

CONVENTION WORKBOOK - PART I



“Celebrate Jesus”
99th Michigan District Convention
Concordia University Ann Arbor
June 28 - July 1, 2009

Section 1: Organizational Matters (Green)

Section 2: District Reports (Yellow)

Section 3: Partners in Ministry - Ethics Documents (Blue)

Section 4: Overtures (Pink)

April 2009

Please read through the Workbook carefully. You will need this information in preparation for the Regional Meetings which will be held on Saturday, May 2. Bring your Workbook with you to these meetings. Your Regional Vice President has already or will soon send 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 4, 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 from the Floor Committees. If you have any questions you may contact Julie Strobl at 734.665.3791.

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

**99th Michigan District Convention Regional Meetings
Saturday, May 2, 2009**

Metro East – St. Peter, Macomb
9:00 a.m.

Metro West – St. Luke, Ann Arbor
8:30 (registration) 9:00 a.m. – Noon

North & East – St. John, Pinconning
10:00 a.m.

West – Messiah, Grand Rapids
9:00 (coffee) 9:30 a.m. – Noon

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DISTRICT CONGREGATIONS

North and East Region

#1 - Mackinaw Straits Circuit - Stephen E. Schilke, Counselor

Cheboygan, St. John - Keith A. Schneider
DeTour Village, Redeemer -
Drummond Island, Drummond Island -
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 - Daniel F. Clemons
Onaway, Holy Cross -
Rogers City, Peace - Kevin C. Jones
Rogers City, St. John - John R. Schreiber
Rogers City, St. Michael - Paul G. Hopkins
Sault, St. Barnabas - Charles B. Burhop
Paradise, Paradise - Daniel F. Clemons
Trout Lake, Trout Lake -

#2 - Alpena Circuit - Robert L. Mikkelsen, Counselor

Alpena, Immanuel - William L. Morris / James D. Erickson
Harrisville, Faith - Dennis J. Neigh
Herron, St. Paul - Robert L. Mikkelsen
Hillman, St. John - Jason L. Mandley
Lewiston, Bethlehem -
Ossineke, Good Shepherd - Dennis J. Neigh
Posen, St. Paul -
Fairview (Mio), Living Water -

#3 - Timberline Circuit - Dean R. Muhle, Counselor

AuGres, St. John -
Glennie, Our Savior -
Hale, St. Paul - Dean R. Muhle
Oscoda, Trinity - Timothy P. Azzam
Prescott, Faith - Daniel L. Jansen
Standish, Bethlehem -
Tawas City, Zion - Steven C. Mahlburg
Whittemore, Good News Ministries -

#4 - Gladwin Circuit - William C. Winter, Counselor

Clare, Prince of Peace - Kevin L. Leidich
Gladwin, Our Savior - Matthew C. Schultz
Harrison, St. Luke - Michael W. Schaedig
Houghton Lake, St. John - William C. Winter
St. Helen, Hope - Rodney L. Morrison
West Branch, St. John - Howard S. Travis

#5 - Midland Circuit - Paul V. Young, Counselor

Alma, Peace - Thomas C. Messer
Auburn, Grace - David H. Reed / Wade M. Seaver
Auburn, Zion - Michael G. Buchhorn/Steven M. Stolarczyk
Midland, Messiah - Edward F. Doerner / John E. Langewisch
/ Kurt A. Weber / Robert F. Allmann
Midland, Our Savior - Larry D. Wright
Midland, St. John - / Douglas K. Janetzke
Mt. Pleasant, Zion - Samuel B. Reith / Jonathon J. Bakker
**Mt. Pleasant, CMU Chapel (Mt. Pleasant, Zion) -
Sanford, St. Paul - Paul V. Young
Wheeler, Immanuel - Larry A. Warsinski
Midland, Lord of New Life - Kurt W. Eichinger

#6 - Bay City Circuit - William H. Allwardt, Counselor

Bay City, Faith - Daniel C. Meckes / George W. Morris
Bay City, Immanuel - Leslie D. Tyvela
Bay City (Amelith), St. John - Stephen P. Starke
Bay City (Monitor), Trinity - David F. Sherry
Bay City, Zion - William H. Allwardt / John W. Wernecke
Essexville, Pilgrim - Carl F. Trosien
Frankenlust (Bay City), St. Paul - Paul D. Theiss / Corey J.
Grunklee
Pinconning, St. John - David A. Jung

#7 - Thumb East Circuit - Kenneth D. Lueke, Counselor

Bad Axe, Our Savior - Kenneth D. Lueke / Raymond P. Sting
Kinde, St. Peter - David L. Putz
Forestville (Minden City), Trinity - Richard G. Wilson
Harbor Beach, Zion - David A. McCloskey

#7 - Thumb East Circuit (continued)

Palms, St. John - Henry J. Hales
Port Hope, St. John - Gregory J. Eilers
Port Sanilac, St. John - Leo G. Thoms
Sandusky, Peace - Richard L. Tino
Marlette, Our Savior - Eric S. Kilmer

#8 - Thumb West Circuit - Gerald A. Meyer, Counselor

Bach (Sebewaing), St. Peter -
Caseville, Good Shepherd -
Cass City, Good Shepherd - Gerald A. Meyer
Kilmanagh (Sebewaing), St. John -
Linkville (Pigeon), St. Paul - Lee C. Wenskay
Sebewaing, Immanuel - Daniel A. Hahn, Jr. / Michael D. Boyer
Unionville, St. Paul - Michael S. Allen
Fairgrove, Grace - Leonard A. Astrowski

#9 - Frankenmuth Circuit - Dale C. Ahlschwede, Counselor

Caro, St. Paul - Cameron K. Steele
Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz - Mark D. Brandt / Dale C. Ahlschwede
/ Michael N. Fitzgerald / Joel C. Kaiser / Gary L. Bender
Millington, St. Paul - James R. Bruner
Munger, Trinity-St. James - Theodore E. Voll
Reese, Trinity - Robert H. Bennett
Richville, St. Michael - Robert G. Gadeken / Wesley S. Gillaspie /
Lang Yang
Saginaw (Frankentrost), Immanuel - Mark A. Loest

#10 - Saginaw Circuit - William W. Hessler, Counselor

Bridgeport, Faith - William W. Hessler
Hemlock, St. Peter - Martin J. Hagenow / Richard E. Mundt
Hemlock, Zion - Paul A. Hauser
Owosso, St. Philip - Brian F. Heidt
Saginaw, Bethlehem - Michael P. Korte / Charles F. Buckhahn
Saginaw, Good Shepherd - Mark P. Buckert
Saginaw (Carrollton), Messiah -
Saginaw, Peace - C. William Weis / Paul R. Hinz
Saginaw, Holy Cross - James F. Krueger
Saginaw, Redeemer -
St. Charles, Nativity -
Saginaw, St. Mark - Edward A. Meyer

#11 - Flint North Circuit - Clifford F. Bira, Counselor

Birch Run, Christ - Richard P. Hillenbrand
Birch Run, St. Martin - Ronald L. Young
Clio, Messiah - Erik K. Cloeter
Flint, Christ the King -
Flint, United In Christ - David E. Daniel
Flint, Our Savior - Randall P. Schultz
Flint, St. Paul - Steven R. Maske
Flushing, Holy Cross - Clifford F. Bira / David J. Rufner

#12 - Flint South Circuit - Lawrence M. Eckart, Counselor

Flint (Burton), Pilgrim - Daniel A. Wonderly
Fenton, Trinity - Dean G. Dumbrielle
Flint, Peace -
Flint, Redeemer - Timothy R. Speckman
Goodrich, Christ - Kelly D. Todd
Grand Blanc, Faith - Todd A. Biermann / Wayne H. Wentzel
Linden, Hope - Lawrence M. Eckart
Ortonville, Prince of Peace -
Swartz Creek, NewLife Community - Bradley J. Yops /
Bradley G. Garrison

#13 - Lapeer Circuit - David H. Hensler, Counselor

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 / Mark E. Gilson
North Branch, New Life in Christ -
Otisville, St. Timothy - David H. Hensler

