district convention’s ability to appoint such bodies, and is revised
33 for greater clarity. Articles following the new Article XII are renumbered.
34
- 35 • Working toward a clearer Bylaw structure, Bylaws 9.5-9.8, referring to indemnification of
36 directors, are moved to their own separate article, titled Article XV – Indemnification.
37
- 38 • The Board proposes an addition to the renumbered Article XVI – Amendments. This addition
39 would allow the Board of Directors to make necessary amendments to the Bylaws following a
40 Synod convention without having to wait and bring them before the district convention. This
41 addition is modeled on Synod Bylaw 7.1.2, which gives power to the Synod’s Board of Directors
42 to amend bylaws when directed to do so by a Synod convention. Amendments made this way
43 would require a two-thirds majority of the Board for approval. The Board believes that such
44 amendments would not require approval by the Commission on Constitutional Matters, since
45 they will be based on the updated bylaws of Synod.
46
47

1 Therefore, be it **Resolved** that Article I of the Michigan District’s Articles of Incorporation be amended as
2 follows (deletions are ~~struck through~~):

3
4 The name of the corporation is MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI
5 SYNOD, ~~INC.~~

6
7 And be it finally

8
9 **Resolved** that the Bylaws of the Michigan District be amended as indicated on the following pages
10 (Deletions are ~~struck through~~; additions are in **bold italic type**).

11
12
13 **In ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION**

14
15 **1.2** The district shall establish an organizational structure for the effective operation of its program and
16 conduct of its affairs, which structure shall embrace the convention, regional assemblies, the board
17 of directors, circuits, and such other **entities**, boards, commissions **and** committees, ~~officers and~~
18 ~~functionaries~~ as may from time to time be established.

19
20 **1.3.** ~~The governance and control of the district’s affairs shall be conducted on the basis of~~
21 ***The District shall be administered through*** four (4) ~~levels of organization~~ **organizations:**

22
23 a. The convention ~~which shall consist of the district at large through its delegates in convention~~
24 ~~assembled and shall be the governing body of the district subject to the constitution, bylaws and~~
25 ~~resolutions of Synod, and to these bylaws~~ **is the meeting of the voting member congregations**
26 **represented by their delegates.**

27
28 b. The regional assemblies ~~(4)~~ shall meet prior to the district convention, at which time delegates
29 shall consist of the regularly elected and delegated representatives, ~~cf 2.3~~, of said regions. **(Cf.**
30 **Bylaw 2.3)** ~~The purpose of the regional assemblies shall be to evaluate their regional as well as~~
31 ~~district needs, and to nominate for district elections.~~

32
33 c. The board of directors shall be ~~construed as district in constant session to establish policy and~~
34 ~~direct the~~ **responsible for the overall policy and** affairs of the district as district in ~~convention~~
35 ~~during periods~~ **session** between conventions.

36
37 d. The circuits shall carry out resolutions of the synod and the district ~~They shall interpret,~~
38 ~~administer and engage in the objectives of the synod locally, in accordance with Synod Bylaw~~
39 ~~1.3.6.~~ **(Cf. Synod Bylaw 1.3.6)**

40
41
42 **In ARTICLE II - CONVENTIONS**

43
44 **2.4** Quorum ~~–For a legal convention, a constitutional convocation of the meeting and the presence of at~~
45 ~~least one fourth of the constitutionally elected voting representatives~~ **To conduct business, a**
46 **convention must have present at least one-third of the voting member congregations represented**
47 **by at least one of their respective voting representatives (pastor or lay delegate) are necessary.** ~~(Cf.~~
48 **Constitution XII.14)**

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ARTICLE III – REGIONS AND REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES

~~14.1~~

~~3.1~~ The convention by resolution shall establish no less than ***There shall be*** four (4) regions within the Michigan District.

~~14.2~~

~~3.2~~ Regions shall consist of ***a group of*** circuits designated by the enabling ~~convention~~ resolution ***created, aligned, and/or realigned by convention resolution.***

~~14.3~~ Regions existing at the time of the adoption of these Bylaws shall continue until further resolution of the convention.

~~14.4~~ Circuits are ~~shall be~~ created, aligned, and/or realigned by convention resolution.

~~3.1~~

~~3.3~~ Regional assemblies shall meet on the first Saturday in May ***no later than 45 days*** prior to the convention of the Michigan District. ***The date shall be communicated to congregations no later than 30 days prior to the regional assembly.*** The regional vice-president shall call at a place of his choosing ~~an~~ ***and chair the*** assembly of his region ***at a place of his choosing.***

~~3.2~~

~~3.4~~ The regional assembly shall be governed by Robert’s Rules of Order, ~~except as otherwise provided by these bylaws or the bylaws of Synod.~~

~~3.3~~

~~3.5~~ Representation: Each ***voting member*** congregation shall ***is entitled to*** be represented at this assembly by two ***of their respective*** voting delegates (one pastor and one layperson) and by the ***their*** advisory members of synod (cf. ***Bylaw 2.3.***)

~~3.4~~

~~3.6~~ The regional vice-president shall chair the assembly and ***The chair*** shall appoint a secretary to record the proceedings.

~~3.5~~

~~3.7~~ Quorum – For a legal assembly of the region, the presence of ~~At least one-fourth of the voting representatives~~ ***one-third of the voting member congregations represented by at least one of their respective representatives (pastor or lay delegate)*** shall be present ***to conduct a meeting of the regional assembly.*** (Cf. ***Constitution XII.14***)

~~3.6~~

~~3.8~~ The purpose of the regional assembly shall be:

- ~~a.~~ To study the needs of the region in mission and ministry;
- ~~b.~~ To hear and discuss the total needs of the district;

- ~~c.~~
- a. To be informed about major issues to come before the district convention;
- ~~d.~~
- b. To nominate from its region two (2) pastors for ~~election by the district convention to the office of regional vice-president in accordance with the provisions of Michigan District Bylaw 5.12, and the Schedule of Elections.~~ **and candidates for the Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 5.13.**
- ~~e.~~
- c. To nominate from its region, **using a slate prepared by the regional nominating committee**, ~~two (2) ordained ministers, two (2) commissioned ministers, from the roster of the district and four (4) lay persons~~ **the district nominating committee** from a slate prepared by the Regional Nominating Committee, for election by the district convention to the board of directors of the district. **(Cf. Bylaw 5.7.c. & d.)**
- ~~f.~~ To nominate as specified in Michigan District Bylaw 5.8 c. and d.

ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES

5.1 Officers.

- a. Elective Officers. The elective officers of the district shall be the president, ~~four vice-presidents (one vice-president from each region), a secretary, a treasurer and the circuit counselors~~ **visitors.**
- b. **Appointive Officer. The board of directors, in consultation with the president, shall appoint the treasurer.**

5.2 The elective board of the district shall be the board of directors.

5.3 Term of Officers and Board Members **of Directors.**

- a. The term of office of each elected **or appointed** officer shall be three (3) years. All officers other than circuit ~~counselors~~ **visitors** may be elected or appointed to the same office for four (4) consecutive terms after which a period of three (3) years shall elapse before ~~such person is~~ **they are** again eligible for election or appointment to the same office, unless otherwise provided by these bylaws. An officer, elected or appointed to fill an unexpired term, who serves two (2) or more years shall be considered to have completed one (1) term. Circuit ~~counselors~~ **visitors** may serve an unlimited number of terms.

- ~~c.b.~~ The president may be elected to succeed himself in office no more than three (3) times.

- ~~b.c.~~ The term of office of each board **of directors** member shall be six (6) years. All board **of directors** members may be elected or appointed to the same office for two (2) consecutive terms after which a period of six (6) years shall elapse before ~~such person is~~ **they are** again eligible for election to ~~the same that board, unless otherwise provided by these Bylaws.~~ A board **of directors** member ~~elected or~~ appointed to fill an unexpired term who ~~served~~ **serves** four (4) or more years shall be considered to have completed one (1) term.

1 d. The board of directors shall be composed of four (4) ordained ministers, four (4) commissioned
2 ministers, and eight (8) laypersons with equal representation from each region of the District.
3 The size of the Church Extension Board of Trustees shall be determined by its bylaws.
4

5 e. District Board *of directors* members who move ~~inter-regionally~~ *to a different region of the district*
6 may complete their term of office.
7

8 **5.4 Salaried Executives without Vote.**

9

10 Executive level staff of the district and the chief executive officer for the Church Extension Board of
11 Trustees are not eligible for voting membership on any board of the district. They shall not at the
12 same time hold an executive position to which they have been called and the office of president,
13 vice-president, Secretary, or treasurer of the district. If such staff is elected ~~by the convention~~ *or*
14 **appointed** to one of these positions, he must resign his executive office to accept such an election.
15