Metro East Region

#14 - Port Huron Circuit - Gerhardt A. Doroh, Counselor
Algonac, First - J. Robert Herrod
Armada, Our Saviour - M. Samuel Sherouse
Fair Haven, St. Peter - Robert V. Wagner
Goodells, Hope -
Lexington, St. Matthew - Barry C. Sheldon
Port Huron, Faith - Timothy M. Eichberger
Port Huron, Trinity - John S. Carrier
Richmond, St. Peter - Gerhardt A. Doroh / Randy D. Lett
St. Clair, Immanuel - Alan J. Schwieger / Joseph C. Doenges
Memphis, St. Andrew - Joshua T. Ball
New Baltimore, Living Hope of the Bay - Paul G. Werner
*Marine City, Living Faith - Scott P. Roberts

#15 - Macomb North Circuit - G. Stevens Bagnall, Counselor
Clinton Twp., St. Luke - Bert A. Thompson / G. Stevens Bagnall
Clinton Twp., Trinity - Kenneth M. Wise / Thees C. Hoft
Macomb, Immanuel - Michael J. Lutz / Greg S. Griffith
Macomb, St. Peter - Robert E. Kasper / Kenneth C. Wagener
/ Brian K. Davies / Gregory M. Lorenz
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 - Eric W. Majeski, Counselor
Romeo, Grace Fellowship - Eric W. Majeski
Shelby Twp.(Utica/Disco), Peace -
Sterling Heights, Redemption -
Sterling Heights, St. Paul - Walter A. Keller
Troy, Faith - Warren B. Arndt / Paul W.Arndt /
Frederick W. Traugott / Antonio C. Boos
Utica, Trinity - Norman A. Koy / Shawn D. Fenske / Justin Krupsky
Washington, Our Redeemer - Jeffrey G. Draeger
Shelby Twp, Shepherd's Gate - Jonathan B. Trinklein / Craig M. Meyer
Troy, All Nations - Amer M. Khan / Farrukh M. Khan / Khurram M.
Khan / Afzal Masih / Arul J. Alexander / Gary E. Rohwer
Imlay City, Family of Christ -
Troy, Faith Tamil -

#17 - Oakland North Circuit - Michael P. Schulz, Counselor
Clarkston, St. Trinity -
Lake Orion, Good Shepherd - Eric E. Tritten / James H. Van Dellen
Oxford, Holy Cross - Michael P. Schulz
Rochester Hills, Crown of Life -
Rochester (Brooklands), Gethsemane - Thomas F. Fischer
Rochester, Living Word - John E. Kassen
Rochester, St. John - Karl E. Galik / Luke R. Timm / Gregory L. Sawyer
Waterford, St. Stephen - Douglas J. Stowe
Rochester Hills, Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word -
*Pontiac, St. Paul International -

#18 - Birmingham Circuit - Alan P. Eisinger, Counselor
Berkley, Trinity - David L. Prout
Birmingham, Our Shepherd - Carl M. Gnewuch / Ray E.Scherbarth
Birmingham, Redeemer - Randall J. Schlak / Cary M. Richert
Birmingham, Our Savior Deaf - Thomas W. Dunseth
Bloomfield Hills, Cross of Christ - Jon W. Reusch
Hazel Park, Hazel Park - Corliss A. Fanning
Huntington Woods, Hunt. Woods - Peter S. Nickel
Royal Oak, St. Paul - Jeremy J. A. Schultz
Troy, St. Augustine - Paul C. Monson
Warren, Holy Cross - Alan P. Eisinger

#19 - Macomb South Circuit - John E. Merrill, Counselor
Eastpointe, St. Peter - Mark J. Haller / Seth R. Hemme
Eastpointe, St. Thomas - Mark W. Hetzner / Samuel J. Grayl
Fraser, St. John - John E. Merrill / Bradley A. Smith
Roseville, Bethlehem - Jeffrey D. Frechette
Warren, Hope - John M. Duerr
Warren, Peace - John W. Schwartz
Warren, Trinity - Ryan D. Reese

#20 - Detroit East Circuit - Steven J. Essenburg, Counselor
Detroit, Bethany - Peter R. Brueckner
Detroit, Bethlehem East - Asaph A. James
Detroit, Charity -
Detroit, Epiphany - Richard E. Robinson
Detroit, Mt. Calvary - James M. Hill
Detroit, Peace - John A. Straub
Detroit, Redemption -
Detroit, Resurrection - Scott E. Benjamin

Metro West Region

#21 - Detroit Central Circuit - David F. Burgess., Counselor
Detroit, St. Philip - David F. Burgess
Detroit, Historic Trinity - David Eberhard
Detroit, Berea - Mark A. Griffin, Sr.
Detroit, Bethlehem -
Detroit, Nazareth -
Detroit, St. John - James M. Hill
Detroit, St. Stephen -

#22 - Detroit West Circuit - Harold A. Avers, Counselor
Detroit, Evergreen - William F. Danowski
Detroit, Greenfield Peace - Harold A. Avers
Detroit, Holy Cross - John R. Urvan
Detroit, Outer Drive Faith - Eddie Morales
Detroit, Redford -

#23 - Down River Circuit - Harry N. Edenfield, Counselor
Flat Rock, Community - David P. Gohn
Southgate, Christ the King- Terry L. Cashmer / Harry N. Edenfield
/ Jason D. Cashmer
Taylor, Our Redeemer - Erwin M. Hutter
Taylor, St. John - Richard A. Zeile
Trenton, St. Paul - John L. Bush / Nicholas W. Koschmann
Wyandotte, Trinity - Kenneth M. Spence
Allen Park, Mt. Hope - Randy L. Johnson
Lincoln Park, Calvary -
River Rouge, Christ -

#24 - Monroe Circuit - Bruce K. Lucas, Counselor
Waltz, St. John - Kurt S. Taylor / David P. Schmidt
Newport, Christ Our Shepherd -
Monroe, Grace - Ronald C. Schultz / Mark K. Witte
Monroe, Holy Ghost - Larry K. Loree, Sr.
Monroe (Ida), Immanuel - Bruce K. Lucas
Monroe, Trinity - Stanley R. AuBuchon / Jeffrey B. Walsh
/ Bruce L. Crabtree
Lambertville, Christ the King - Timothy J. Loewe
Petersburg, St. Peter - Mark S. Flory

#25 - Dearborn Circuit - Kurt E. Lambart, Counselor
Dearborn, Atonement - Dan W. Muecke
Dearborn, Emmanuel - Rodney E. Zwonitzer / Joel R. Baseley
Dearborn, Guardian - Darryl L. Andrzejewski
Dearborn, Our Redeemer - Roderick D. Schultz
Inkster, Our Master - David G. Huber
Wayne, St. Michael - Andrew D. Gruenhagen
Canton, Christ the Good Shepherd -
Westland, Our Saviour -
Westland, St. Matthew - Kurt E. Lambart
Plymouth, Living Word - Randall S. Duncan
*Dearborn Heights, First Arabic -

#26 - Kensington Circuit - Terry A. Nelson, Counselor
Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes - / Mark D. Milatz
Highland, Faith - Terry A. Claus
Milford, Christ - Richard E. Pape
South Lyon, Cross of Christ - Terry A. Nelson
White Lake (Union Lake), Cedar Crest - Kirk W. Abatelli
West Bloomfield (Union Lake), St. Mark - Charles D. Ferry
Walled Lake, St. Matthew - Paul M. Moldenhauer / Robert J. Nelson
**Wixom, St. Matthew (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) - Robert J. Nelson
Waterford (Union Lake/Pontiac), Peace - William D. Merrell

#27 - Livonia Circuit - Thomas M. Lubeck, Counselor
Westland, Salem -
Farmington Hills, St. Paul - John W. Meyer
Farmington Hills, Prince of Peace - Thomas M. Lange
Northville, St. Paul - Thomas M. Lubeck / Christopher D. Fairbairn
Livonia, Christ Our Savior - / Robert F. Bayer / Anthony M. Creeden
Redford, Hosanna-Tabor - Paul J. Undlin
Dearborn Heights, Immanuel -
Canton, Grace - Steven M. Newton

#28 - Milan Circuit - Thomas L. Schroeder, Counselor
Britton, Emmanuel - Douglas M. Adams
Saline, Christ Our King - Thomas L. Schroeder / Dean C. Wachholz
Ypsilanti, Faith -
Milan, St. Paul -
New Boston, St. Paul - D. Lee Cullen, Jr.
Ann Arbor, St. Thomas - Charles R. Schulz
Belleville, Open Arms - James F. Richter
*Romulus, Tabernacle of Praise - Bertram G. Lewis, Sr.

#29 - Ann Arbor Circuit - Larry G. Courson, Counselor
Ann Arbor, Divine Shepherd - Rodger L. Williams
Ann Arbor, St. Luke - Bryan K. Schindel / Scott W. Giger / Daniel
J. Flynn
**Ann Arbor, U of M Chapel (Ann Arbor, St. Luke) - Scott W.
Giger
**Whitmore Lake, Living Water (Ann Arbor, St. Luke) - Daniel J.
Flynn
**Ypsilanti, Cross & Resurrection (Ann Arbor, St. Luke) -
Ann Arbor, Peace - Larry G. Courson
Ann Arbor, St. Paul - Donald O. Neuendorf / Michael W. Wentzel
**Ann Arbor, St. Paul (Earhart Site) (Ann Arbor, St. Paul)
Chelsea, Our Savior - Dale A. Grimm
Hamburg, St. Paul - Evan P. Gaertner
Pinckney, Trinity -

#30 - Jackson Circuit - R. William Roper, Counselor
Adrian, Hope - Paul W. Herter
Adrian, St. John - Joel H. Sarrault
Brooklyn (Irish Hills), St. Mark - Kelly D. Smith, Sr.
Hudson, Our Saviour - Troy R. Neujahr
Jackson, Redeemer - R. William Roper
Jackson, Trinity - Douglas A. Kregel
Addison, Lutheran Church of the Lakes -

West Region

#31 - Petoskey Circuit - Ted N. Turanski, Counselor
Bellaire, Hope - Raymond D. Parent
Boyne City, Christ - Kenneth G. Bernthal
Charlevoix, Bethany - Michael L. Teuscher
Gaylord, Trinity - Todd J. Brunworth
Grayling, Mt. Hope - Steven E. Thiel
Kalkaska, St. Paul - Chad E. Hoover
Mancelona, St. Matthew - Donald A. Ritter
Petoskey, Zion - Douglas G. Kenny

#32 - Traverse City Cir. - Lawrence K. Matro, Counselor
Benzonia, Our Savior -
Elk Rapids, Grace -
Good Harbor, St. Paul - Robert W. Wurst
Glen Arbor, Bethlehem - Daniel L. Krause
Interlochen, Redeemer -
Leland, Immanuel - Lawrence K. Matro
Traverse City, St. Michael - James L. Nihiser
Traverse City, Trinity - Robert M. Zagore / Charles W. Webb

#33 - Manistee Circuit - James E. Schroeder, Counselor
Arcadia, Trinity - Theodore W. Beiderwieden
Cadillac, Emmanuel - Bryan R. Salminen / Joel A. Hess
Ludington, Peace - John W. Kayser
Manistee, Trinity - Dennis D. Rahn
Mesick, Faith -
Norwalk, Norwalk -
Onekama, Trinity - Ainslie B. Wagner
Scottville, Our Saviour - James E. Schroeder
Wellston, Beautiful Savior -
Ludington, St. John - Thomas V. Boehne
Pentwater, Lighthouse - John W. Kayser

#34 - Big Rapids Circuit - Robert D. Baerwolf, Counselor
Baldwin, Grace - Stephen M. King
Big Rapids, St. Peter - John Bookshaw / Daniel Lochner
Fremont, Redeemer - James A. Schouweiler
Mecosta, Chapel of the Lakes - Paul H. Schneider
Reed City, Trinity - Dean M. Davenport
White Cloud, Christ - Richard S. Hoogerhyde

#35 - Capitol Circuit - Richard P. Laeder, Counselor
Charlotte, First - Timothy W. Olson
East Lansing, Ascension - David C. Winningham
Haslett, St. Luke - David A. Davis
Holt, Messiah - Stephen D. Grafe
Holt, St. Matthew - Dean R. Poellet
Howell, Heart of the Shepherd - Galen E. Grulke
Lansing, Living Word -
Lansing, Our Savior - David P. E. Maier / Roy C. Olsen
Lansing, Trinity -
Leslie, Grace Fellowship -
*Lansing, Rehoboth -
*Lansing, Trinity Sudanese -
*Eaton Rapids, Open Arms -

#36 - St. Johns Circuit - Jeffrey E. Heimsoth, Counselor
Carson City, Calvary - Kenneth L. Williamson
DeWitt, Hope - E. Anthony Sikora
Fowler, St. Paul - Paul M. Clark
Portland, St. Andrew - Edward W. Filter
St. Johns, St. Johns - George W. Brinley
St. Johns (Riley), St. Peter - Jeffrey E. Heimsoth
Lansing, Good Shepherd - Roger K. Straub

#37 - Tri-River Circuit - Fred C. Krause, Counselor
Belding, Holy Cross -
Greenville, Mt. Calvary - Jeffrey M. Wilhelm
Howard City, Bethel - Alsen K. Wenzel
Ionia, St. John - David W. Bogda
Lowell, Good Shepherd - Joseph Fremer
Sand Lake, Resurrection -
Stanton, Hope - Steven Voelker (EN)

#38 - Muskegon Circuit - Dennis L. Lassanske, Counselor
Conklin, Trinity - Mark A. Oswald
Montague, St. James - John W. Brooks
Muskegon, Our Redeemer - Robert J. Conrath
Norton Shores (Muskegon), St. Mark - Mark E. Zimmerman
Muskegon, Trinity - Dennis L. Lassanske / Nicholas M. Fuller
Nunica, St. Luke - William C. Lahrman
Shelby, St. Stephen -
Whitehall, Faith - Micheal D. Kroll

#39 - Holland Circuit - John Westra, Counselor
Coopersville, Grace - Joel F. Hoyer
Spring Lake, Lakeshore Fellowship -
Grand Haven, St. John - Dieter E. Haupt / Phillip M. DeVries
Holland, Christ Our Savior - John C. Schleicher
Holland, Zion - John Westra
Spring Lake, St. Matthew - Michael M. Goers
West Olive, United -

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

#41 - Grand Rapids SW Circuit - Thomas F. Meyer, Counselor
Caledonia, St. Paul - Robert A. Gerke
Grandville, Bethel - Glenn P. Kopper
Hudsonville, New Hope -
Jenison, Holy Cross - Scott G. Sommerfeld / William R. Wangelin
Jenison (Allendale), St. John - James E. Metcalf
Kentwood, St. Mark - Thomas F. Meyer
Middleville, Good Shepherd - James A. Roemke
Byron Center, Journey of Faith - Robert G. Barber

#42 - Battle Creek Circuit - Paul R. Naumann, Counselor
Albion, St. Paul - Gary L. Nehring
Battle Creek, St. Mark - Carl W. Schneider
**Battle Creek, Higher Ground (Battle Creek, St. Mark)
Battle Creek, Redemption - Karl N. Strenge
Battle Creek, St. Paul - Gary L. Siefert
Kalamazoo, Immanuel - David H. Sidwell
Kalamazoo, Zion - Timothy W. Seeber
**K'zoo, Solid Grounds (Kalamazoo, Zion) - Mark T. Couch
Marshall, Christ - David E. Boedecker
Marshall, Zion - Roger B. James
Paw Paw, Trinity - Mark C. Whittaker
Portage, St. Michael - Paul R. Naumann
Three Rivers, St. Peter - Alan R. Stadelman

#43 - St. Joseph Circuit - David E. Weiss, Counselor
Berrien Springs, Trinity - Gary L. Miller
Bridgman, Immanuel - Jon D. Bendewald
Buchanan, St. Paul -
Cassopolis, St. Paul - David E. Weiss
Coloma, Salem - Andrew P. Menz
Glendora (Buchanan), Trinity - Thomas R. Brazinsky
Niles, St. Paul - Carl W. Bassett
St. Joseph, Trinity - Michael J. Roth / Thomas E. Batsky
Sawyer, Trinity - Kendall L. Schaeffer
Stevensville, Christ - Philip G. Quardokus