16 ~~5.5 If President is Unable to Serve.~~

17

18 ~~The duties and responsibilities of the office of president shall be assumed by the first vice-president~~
19 ~~whenever the board of directors determines that the president is unable to serve in that capacity~~
20 ~~because of his prolonged illness or disability, and the first vice-president shall remain as the acting~~
21 ~~president until the board of directors determines such illness or disability has been removed.~~
22

23 ~~5.6 Vacancies.~~

24

25 a. ~~A vacancy in the office of vice-president shall be filled by advancing the lower ranking vice-~~
26 ~~presidents. An acting vice president for the resulting vacancy may be appointed by the~~
27 ~~president, with the advice and consent of the board of directors, until the elections at the next~~
28 ~~district convention.~~
29

30 b. ~~A vacancy in the board of directors shall be filled by the board unless otherwise provided in these~~
31 ~~Bylaws or the Bylaws of the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. The appointee shall serve the~~
32 ~~unexpired term.~~
33

34 c. ~~A vacancy in any other elective office (secretary, treasurer, etc.) shall be filled by appointment by~~
35 ~~the board of directors. The appointee shall serve the unexpired term to which he is appointed.~~
36

37 d. ~~The Church Extension Board of Trustees will fill vacancies in accordance with its own Bylaws.~~
38

39 ~~5.7~~

40 **5.5 Time of Elections.**

41

42 a. The election of the president, the vice-presidents, the secretary, ~~the treasurer, the district elected~~
43 ~~members of the board of regents of Concordia University, Ann Arbor, approximately one-half of~~
44 ~~the board of directors members and the ratification of the circuit counselors~~ *visitors* shall take
45 place at each district convention. At alternate conventions ~~there shall also be elected~~ a district
46 member **shall be elected** to serve on the LCMS Committee for Convention Nominations.
47

- b. Regional assemblies shall nominate for all positions with the exception of ~~district president, district secretary, district treasurer,~~ **the board of directors and the Church Extension Board of Trustees, and the board of regents of Concordia University, Ann Arbor.**
- c. At their regional assemblies prior to the convention held in even-**numbered** years, the Metro East Region and the West Region shall nominate for the board of directors.
- d. At their regional assemblies prior to the convention held in odd-**numbered** years, the Metro West Region and the North and East Region shall nominate for the board of directors.

5.8

5.6 Committee on Nominations. *Nominating Committee.*

- a. The district convention shall elect a 12-member nominating committee consisting of one (1) ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister, and one (1) layperson from each region of the district and the president shall designate the chairman thereof. The three committee members from each region shall serve as the regional nominating committee.
- b. ~~The Committee on Nominations~~ **nominating committee** shall meet at the call of the president of ~~the district.~~
- c. The regional nominating committee shall draw up from its region a list of candidates and alternates ~~for the board of directors and~~ **for** the nominating committee in accordance with the provisions of Michigan District Bylaws 5.8 and 5.9 and the Schedule of Elections. The regional nominating committee shall obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to nominate, as well as biographical data, and supply the regional assembly with this information. Following the regional nominations, the biographical data of persons nominated shall be transferred to the district nominating committee so that the district ballot may be drawn up.
- d. The district nominating committee shall draw up a list of candidates and alternates for all other district offices, namely, the ~~district secretary, treasurer,~~ **and the Church Extension Fund Board of Trustees, and the board of regents of Concordia University, Ann Arbor.** The nominating committee shall obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to nominate, and transmit its final report to the secretary ~~of the district in ample time to provide for its publication in a pre-convention issue of the district's official publication and also in the official Convention Book of Reports and Overtures~~ **no later than three (3) months before the convention.** This report shall contain the occupation or profession, residency, and specific experience and qualifications for the proposed office.
- e. The chairman or his designate shall submit the committee's report to the district convention.
- f. If between the regional assembly and the district convention a nominee becomes ineligible for election, the nominating committee will fill the slate with a qualified candidate.
- g. The convention shall have the right to alter the ballot by amendment. The amendment procedure shall include a motion, a second, and a majority vote on the amendment. Any delegate making a nomination for the floor shall have secured prior written consent and biographical data from the

1 candidate whom he wishes to nominate as detailed in Michigan District Bylaw 5.8 c. &d. This
2 material shall then be submitted to the district secretary.