#44 - South Central Circuit - L. Daniel Johnson, Counselor
Burr Oak, St. John - Kurt P. Kuhlmann
Centreville, St. Paul - David A. Grimm
Centreville (Sturgis), Salem -
Coldwater, St. Paul -
Colon, St. Paul - David A. Grimm
Hillsdale, St. Paul - L. Daniel Johnson
Quincy, Prince of Peace -
Sturgis, Trinity - Michael A. Klafehn / Calvin J. Kolzow, Jr.
Union City, Our Savior - David A. Dodge

*Mission

**Satellite Site

DISTRICT MINISTERS OF RELIGION - ORDAINED

Sole/Senior Pastors

Abatelli, Kirk W. - Cedar Crest, White Lake
Adams, Douglas M. - Emmanuel, Britton
Allen, Michael S. - St. Paul, Unionville
Allwardt, William H. - Zion, Bay City
Andrzejewski, Darryl L. - Guardian, Dearborn
Appold, Robert B. - St. Matthew, Grand Rapids
Arndt, Warren B. - Faith, Troy
Astrowski, Leonard A. - Grace, Fairgrove
AuBuchon, Stanley R. - Trinity, Monroe
Avers, Harold A. - Greenfield-Peace, Detroit
Azzam, Timothy P. - Trinity, Oscoda
Ball, Joshua T. - St. Andrew, Memphis
Barber, Robert G. - Journey of Faith, Byron Center
Bassett, Carl W. - St. Paul, Niles
Beck, Gary L. - St. Mark, Flint
Beiderwieden, Theodore W. - Trinity, Arcadia
Bendewald, Jon D. - Immanuel, Bridgman
Benjamin, Scott E. - Resurrection, Detroit
Bennett, Robert H. - Trinity, Reese
Bernthal, Kenneth G. - Christ, Boyne City
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
Bode, Arthur J. - Bethlehem, Engadine/Grace, Germfask
Boedecker, David E. - Christ, Marshall
Boehne, Thomas V. - St. John, Ludington
Bogda, David W. - St. John, Ionia
Bomberger, Kenneth J. - Mt. Olive, Grand Rapids
Bookshaw, John A. - St. Peter, Big Rapids
Bowditch, Mark A. - Family of Christ, Alpine Twp.
Brandt, Mark D. - St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
Brazinsky, Thomas R. - Trinity, (Glendora) Buchanan
Brinley, George W. - St. John, St. Johns
Brooks, John W. - St. James, Montague
Brueckner, Peter R. - Bethany, Detroit
Bruner, James R. - St. Paul, Millington
Brunworth, Todd J. - Trinity, Gaylord
Buchhorn, Michael G. - Zion, Auburn
Buckert, Mark P. - Good Shepherd, Saginaw
Burgess, David F. - St. Philip, Detroit
Burhop, Charles B. - St. Barnabas, Sault Ste. Marie
Bush, John L. - St. Paul, Trenton
Carrier, John S. - Trinity, Port Huron
Cashmer, Terry L. - Christ the King, Southgate
Clark, Paul M. - St. Paul, Fowler
Claus, Terry A. - Faith, Highland
Clemons, Daniel F. - Trinity, Newberry / Paradise, Paradise
Cloeter, Erik K. - Messiah, Clio
Conrad, Robert J. - Our Redeemer, Muskegon
Courson, Larry G. - Peace, Ann Arbor
Cullen, D. Lee, Jr. - St. Paul's, New Boston
Daniel, David E. - United in Christ, Flint
Danowski, William F. - Evergreen, Detroit
Davenport, Dean M. - Trinity, Reed City
Davis, David A. - St. Luke, Haslett
Dodge, David A. - Our Savior, Union City
Doerner, Edward F. - Messiah, Midland
Doroh, Gerhardt A. - St. Peter, Richmond
Draeger, Jeffrey G. - Our Redeemer, Washington
Duerr, John M. - Hope, Warren
Dumbrille, Dean G. - Trinity, Fenton
Duncan, Randall S. - Living Word, Plymouth
Eberhard, David - Historic Trinity, Detroit
Eckart, Lawrence M. - Hope, Linden
Eichberger, Timothy M. - Faith, Port Huron
Eichinger, Kurt W. - Lord of New Life, Midland
Eilers, Gregory J. - St. John, Port Hope
Eisinger, Alan P. - Holy Cross, Warren
Fanning, Corliss A. - Hazel Park, Hazel Park
Ferguson, Jack D. - Faith, Hawks
Ferry, Charles D. - St. Mark, West Bloomfield
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
Fremer, Joseph - Good Shepherd, Lowell
Frusti, Todd L. - Trinity, Davison
Gadeken, Robert G. - St. Michael, Richville
Gaertner, Evan P. - St. Paul, Hamburg
Galik, Karl E. - St. John, Rochester
Gerke, Robert A. - St. Paul, Caledonia
Gnewuch, Carl M. - Our Shepherd, Birmingham
Goers, Michael M. - St. Matthew, Spring Lake
Gohn, David P. - Community, Flat Rock
Grafe, Stephen D. - Messiah, Holt
Griffin, Mark A. Sr. - Berea, Detroit
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
Hagenow, Martin J. - St. Peter, Hemlock
Hahn, Daniel A. Jr. - Immanuel, Sebewaing
Hales, Henry J. - St. John, Palms
Haller, Mark J. - St. Peter's, Eastpointe
Haupt, Dieter E. - St. John, Grand Haven
Hauser, Paul A. - Zion, Hemlock
Heidt, Brian F. - St. Philip, Owosso
Heimsoth, Jeffrey E. - St. Peter, St. Johns
Helms, Steven C. - Holy Redeemer, Dryden
Hensler, David H. - St. Timothy, Otisville
Herrod, J. Robert - First, Algonac
Herter, Paul W. - Hope, Adrian
Hessler, William W. - Faith, Bridgeport
Hetzner, Mark W. - St. Thomas, Eastpointe
Hill, James M. - Lutheran City Ministries/Mt. Calvary/St. John, Detroit
Hillenbrand, Richard P. - Christ, Birch Run
Hoes, Terry E. - Messiah, Grand Rapids
Hoogerhyde, Richard S. - Christ, White Cloud
Hoover, Chad E. - St. Paul, Kalkaska
Hopkins, Paul G. - St. Michael, Rogers City
Hoyer, Joel F. - Grace, Coopersville
Huber, David G. - Our Master, Inkster
Hutter, Erwin M. - Our Redeemer, Taylor
James, Asaph A. - East Bethlehem, Detroit
James, Roger B. - Zion, Marshall
Jansen, Daniel L. - Faith Prescott
Johnson, L. Daniel - St. Paul, Hillsdale
Johnson, Randy L. - Mt. Hope, Allen Park
Jones, Kevin C. - Peace, Rogers City
Jung, David A. - St. John, Pinconning
Kaiser, John C. - St. Paul, Lapeer
Kasper, Robert E. - St. Peter, Macomb
Kassen, John E. - Living Word, Rochester
Kayser, John W. - Peace, Ludington/Lighthouse, Pentwater
Keller, Walter A. - St. Paul, Sterling Hgts.
Kenny, Douglas G. - Zion, Petoskey
Khan, Amer M. - All Nations, Troy
Kilmer, Eric S. - Our Savior, Marlette
King, Stephen M. - Grace, Baldwin
Klafehn, Michael A. - Trinity, Sturgis
Kopper, Glenn P. - Bethel, Grandville
Korte, Michael P. - Bethlehem, Saginaw
Koy, Norman A. - Trinity, Utica
Krause, Daniel L. - Bethlehem, Glen Arbor
Krengel, Douglas A. - Trinity, Jackson
Kroll, Micheal D. - Faith, Whitehall
Krueger, James F. - Holy Cross, Saginaw
Kuhlmann, Kurt P. - St. John, Burr Oak
Lahrman, William C. - St. Luke, Nunica
Lambart, Kurt E. - St. Matthew, Westland
Lange, Thomas M. - Prince of Peace, Farmington Hills
Lassanske, Dennis L. - Trinity, Muskegon
Leidich, Kevin L. - Prince of Peace, Clare
Loest, Mark A. - Immanuel, Saginaw
Loewe, Timothy J. - Christ the King, Lambertville
Loree, Larry K., Sr. - Holy Ghost, Monroe
Love, Mark W. - St. Peter, Rockford
Lubeck, Thomas M. - St. Paul, Northville