3
4 **h.** The chairman shall have on hand at the convention a reserve list of nominees, approved by his
5 committee, for use if required if a new board is to be elected. Whenever possible, however, the
6 committee on nominations should be informed in advance if any new board is likely to be
7 elected at a District convention, so that it may have a slate of candidates in readiness.

8

9 **5.9**

10 **5.7** Floor Committee on Elections.

11

12 **a.** Elections shall be conducted by a floor committee on elections, appointed by the president before
13 the convention. The secretary of the district shall furnish the committee a copy of suggested
14 election procedures.

15

16 **b.** The committee shall consist of one (1) ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister and two
17 (2) laypersons.

18

19 **c.** The committee may appoint tellers, who need not be voting delegates, to assist in conducting the
20 elections. The chairman shall give the list of tellers to the secretary of the district, who shall
21 announce them to the convention.

22

23 **d.** A regional floor committee on elections shall be appointed by the vice-president of that region to
24 conduct the nominating elections at the regional assemblies and whose duties shall be
25 consistent with the district floor committee on elections.

26

27 **5.10**

28 **5.8** Majority and Plurality of Votes.

29

30 A majority of all votes cast shall be required to elect.

31

32 **5.11**

33 **5.9 Nominations and** Election of the President.

34

35 **a.** The Michigan District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod shall elect a president from among
36 the clergy of the synod.

37

38 **b.** Every voting member congregation of the Michigan District may nominate one pastor as a
39 candidate for the office of ~~district~~ president.

40

41 **c.** The nomination of each member congregation shall be submitted to the ~~district secretary by a~~
42 ~~time determined by the district secretary to meet deadlines~~ **in ample time** for publication to the
43 ~~district before the convention.~~ **no later than four (4) months prior to the opening of the district**
44 **convention.**

45

46 **d.** Candidates for the office of president shall be the five (5) persons receiving the largest number of
47 nominations in this congregational action.

48

- 1 e. The ~~district~~ secretary shall notify each candidate and shall secure his approval in writing for
2 inclusion of his name on the convention ballot.
3
- 4 f. The ~~district~~ secretary shall prepare biographical information on the five candidates, ~~which is to be~~
5 ~~published in district periodicals no later than May 1, and in the Convention Book of Reports and~~
6 ~~Memorials~~ **which shall be submitted for publication no later than two (2) months prior to the**
7 **opening of the district convention.**
8
- 9 g. The ~~district~~ secretary shall submit the names of the five candidates for election of ~~district~~
10 president to the district convention.
11
- 12 h. The convention shall have the right to alter the slate by majority amendment.
13
- 14 i. If no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the name of the candidate who receives
15 the smallest number of votes shall be dropped from the list and a new ballot taken. The
16 procedure shall be continued until one (1) candidate has received a majority of the votes cast.
17

18 **5.12**

19 **5.10** Nominations and Elections of Vice Presidents.

- 20
- 21 a. The Michigan District shall elect ~~four (4) regional vice-presidents~~ **one vice-president for each**
22 **region** from the clergy roster of the synod.
23
- 24 b. Every voting congregation of a region may nominate one pastor from its region as a ~~regional~~
25 candidate for the office of vice-president for its region.
26
- 27 c. The nomination shall be submitted to the ~~district~~ secretary no later than four (4) months prior to
28 the opening of the district convention.
29
- 30 d. The ~~district~~ secretary shall notify each nominee, secure his approval in writing, and secure
31 biographical information for the inclusion of the five (5) names receiving the most nominations
32 on the regional nominating ballot.
33
- 34 e. At the regional assemblies each region shall choose by ballot two (2) pastors as nominees for
35 election by the district convention to the office of regional Vice-President.
36
- 37 f. Each voting delegate in the region may vote for two (2) nominees for vice-president, indicating his
38 first and second choice. The tellers, appointed by the chairman, shall score two (2) points for
39 each first choice and one (1) point for each second choice. The two (2) nominees receiving the
40 largest number of points shall be candidates. The tellers shall report the results of the meeting
41 to the chairman.
42
- 43 g. The chairman of the regional assemblies shall report to the secretary ~~of the district~~ the names of
44 the persons nominated for the office of vice-president along with the biographical data. The
45 ~~district~~ secretary shall transmit such names to the floor committee on elections.
46

1 h. The committee on elections shall recap the information provided on qualifications and experience
2 for each candidate and shall submit such information together with the ballot on which such
3 election is to take place.
4