Lucas, Bruce K. - Immanuel, Monroe
 Lueke, Kenneth D. - Our Savior, Bad Axe
 Lutz, Michael J. - Immanuel, Macomb
 Mahlburg, Steven C. - Zion, Tawas City
 Maier, David P. E. - Our Savior, Lansing
 Majeski, Eric W. - Grace Fellowship, Romeo
 Mandley, Jason L. - St. John, Hillman
 Maske, Steven R. - St. Paul, Flint
 Matro, Lawrence K. - Immanuel, Leland
 McCloskey, David A. - Zion, Harbor Beach
 Meckes, Daniel C. - Faith, Bay City
 Menz, Andrew P. - Salem, Coloma
 Merrell, William D. - Peace, Waterford
 Merrill, John E. - St. John, Fraser
 Messer, Thomas C. - Peace, Alma
 Metcalf, James E. - St. John, Jenison (Allendale)
 Meyer, Edward A. - St. Mark, Saginaw
 Meyer, Gerald A. - Good Shepherd, Cass City
 Meyer, John W. - St. Paul, Farmington Hills
 Meyer, Thomas F. - St. Mark, Kentwood
 Mikkelson, Robert L. - St. Paul, Herron
 Miller, Gary L. - Trinity, Berrien Springs
 Moldenhauer, Paul M. - St. Matthew, Walled Lake
 Monson, Paul C. - St. Augustine, Troy
 Morales, Eddie - Outer Drive Faith, Detroit
 Morris, William L. - Immanuel, Alpena
 Morrison, Rodney L. - Hope, St. Helen
 Muecke, Dan W. - Atonement, Dearborn
 Mueller, Barry L. - Christ, New Baltimore
 Muhle, Dean R. - St. Paul, Hale
 Naumann, Paul R. - St. Michael, Portage
 Nehring, Gary L. - St. Paul, Albion
 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
 Newton, Steven M. - Grace, Canton
 Nickel, Peter S. - Huntington Woods, Huntington Wds.
 Nihiser, James L. - St. Michael's, Traverse City
 Olson, Timothy W. - First, Charlotte
 Oswald, Mark A. - Trinity, Conklin
 Pape, Richard E. - Christ, Milford
 Parent, Raymond D. - Hope, Bellaire
 Poellet, Dean R. - St. Matthew, Holt
 Prout, David L. - Trinity, Berkley
 Putz, David L. - St. Peter, Kinde
 Quardokus, Philip G. - Christ, Stevensville
 Rahn, Dennis D. - Trinity, Manistee
 Reed, David H. - Grace, Auburn
 Reese, Ryan D. - Trinity, Warren
 Reith, Samuel B. - Zion, Mt. Pleasant
 Reusch, Jon W. - Cross of Christ, Bloomfield Hills
 Richter, James F. - Open Arms, Belleville
 Ritter, Donald A. - St. Matthew, Mancelona
 Roberts, Scott P. - Living Faith, Marine City
 Robinson, Richard E. - Epiphany, Detroit
 Roemke, James A. - Good Shepherd, Middleville
 Roper, R. William - Redeemer, Jackson
 Roth, Michael J. - Trinity, St. Joseph
 Salminen, Bryan R. - Emmanuel, Cadillac
 Sarrault, Joel H. - St. John, Adrian
 Schaedig, Michael W. - St. Luke, Harrison
 Schaeffer, Kendall L. - Trinity, Sawyer
 Schindel, Bryan K. - St. Luke, Ann Arbor
 Schlak, Randall J. - Redeemer, Birmingham
 Schleicher, John C. - Christ Our Savior, Holland
 Schneider, Carl W. - St. Mark, Battle Creek
 Schneider, Keith A. - St. John, Cheboygan
 Schneider, Paul H. - Chapel of the Lakes, Mecosta
 Schouweiler, James A. - Redeemer, Fremont
 Schreiber, John R. - St. John, Rogers City
 Schroeder, James E. - Our Saviour, Scottville
 Schroeder, Thomas L. - Christ Our King, Saline
 Schultz, Jeremy J. A. - St. Paul, Royal Oak
 Schultz, Matthew C. - Our Savior, Gladwin
 Schultz, Randall P. - Our Savior, Flint
 Schultz, Roderick D. - Our Redeemer, Dearborn
 Schultz, Ronald C. - Grace, Monroe
 Schulz, Charles R. - St. Thomas, Ann Arbor
 Schulz, Michael P. - Holy Cross, Oxford
 Schwartz, John W. - Peace, Warren
 Schwieger, Alan J. - Immanuel, St. Clair
 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
 Siefert, Gary L. - St. Paul, Battle Creek
 Sikora, E. Anthony - Hope, DeWitt
 Smith, Kelly D. Sr. - St. Mark, Brooklyn
 Sommerfeld, Scott G. - Holy Cross, Jenison
 Speckman, Timothy R. - Redeemer, Flint
 Spence, Kenneth M. - Trinity, Wyandotte
 Stadelman, Alan R. - St. Peter, Three Rivers
 Starke, Stephen P. - St. John, Bay City
 Steeh, Edward J. - St. John, (New Haven) Ray Twp.
 Steele, Cameron K. - St. Paul, Caro
 Stowe, Douglas J. - St. Stephen, Waterford
 Straub, John A. - Peace, Detroit
 Straub, Roger K. - Good Shepherd, Lansing
 Streng, Karl N. - Redemption Battle Creek
 Taylor, Kurt S. - St. John, (Waltz) New Boston
 Teuscher, Michael L. - Bethany, Charlevoix
 Theiss, Paul D. - St. Paul, Bay City
 Thiel, Steven E. - Mt. Hope, Grayling
 Thompson, Bert A. - St. Luke, Clinton Twp.
 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.
 Tritten, Eric E. - Good Shepherd, Lake Orion
 Trosien, Carl F. - Pilgrim, Essexville
 Tyvela, Leslie D. - Immanuel, Bay City
 Ulm, David M. - Good Shepherd, (New Baltimore) Chesterfield
 Undlin, Paul J. - Hosanna-Tabor, Redford
 Urvan, John R. - Holy Cross, Detroit
 Voigt, Eric W. - Immanuel, (Moltke) Rogers City
 Voll, Theodore E. - Trinity-St. James, Munger
 Wagner, Ainslie B. - Trinity, Onekama
 Wagner, Robert V. - St. Peter, Fair Haven
 Warsinski, Larry A. - Immanuel, Wheeler
 Weis, Carl Wm. - Peace, Saginaw
 Weiss, David E. - St. Paul, Cassopolis
 Wenskay, Lee C. - St. Paul, (Linkville) Pigeon
 Wenzel, Alsen K. - Bethel, Howard City
 Werner, Paul G. - Living Hope of the Bay, New Baltimore
 Westra, John - Zion, Holland
 Whittaker, Mark C. - Trinity, Paw Paw
 Wilhelm, Jeffrey M. - Mt. Calvary, Greenville
 Williams, Rodger L. - Divine Shepherd, Ann Arbor
 Williamson, Kenneth L. - Calvary, Carson City
 Wilson, Richard G. - Trinity, Minden City (Forestville)
 Winningham, David C. - Ascension, East Lansing
 Winter, William C. - St. John, Houghton Lake
 Wise, Kenneth M. - Trinity, Clinton Twp.
 Wonderly, Daniel A. - Pilgrim, (Burton) Flint
 Wright, Larry D. - Our Savior, Midland
 Wurst, Robert W. - St. Paul, Cedar
 Yops, Bradley J. - New Life Community, Swartz Creek
 Young, Paul V. - St. Paul, Sanford
 Young, Ronald L. - St. Martin, Birch Run
 Zagore, Robert M. - Trinity, Traverse City
 Zeile, Richard A. - St. John, Taylor
 Zimmerman, Mark E. - St. Mark, (Muskegon) Norton Shores
 Zwonitzer, Rodney E. - Emmanuel, Dearborn

Associate Pastors

Ahlschwede, Dale C. - St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
Allmann, Robert F. - Messiah, Midland
Arndt, Paul W. - Faith, Troy
Bagnall, G. Stevens - St. Luke, Clinton Twp.
Baseley, Joel R. - Emmanuel, Dearborn
Batsky, Thomas E. - Trinity, St. Joseph
Bender, Gary L. - St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
Boos, Antonio C. - Faith, Troy
Boyer, Michael D. - Immanuel, Sebewaing
Buckhahn, Charles F. - Bethlehem, Saginaw
Cashmer, Jason D. - Christ the King, Southgate
Crabtree, Bruce L. - Trinity, Monroe
Davies, Brian K. - St. Peter, Macomb
DeVries, Phillip M. - St. John, Grand Haven
Doenges, Joseph C. - Immanuel, St. Clair
Edenfield, Harry N. - Christ the King, Southgate
Erickson, James D. - Immanuel, Alpena
Fairbairn, Christopher D. - St. Paul, Northville
Fenske, Shawn D. - Trinity, Utica
Fitzgerald, Michael N. - St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
Flynn, Daniel J. - St. Luke, Ann Arbor
Fuller, Nicholas M. - Trinity, Muskegon
Garrison, Bradley G. - New Life Community, Swartz Creek
Gillaspie, Wesley S. - St. Michael, Richville
Gilson, Mark E. - St. Paul, Lapeer
Grayl, Samuel J. - St. Thomas, Eastpointe
Griffith, Greg S. - Immanuel, Macomb
Grunklee, Corey J. - St. Paul, Bay City
Hemme, Seth R. - St. Peter, Eastpointe
Hess, Joel A. - Emmanuel, Cadillac
Hinz, Paul R. - Peace, Saginaw
Hoft, Thees C. - Trinity, Clinton Twp.
Janetzke, Douglas K. - St. John, Midland
Kaiser, Joel C. - St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
Khan, Farrukh M. - All Nations, Troy
Khan, Khurram M. - All Nations, Troy
Kolzow, Calvin J. Jr. - Trinity, Sturgis

Krupsky, Justin - Trinity, Utica
Langewisch, John E. - Messiah, (Bullock Creek) Midland
Lett, Randy D. - St. Peter, Richmond
Lochner, Daniel E. - St. Peter, Big Rapids
Lorenz, Gregory M. - St. Peter, Macomb
Masih, Afzal - All Nations, Troy
Meyer, Craig M. - Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Twp.
Milatz, Mark D. - Shepherd of the Lakes, Brighton
Morris, George W. - Faith, Bay City
Mundt, Richard E. - St. Peter, Hemlock
Nelson, Robert J. - St. Matthew, Walled Lake
Olsen, Roy C. - Our Savior, Lansing
Richert, Cary M. - Redeemer, Birmingham
Rohwer, Gary E. - All Nations, Troy (POBLO)
Rufner, David J. - Holy Cross, Flushing
Sawyer, Gregory L. - St. John, Rochester
Scherbarth, Ray E. - Our Shepherd, Birmingham
Schmidt, David P. - St. John, New Boston
Sherrill, North P. - Our Savior, Grand Rapids
Smith, Bradley A. - St. John, Fraser
Stolarczyk, Steven M. - Zion, Auburn
Sundaradhas, Arul J. A. - All Nations, Troy
Timm, Luke R. - St. John, Rochester
Traugott, Frederick W. - Faith, Troy
Van Dellen, James H. - Good Shepherd, Lake Orion
Wachholz, Dean C. - Christ Our King, Saline
Wagener, Kenneth C. - St. Peter, Macomb
Walsh, Jeffrey B. - Trinity, Monroe
Wangelin, William R. - Holy Cross, Jenison
Weber, Kurt A. - Messiah, Midland
Wentzel, Michael W. - St. Paul, Ann Arbor
Wentzel, Wayne H. - Faith, Grand Blanc
Wernecke, John W. - Zion, Bay City
Witte, Mark K. - Grace, Monroe
Worcester, Glenn H. - Family of Christ, Alpine Twp.
Yang, Lang - St. Michael, Richville

Assistant Pastors

Bayer, Robert F. - Christ Our Savior, Livonia
Creeden, Anthony M. - Christ Our Savior, Livonia
Koschmann, Nicholas W. - St. Paul, Trenton

Seaver, Wade M. - Grace, Auburn
Sting, Raymond P. - Our Savior, Bad Axe
Webb, Charles W. - Trinity, Traverse City

Campus Pastors

Bakker, Jonathon J. - Zion / CMU Campus, Mount Pleasant
Couch, Mark T. - Zion / WMU Campus, Kalamazoo
Giger, Scott W. - St. Luke / U of M Campus, Ann Arbor

Concordia University

Ahlersmeyer, Thomas R.
Penhallegon, Philip W.
Rockrohr, Carl E.
Shuta, Richard J.

District Administration

Gray, Roosevelt Jr. - Congregation Ministry Facilitator
Hoesman, C. William - District President
Walther, Galan D. - Congregation Ministry Facilitator
Wolfram, Richard J. - Congregation Ministry Facilitator

Chaplains

Martin, Michael R. - Lansing
Mueller, Peter L. - U.S. Army
Schinkel, John A. - Monroe
Stauffer, W. Roger - Midland
Washington, Oliver G. - U.S. Army
Williams, Gary C. - U.S. Army
Wollberg, Jeffrey N. - Battle Creek

Other

Dunseth, Thomas W. - MAL to Deaf/Our Savior Deaf - Birmingham
Essenburg, Steven J. - Lutheran City Ministries - Detroit
Fandrey, James E. - Lutheran Heritage Foundation - Macomb
Grimm, Gerald E. - Project Compassion Ministries - Detroit
Lewis, Bertram B. Sr. - MAL to Tabernacle of Praise - Romulus
Rahn, Robert L. - Lutheran Heritage Foundation - Macomb

Foreign Missionaries

Erber, David M. - Nigeria
Heise, Matthew W. - Russia
Rudowske, Richard C. - Botswana
Talsma, Dale - Guatemala
Yakimow, Scott E. - Kenya

Lutheran High Schools

Herzog, John A.
McDonald, Gilbert K.
Mueller, John F.
Richert, Aaron M.

Inactive Status

Candidates

Ajak, Simon A. - Lansing
Bickel, Timothy A. - Shelby Twp.
Boerger, Paul M. - Wales
Brand, Timothy J. - Mayfield
Eickmann, Robert E. - Coldwater
Engel, Brant A. - Hartland
Lunneberg, Allen D. - Waterford
McVey, Daniel J. - Howell
Mackowiak, John E. - Brownstown
Martin, Frank H. - Carleton
Rebert, Terry J. - Lake Orion
Schroeder, Martin L. - Mason
Sgambelluri, Carlo A. - West Branch
Waddell, James A. - Jackson
Weidmayer, Robert C. - Kentwood
Wolff, Paul A. - Southfield

Non-Candidates

Adler, David L. - Florida
Downs, G. Travis - Laingsburg
Kleimola, Dale M. - Milan
Koehler, Charles J. - Traverse City
Stahlhut, Stephen C. - Linden
Stephan, Luke F. - Ann Arbor

Emeriti

Ackerman, James L. - New Haven
Aumann, Roger F. - Canton
Baerwolf, Robert D. - Evert
Bahr, Albert W. - Unionville
Balzer, James G. - Sturgis
Barker, Robert L. - Clare
Barkow, Roland R. - Three Rivers
Becerra, Roberto A. - West Olive
Beck, Paul R. - Saginaw
Besler, William - Alpena
Beyer, Charles E. - Bay City
Bickel, Eldor F. - Dimondale
Boecler, Paul A. - Grand Rapids
Boerger, Charles F. - Rochester
Boerger, John A. - Grand Ledge
Brammeier, Arnold H. - Detroit
Brege, Clifford P. - Rogers City
Brelje, Larry E. - Kalamazoo
Brown, Robert E. - New Era
Burow, E. Paul - Macomb
Carey, Ralph W. - Grandville
Chadwick, Robert L. - Grand Blanc
Collin, Richard W. - Manton
Cordes, Darowin E. - Manistee
DeMeritt, Carl F. Jr. - Ypsilanti
Deterding, John G. - Frankenmuth
Dostert, William A. - Mears
Eggers, Robert M. - Saginaw
Einem, Edward H. - Livonia
Elowsky, Earl W. - Hillman
Etzel, Lenhart E. - Flint
Evanson, E. Dale - Waterford
Filbert, Bernhard W. - Traverse City
Fleming, James E. - Rochester Hills
Fluegge, Wilton H. - Macomb
Fritz, Jeffrey M. - Roseville
Fuhlbrigge, Karl A. - Monroe
Gade, Dwain M. - Cedar
Gatz, William A. - Jackson
Geary, Duane O. - Redford Twp.
Gerberding, Kieth A. - Southgate
Goltz, Gordon K. - Grand Rapids
Grafe, William C. - Orchard Lake
Graupner, Herbert H. - Muskegon
Graves, K. Frank - Brighton
Gray, Barton C. - Alpena
Grother, Louis W. - Kalamazoo
Gruetzner, James M. - West Bloomfield
Guettler, Ronald H. - Royal Oak
Haenftling, James F. - Mancelona
Hakes, David E. - Reese
Hamilton, George O. - Zeeland
Harms, Gerald E. - Grand Blanc
Hartfield, Alan R. - Berrien Springs
Headapohl, Gary D. - Garden City
Heckert, Jakob K. - Ann Arbor