5 i. The convention shall have the right to alter the slate at the proper time by majority amendment as
6 outlined in Michigan District Bylaw 5.8g.
7

8 ~~j. The convention shall elect one vice-president from each region.~~
9

10 **5.13**

11 **5.11 Ranking of Vice-Presidents.**

12
13 After the ~~regional~~ vice-presidents have been elected, balloting will continue to determine their rank.
14 The names of all four (4) vice-presidents will constitute the ballot for the first vice-president, and
15 voting continues until one is elected by majority vote. (If one is not elected on the first ballot, the
16 name of the candidate who receives the smallest number of votes shall be dropped, and the
17 balloting continues in this fashion until one is elected by majority vote.) The remaining three names
18 constitute the ballot for second vice-president and the balloting continues as above. The two
19 remaining names constitute the ballot for third vice-president, and the one not elected becomes
20 fourth vice-president.
21

22 **5.14**

23 **5.12 Election of Circuit ~~Counselors~~ *Visitors*.**

24
25 The convention shall elect the circuit ~~counselors~~ *visitors* as provided by the Bylaws of the Lutheran
26 Church—Missouri Synod.
27

28 ~~5.15 The convention shall elect one (1) ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister, and two (2)~~
29 ~~laypersons to the board of regents of Concordia University, Ann Arbor, as provided by the Bylaws of~~
30 ~~the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.~~
31

32 **5.13 Nominations of Board of Directors.**

33
34 ***a. Every voting congregation of a region nominating for the Board of Directors may nominate one***
35 ***(1) ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister and two (2) laypersons from its region as***
36 ***candidates. (Cf. Bylaw 5.7.c.-d. for the nominating schedule.)***
37

38 ***b. The nominations shall be submitted to the secretary no later than four (4) months prior to the***
39 ***opening of the district convention.***
40

41 ***c. The secretary shall notify each nominee, secure his approval in writing, and secure biographical***
42 ***information for the inclusion of the four (4) ordained ministers, four (4) commissioned***
43 ***ministers, and (8) laypersons receiving the most nominations on the regional nominating***
44 ***ballot.***
45

46 ***d. At the regional assemblies each region shall choose by ballot two (2) ordained ministers, two (2)***
47 ***commissioned ministers, and four (4) laypersons as nominees for election by the district***
48 ***convention.***

1
2 *e. Each voting delegate in the region may vote for two (2) ordained minister nominees, two (2)*
3 *commissioned minister nominees, and four (4) layperson nominees. The two (2) ordained*
4 *ministers, two (2) commissioned ministers, and (4) laypersons receiving the largest number of*
5 *votes shall be candidates. The tellers shall report the results of the meeting to the Chairman.*

6
7 *f. The chairman of the regional assemblies shall report to the secretary the names of the persons*
8 *nominated for the Board of Directors, along with the biographical data. The secretary shall*
9 *transmit such names to the floor committee on elections.*

10
11 *g. The committee on elections shall recap the information provided on qualifications and*
12 *experience for each candidate and shall submit such information together with the ballot on*
13 *which such election is to take place.*

14
15 *h. The convention shall have the right to alter the slate at the proper time by majority amendment*
16 *as outlined in Michigan District Bylaw 5.8g.*

17
18 **5.16**

19 **5.14** Election of Other Officers.

20
21 a. Election of all officers other than the president and vice-presidents will be held at a special
22 period of the convention session determined and announced by the president in advance.

23
24 b. The committee on elections shall submit one (1) ballot containing the nominees furnished by
25 the committee on nominations for all elective offices.

26
27 c. The list of nominees for each respective office, together with their experience and
28 qualifications, shall be distributed.

29
30 **5.17**

31 **5.15** Order of Names on the Ballot.

32
33 The names of all candidates in all elections shall be placed on the ballot regionally and in
34 alphabetical order but without any distinctive mark, unless otherwise stipulated by these Bylaws.

35
36 **5.18**

37 **5.16** Notifications of Election to Office.

38
39 At the close of the convention, the secretary of the district shall notify every officer and board
40 member in writing of election.

41
42 **5.19**

43 **5.17** Exception of Church Extension **Fund** Board of Trustees.