Heins, John L. - Saline
Heintz, Norman H. - Stuart, FL
Henderson, Samuel C. - Tampa, FL
Henneman, Harry C. - Algonac
Hill, William A. - Lansing
Hinz, Clarence R. - Clinton Twp.
Hinze, Dennis A. - Clinton Twp.
Hollender, David E. - Caro
Jungkuntz, Theodore R. - Ann Arbor
Kast, Edward L. - Saginaw
Keat, James D. - Leslie
Kilponen, Roger R. - St. Ignace
Kinne, Lawrence A. - Novi
Kirchhoff, Donald G. - Ann Arbor
Koeppen, Robert D. - Midland
Koessel, Eugene H. - Roseville
Koke, Louis I. - Midland
Kostizen, Erwin - Highland
Krause, Fred C. - Trufant
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
Loesel, Andrew E. - Pinconning
Long, Stephen F. - Pontiac
Low, M. Robert - Mesick
Mabry, Gilbert R. - Daly City, CA
Maier, Paul L. - Kalamazoo
Mann, Robert H. - Port Huron
Marschke, Paul O. - Skokie, IL
McCoy, James R. - Fenton
Mehl, Carl E. - Farmington Hills
Melinat, Theodore C. - Pinconning
Molzan, Harold G. - Rogers City
Monson, John R. - Troy
Mues, R. Dean - Comstock Park
Narr, Edwin J. - North Branch
Neff, Karl M. - West Branch
Neisch, Waldemar O. - Swartz Creek
Neiswender, Donald R. - Brighton
Otten, William H. - Rochester Hills
Otto, Rodney D. - Grandville
Pankow, Edward R. - Hemlock
Pankratz, Adolph W. - Stevensville
Panning, John F. - Holland
Paulson, Warren L. - Jackson
Pflug, Mark R. - Greenville
Pohanka, John C. - Midland
Pohl, Wayne A. - Green Valley, AZ
Pollatz, Paul A. - Garden City
Pollatz, Raymond R. Jr. - Stanwood
Pool, Charles H. - Cedar
Prouty, Albert I. - Taylor

Ramthun, Marvin W. - Lapeer
Rauh, John W. - Wentzville, MO
Reich, Arthur W. - Flint
Richert, Paul O. - Ann Arbor
Roberts, Walter W. - Hudsonville
Rossow, Herman E. - Prudenville
Rudow, Eugene C. - Shelby Twp.
Ruediger, Paul G. - Rose City
Ruhl, Lorne C. - Troy
Ruhlig, Edward M. - Grand Haven
Rynearson, Rodney R. - Frankenmuth
Sattelmeyer, Glenn O. - Rochester Hills
Schemm, Milton R. - Troy
Schilke, Stephen E. - Bay City
Schinnerer, Carl F. - Clinton Twp.
Schlecht, Richard L. - Rochester Hills
Schoof, Armond D. - Monroe
Schrader, David L. - Schwano, WI
Schroeder, Kenneth O. - Frankenmuth
Schroeder, Roy P. - East Lansing
Schudlich, Gerald E. - Manistee
Schultz, Robert J. - Belleville
Schutt, Charles K. - Clinton Twp.
Seng, Dan L. - Battle Creek
Shackell, Maurice G. - Marshall
Smith, Charles O. - Saginaw
Smith, Robert W. - Frankenmuth
Snider, Merelyn R. - Gregory
Spaeth, David M. - Alpena
Spiekerman, Victor J. - Johannesburg
Staudacher, Theodore L. - Lake Leelanau
Teske, Walter W. - Mesick
Thomas, Raymond K. - Jackson
Turanski, Ted N. - Lake City
Turner, James W. - Farmington Hills
Unger, Ralph E. - Warren
Veitengruber, Donald P. - Greenville
Verity, Timothy M. - Grand Rapids
Vinecourt, Bruce E. - Lambertville
Voorhees, David L. - Lansing
Waidelich, Carl W. - Southgate
Wargo, Paul E. - Harsens Island
Weber, James E. - Frankenmuth
Wendt, Ernest C. - Fenton
Werth, Luther A. - Livonia
Wesenberg, Henry C. - Fostoria
Westphal, Leroy R. - Midland
White, Harry W. - Birch Run
Winkler, Wilbert D. - Chesterfield
Witt, Lynn F. - Romeo
Witto, Lawrence E. - Fenton
Wuggazer, Duane T. - Rochester Hills
Zabrocki, Lee H. - Norton Shores
Zehnder, Ronald R. - Ypsilanti
Zeile, Theodore A. - Frankenmuth
Zielke, Kenneth E. - Coldwater
Zimmerman, Paul A. - Traverse City
Zimmerman, Russell E. - Bay City