44
45 ~~Notwithstanding any of the other provisions of these Bylaws, the Church Extension Fund being a~~
46 ~~separate corporation created by the district, Members of the Church Extension **Fund** Board of~~
47 ~~Trustees shall be elected as provided by the **Fund's own** bylaws of the said Church Extension Fund~~
48 ~~and not by the provisions of these Bylaws.~~

1 ~~5.20~~

2 **5.18** Induction and Beginning of Term of Office.

3

4 a. All officers elected at the convention shall be inducted into their respective offices in an
5 installation ceremony (service) at the convention.

6

7 b. All officers shall begin their terms of office on October 1.

8

9

10 **ARTICLE VI – VACANCIES AND SUCCESSION IN OFFICE**

11

12 **6.1 Presidential Vacancy**

13 a. In the event that the office of president of the district becomes vacant, **A vacancy in the office of**
14 **president shall be filled by** the first vice-president, **who** shall succeed to the office of president
15 ~~and~~ shall serve until the district convention.

16 ~~6.3~~

17 b. ~~Any~~ **The first** vice-president, ~~who by the terms of this article succeeds to the office of president,~~ may
18 decline ~~such~~ **the office of president**; in which event:

19

20 ~~a.~~ **1.** The next ranking vice-president shall become president of the district.

21

22 ~~b.~~ **2.** All other vice-presidents shall move up one rank.

23

24 ~~c.~~ **3.** The declining vice-president shall fill the last ranking vacant vice-presidency.

25 ~~6.2~~

26 c. The successor need not terminate his position as pastor of ~~the~~ a congregation while completing
27 the **former president's** unexpired term ~~. unless and until he is elected president by a convention.~~

28

29 ~~5.5 If President is Unable to Serve.~~

30 d. **If the board of directors determines that the president is temporarily unable to serve in that**
31 **capacity because of prolonged illness or disability**, the duties and responsibilities of the office
32 of president shall be assumed by the first vice-president, ~~whenever the board of directors~~
33 ~~determines that the president is unable to serve in that capacity because of his prolonged illness~~
34 ~~or disability, and the first vice-president~~ **who** shall remain as the acting president until the board
35 of directors determines such **that the** illness or disability has been removed.

36

37 ~~5.6 Vacancies.~~

38 ~~a.~~

39

40 **6.2** A vacancy in the office of vice-president shall be filled by advancing the lower ranking vice-
41 presidents. An acting vice president for the resulting vacancy may be appointed by the president,
42 with the advice and consent of the board of directors, until ~~the elections at the next~~ district
43 convention.

44

1 ~~6.~~
2 **6.4** A vacancy in any other elective office (~~secretary, treasurer, etc.~~) shall be filled by appointment by
3 the board of directors. The appointee shall serve the unexpired term to which he is appointed.
4

5 ~~d.~~
6 **6.5** The Church Extension **Fund** Board of Trustees will fill vacancies in accordance with its own bylaws.
7

8 9 ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

10
11 **7.1** The board of directors, **with full authority** shall carry into execution the policies adopted by the
12 district in convention. ~~with full authority to carry them out.~~ **The board of directors** shall create
13 **policies** and monitor compliance to policies which govern the district and **the board of directors**
14 **shall monitor** the performance of the district president, who shall be in charge of all district
15 operations and staff. The board of directors shall carry out its functions as described by Synod
16 Bylaw 4.5.1.
17

18 **7.2** The board of directors is authorized to elect from its membership a chairman, vice chairman and
19 secretary ~~and to appoint such committees as needed to carry out its work.~~

20
21 ~~a.~~ **The board of directors is authorized to appoint such committees and task forces as it**
22 **deems reasonable to assist it to carry out its work. Members of committees and task**
23 **forces shall be members in good standing of congregations which are members of the**
24 **Michigan District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. (MCL 450.2527(3))**
25

26 ~~7.2~~

27 **b.** All ~~commissions and committees~~ **committees, commissions and task forces** of the district
28 shall report regularly to the board of directors. Such report may be made in writing or by a
29 representative in person, provided, however, that the board of directors may require the
30 report to be made by a representative in person.
31

32 ~~7.3~~

33 **c.** The board of directors is authorized to extend calls on behalf of the district.
34

35 ~~7.4~~

36 **7.3** The membership of the board of directors shall be divided into two classes, the voting members
37 and advisory members:

38
39 **a.** The voting members of the board of directors shall consist of one (1) ordained minister, one
40 (1) commissioned minister and two (2) laypersons elected from each of the regions within
41 the district.
42

43 **b.** The advisory members shall consist of the president, regional vice-presidents, secretary,
44 treasurer, and the chairman of the circuit ~~counselors~~ **visitors**.
45

46 ~~7.5~~

47 **7.4** The board of directors shall meet at least five (5) times per year.
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~~7.7~~

~~a. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members and the majority of those present and voting shall be sufficient to carry a motion or resolution.~~

~~7.6~~

~~b. Special meetings of the board of directors may be called by the president of the district, the chairman of the board or any three (3) voting members of the board. upon Written **Advance** notice **of special meetings shall be given** to all voting and advisory members.~~

~~c. **A member of the board of directors or of a committee designated by the board may participate in a meeting by means of telephone conference or other means of remote communication by which all persons participating in the meeting can communicate with each other. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this subsection constitutes presence in person at the meeting.**~~

~~7.8 — All commissions and committees of the district shall report regularly to the board of directors. Such report may be made in writing or by a representative in person, provided, however, that the board of directors may require the report to be made by a representative in person.~~

In ARTICLE VIII – OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATION

8.6 ~~Circuit Counselors~~ **Visitors**. Circuit ~~counselors~~ **visitors** shall serve in accordance with the duties assigned to this position as provided by the By-laws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. During the year when there is no synod or district convention, circuit convocations will be held under the leadership of the circuit ~~counselors~~ **visitors** and members of the circuit forum.

ARTICLE IX - FISCAL AND AUDITING

9.1 District Budget. The district budget shall be determined by the board of directors through its policies, but no budget shall be approved which allows for expenditures greater than receipts and other funds projected to be available in any given year.

9.2 Auditing. All the district’s financial accounts shall be audited at least once every year by a firm of certified public accountants designated by the board of directors.

9.3 No commission or committee of the district except the Church Extension Fund, which is a subsidiary corporation of the district, shall maintain a separate bank account without the consent of the board of directors. In the event such consent is given by the board of directors, such account or accounts shall be audited at the same time and in the same manner as heretofore provided.

9.4 The board of directors shall develop its own board policy manual for proper governance of the district.

~~9.5 — Those directors duly elected or appointed to the board of directors who do not receive anything of value from this corporation for serving as a director other than reasonable per diem~~

1 compensation and/or reimbursement for actual, reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by
2 such director in service of the capacity as a director shall be deemed a “volunteer director”
3 for all purposes hereunder.
4

5 9.6 — A volunteer director shall not be personally liable to the corporation or its membership and/or
6 members for monetary damages for any breach of the director’s fiduciary duty except for
7 liability arising from or relating to:

- 8
- 9 a. A breach of director’s duty of loyalty to the corporation or its members;
- 10 b. Actual omissions not in good faith or the involvement of intentional misconduct or a knowing
11 violation of law;
- 12 c. An act in violation of the provisions of Michigan law, specifically MCLA 450.2551 (1);
- 13 d. Any transaction from which a director derives an improper personal benefit.
- 14 e. Any act or omission resulting in liability occurring before January 1, 1988;
- 15 f. Any act or omission that is grossly negligent.
- 16

17 9.7 — The corporation shall assume all liability to any person or entity other than the corporation or its
18 members for all acts or omissions of a volunteer director occurring on or after January 1, 1988.
19

20 9.8 — The corporation, by adoption of a resolution in accordance with its Articles of Incorporation and
21 Bylaws, and pursuant to the provisions of Public Act 170 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1986,
22 shall have the power to indemnify those persons serving in the position of, or at the request of
23 the corporation as director, officer, trustee, employee or agent against expenses, including
24 attorney fees, judgments, penalties, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and
25 reasonably incurred by a person in connection with any actions, suits or proceedings, formal or
26 informal, relating to the service of said individual on behalf of the corporation if such person
27 acted in good faith and in a manner that the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed
28 to the best interest of the corporation or its members, or with respect to any criminal action or
29 proceeding if the person had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct engaged in was
30 unlawful. The corporation, through its Board of Directors, shall have such further or other
31 authority to indemnify directors, officers, employees or agents consistent with the provisions of
32 Public Acts 170, Michigan Public Acts of 1987.
33
34

35 **ARTICLE XII – COMMISSIONS & TASK FORCES**

36

37 **12.1** The district convention and board of directors may create special committees or task forces in
38 order to carry out their responsibilities or for special purposes.

39

40 **12.2** Standing committees are sub-units of and are appointed by their governing board; the three-year
41 appointments are limited to three consecutive terms.

42 **ARTICLE XIII – COMMISSIONS**

43

44

45 **13.1** The convention by resolution may from time to time create commissions *and task forces* for special
46 purposes.

47 **13.2**

1 **12.2** The *Task forces and* commissions *established by a convention and* existing at the time of the
2 adoption of these Bylaws shall continue their powers, duties and jurisdiction until further resolution
3 of the convention. ***No future commission or task force shall have duration for longer than the time***
4 ***between conventions.***

5
6 ~~13.3~~

7 **12.3** The ~~A~~ convention resolution creating a commission *or task force* shall define its powers, duties,
8 ***duration*** and jurisdiction and establish its budget.

9
10 ~~13.4~~

11 **12.4** A commission *or task force created by a convention* shall make a ***periodic*** reports of their activities
12 to the convention and ~~between conventions~~ to the board of directors upon request ***between***
13 ***conventions.*** (Cf. Bylaw 7.2.ab.)

14
15 ~~13.5~~

16 **12.5** Members of commissions *and task forces* shall be members in good standing of congregations
17 which are members of the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

18
19
20 **ARTICLE XXIII – HANDBOOK** (renumbering only)

21
22 **ARTICLE XXIV – REPEAL AND SAVING CLAUSE** (renumbering only)

23
24
25 **ARTICLE XV – INDEMNIFICATION**

26 ~~9.5~~

27 **15.1** *Those directors duly elected or appointed to the board of directors who do not receive*
28 *anything of value from this corporation for serving as a director other than reasonable per*
29 *diem compensation and/or reimbursement for actual, reasonable and necessary expenses*
30 *incurred by such director in service of the capacity as a director shall be deemed a “volunteer*
31 *director” for all purposes hereunder.*

32
33 ~~9.6~~

34 **15.2** *A volunteer director shall not be personally liable to the corporation or its membership and/or*
35 *members for monetary damages for any breach of the director’s fiduciary duty except for*
36 *liability arising from or relating to:*

- 37
38 *a. A breach of director’s duty of loyalty to the corporation or its members;*
39 *b. Actual omissions not in good faith or the involvement of intentional misconduct or a*
40 *knowing violation of law;*
41 *c. An act in violation of the provisions of Michigan law, specifically MCLA 450.2551 (1);*
42 *d. Any transaction from which a director derives an improper personal benefit.*
43 *e. Any act or omission resulting in liability occurring before January 1, 1988;*
44 *f. Any act or omission that is grossly negligent.*

45
46 ~~9.7~~

1 **15.3** *The corporation shall assume all liability to any person or entity other than the corporation or*
2 *its members for all acts or omissions of a volunteer director occurring on or after January 1,*
3 *1988.*

4
5 **9.8**

6 **15.4** *The corporation, by adoption of a resolution in accordance with its Articles of Incorporation*
7 *and Bylaws, and pursuant to the provisions of Public Act 170 of the Michigan Public Acts of*
8 *1986, shall have the power to indemnify those persons serving in the position of, or at the*
9 *request of the corporation as director, officer, trustee, employee or agent against expenses,*
10 *including attorney fees, judgments, penalties, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually*
11 *and reasonably incurred by a person in connection with any actions, suits or proceedings,*
12 *formal or informal, relating to the service of said individual on behalf of the corporation if such*
13 *person acted in good faith and in a manner that the person reasonably believed to be in or not*
14 *opposed to the best interest of the corporation or its members, or with respect to any criminal*
15 *action or proceeding if the person had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct*
16 *engaged in was unlawful. The corporation, through its Board of Directors, shall have such*
17 *further or other authority to indemnify directors, officers, employees or agents consistent with*
18 *the provisions of Public Acts 170, Michigan Public Acts of 1987.*

19

20

21 **In ~~ARTICLE XVII~~ XVI – AMENDMENTS** (renumbered)

22

23 ~~**17.6**~~

24 **16.6** All proposed amendments to these Bylaws, before they are given effect, shall first be submitted
25 to the Synod Commission on Constitutional Matters for review and the approval of that
26 commission obtained as provided in the Bylaws of Synod; ***except following a convention of the***
27 ***Synod, bylaw amendments necessary for compliance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the***
28 ***Synod may be made by a two-thirds majority of the board of directors.***

29

30

31 Submitted by: Board of Directors, Michigan District LCMS

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