MICHIGAN DISTRICT ORDAINED MINISTER ROSTER CHANGES

March 2006 - March 2009

Pastors Who Entered the District

Abatelli, Kirk W. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Cedar Crest, White Lake
Bakker, Jonathon J. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Assistant Pastor, Zion, Mount Pleasant
Beiderwieden, Theodore W. (Colloquy) to Pastor, Trinity, Arcadia
Biermann, Todd A. (SELC District) to Associate Pastor, Faith, Grand Blanc
Bomberger, Kenneth J. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Pastor, Mt. Olive, Grand Rapids
Boos, Antonio C. (Missouri District) to Associate Pastor of Outreach, Faith, Troy
Boyer, Michael D. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Associate Pastor, Immanuel, Sebewaing
Buchhorn, Michael G. (Texas District) to Senior Pastor, Zion, Auburn
Carrier, John S. (Northern Illinois District) to Pastor, Trinity, Port Huron
Cloeter, Erik K. (South Wisconsin District) to Assistant Pastor, Messiah, Clio
Collin, Richard W. (Pacific Southwest District) as Emeritus
Creeden, Anthony M. (St. Louis, MO) to Assistant Pastor, Christ Our Savior, Livonia
Daniel, David E. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, United in Christ, Flint
Davies, Brian K. (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, St. Peter, Macomb
DeVries, Phillip M. (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, St. John, Grand Haven
Doerner, Edward F. (Northern Illinois District) to Senior Pastor, Messiah, Midland
Downs, G. Travis (Eastern District) as Candidate
Eichinger, Kurt W. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Lord of New Life, Midland
Eickmann, Robert E. (Indiana District) as Non-Candidate
Fandrey, James E. (English District) to Executive Director, Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb
Fenske, Shawn D. (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, Trinity, Utica
Ferry, Charles D. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to St. Mark, West Bloomfield
Flory, Mark S. (Indiana District) to Pastor, St. Peter, Petersburg
Flynn, Daniel J. (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, St. Luke, Ann Arbor
Frechette, Jeffrey D. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Pastor, Bethlehem, Roseville
Fuller, Nicholas M. (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, Trinity, Muskegon
Gaertner, Evan P. (Eastern District) to Pastor, St. Paul, Hamburg
Giger, Scott W. (Pacific Southwest District) to Associate Pastor, St. Luke, Ann Arbor
Goers, Michael M. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, St. Matthew, Spring Lake
Grunklee, Corey J. (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Bay City
Hales, Henry J. (Lutheran Church - Canada) to Pastor, St. John, Palms
Haller, Mark J. (Central Illinois District) to Senior Pastor, St. Peter's, Eastpointe
Hess, Joel A. (Ohio District) to Associate Pastor, Emmanuel, Cadillac
Hutter, Erwin M. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Our Redeemer, Taylor
James, Asaph A. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, East Bethlehem, Detroit
Jurgensen, Mark A. (Colloquy) to Pastor, Holy Cross, Belding
Kirchhoff, Donald G. (Oklahoma District) as Emeritus
Koschmann, Nicholas W. (St. Louis, MO) to Assistant Pastor, St. Paul, Trenton
Krugler, Richard A. (Northwest District) as Emeritus
Krupsky, Justin (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, Trinity, Utica
Lewis, Bertram B. Sr. (Ohio District) to Mission Planter, Romulus
Loesel, Andrew E. (Rocky Mountain District) as Emeritus
McCloskey, David A. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Zion, Harbor Beach
Menz, Andrew P. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Salem, Coloma
Morris, George W. (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, Faith, Bay City
Morrison, Rodney L. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Hope, St. Helen
Mues, R. Dean (Indiana District) as Emeritus
Neigh, Dennis J. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Pastor, Good Shepherd, Ossineke/Faith, Harrisville
Neujahr, Troy R. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Our Saviour, Hudson
Newton, Steven M. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Grace, Canton
Reese, Ryan D. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Trinity, Warren
Richert, Aaron M. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Teacher, Lutheran High School Northwest, Rochester Hills
Ritter, Donald A. (Colloquy) to Pastor, St. Matthew, Mancelona
Roberts, Scott P. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Living Faith, Marine City
Roemke, James A. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Good Shepherd, Middleville
Rohwer, Gary E. (Pacific Southwest District) to Associate Pastor, All Nations, Troy (POBLO)
Rudowske, Richard C. (Ohio District) to Missionary to Botswana
Rynearson, Rodney R. (Missouri District) as Emeritus
Salminen, Bryan R. (Missouri District) to Pastor, Emmanuel, Cadillac
Schroeder, Martin L. (Pacific Southwest District) as Candidate
Schultz, Matthew C. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Our Savior, Gladwin
Schultz, Roderick D. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Pastor, Our Redeemer, Dearborn
Sherrill, North P. (Nebraska District) to Associate Pastor, Our Savior, Grand Rapids
Smith, Charles O. (Missouri District) as Emeritus
Snider, Merelyn R. (Nebraska District) as Candidate
Spaeth, David M. (Nebraska District) as Emeritus
Sting, Raymond P. (Colloquy) to Asst. Pastor, Our Savior, Bad Axe
Travis, Howard S. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Pastor, St. John, West Branch
Trinklein, Jonathan B. (Omaha, NE) to Sr. Pastor, Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Twp.
Undlin, Paul J. (St. Louis, MO) to Sr. Pastor, Hosanna-Tabor, Redford
Urvan, John R. (St. Louis, MO) to Pastor, Holy Cross, Detroit
Vinecourt, Bruce E. (Nebraska District) as Emeritus
Wachholz, Dean C. (Missouri District) to Associate Pastor, Christ Our King, Saline

Wangelin, William R. (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, Holy Cross, Jenison
 Wehrspann, Noah J. (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, Zion, Kalamazoo
 Weidmayer, Robert C. (English District) as Candidate
 Witte, Mark K. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Associate Pastor, Grace, Monroe
 Wright, Larry D. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Pastor, Our Savior, Midland
 Wollberg, Jeffrey N. (Nebraska District) as Candidate
 Worcester, Glenn H. (Ft. Wayne, IN) to Family of Christ, Alpine Twp.
 Yang, Lang (St. Louis, MO) to Associate Pastor, St. Michael, Richville

Changes Within the District

Adams, Douglas M. (Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Hillsdale) to Pastor, Emmanuel, Britton
 Andrzejewski, Darryl L. (Pastor, New Hope, Hudsonville) to Senior Pastor, Guardian, Dearborn
 Ball, Joshua T. (Lutheran High School North, Macomb) to Sole Pastor, St. Andrew, Memphis
 Barber, Robert G. (Missionary-At-Large, Byron Center) to Sole Pastor, Journey of Faith, Byron Center
 Bendewald, Jon D. (Candidate) to Sole Pastor, Immanuel, Bridgman
 Benjamin, Scott E. (Assistant Pastor, Resurrection, Detroit) to Sole Pastor, Resurrection, Detroit
 Bennett, Robert H. (Pastor, Our Savior, Benzonia) to Sr. Pastor, Trinity, Reese
 Bickel, Craig L. (Pastor, Peace, Shelby Twp.) to Sr. Pastor, Immanuel, Grand Rapids
 Bowditch, Mark A. (Sole Pastor, Family of Christ, Alpine Twp.) to Senior Pastor, Family of Christ, Alpine Twp
 Cloeter, Erik K. (Assistant Pastor, Messiah, Clio) to Senior Pastor, Messiah, Clio
 Doenges, Joseph C. (Assistant Pastor, Immanuel, St. Clair) to Associate Pastor, Immanuel, St. Clair
 Frusti, Todd L. (Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Trenton) to Pastor, Trinity, Davison
 Gnewuch, Carl M. (Associate Pastor, Our Shepherd, Birmingham) to Admn. Pastor, Our Shepherd, Birmingham
 Grafe, Stephen D. (Associate Pastor, Cross of Christ, Bloomfield Hills) to Pastor, Messiah, Holt
 Grayl, Samuel J. (Assistant Pastor, St. Thomas, Eastpointe) to Associate Pastor, St. Thomas, Eastpointe
 Gruenhagen, Andrew D. (Pastor, Hope, St. Helen) to Senior Pastor, St. Michael, Wayne
 Hamilton, George O. (Pastor, Cross & Resurrection, Ann Arbor) to Administrative Pastor, St. Luke, Ann Arbor
 Hemme, Seth R. (Assistant Pastor, St. Peter, Eastpointe) to Associate Pastor, St. Peter, Eastpointe
 Herrod, J. Robert (Pastor, Redeemer, Saginaw) to Pastor, First, Algonac
 Hill, James M. (Pastor, Lutheran City Ministries) to Pastor, Lutheran City Ministries/St. John/Mt. Calvary, Detroit
 Hoover, Chad E. (Assistant Pastor, Trinity, Traverse City) to Pastor, St. Paul, Kalkaska
 Jansen, Daniel L. (Candidate) to Pastor, Faith, Prescott
 Khan, Amer M. (Assoc. Pastor, All Nations, Troy) to Pastor, Living Word, Lansing
 Khan, Amer M. (Pastor, Living Word, Lansing) to Administrative Pastor, All Nations, Troy
 King, Stephen M. (Pastor, Grace/Living Hope, Baldwin/Newago) to Pastor, Grace, Baldwin
 Krause, Daniel L. (Candidate) to Pastor, Bethlehem, Glen Arbor
 Krueger, James F. (Pastor, St. Trinity, Clarkston) to Pastor, Holy Cross, Saginaw
 Lochner, Daniel E. (Associate Pastor, Community, Flat Rock) to Associate Pastor, St. Peter, Big Rapids
 Loewe, Timothy J. (Candidate) to Pastor, Christ the King, Lambertville
 Maske, Steven R. (Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Flint) to Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Flint
 Miller, Kirk D. (Missionary-at-large, Canton) to Pastor, Grace, Canton
 Nehring, Gary L. (Pastor, St. John, AuGres) to Pastor, St. Paul, Albion
 Nelson, Robert J. (Assistant Pastor, St. Mark, Battle Creek) to Associate Pastor, St. Matthew, Walled Lake
 Nevis, E. Enwood (Pastor, Peace, Warren) to Pastor, Faith, Prescott
 Nihiser, James L. (Pastor, Good Shepherd, Caseville) to Pastor, St. Michael, Traverse City
 Roth, Michael J. (Senior Pastor, St. Peter, Eastpointe) to Administrative Pastor, Trinity, St. Joseph
 Salminen, Bryan R. (Sole Pastor, Emmanuel, Cadillac) to Senior Pastor, Emmanuel, Cadillac
 Sawyer, Gregory L. (Hong Kong International School) to Associate Pastor, St. John, Rochester
 Scherbarth, Ray E. (Administrative Pastor, Our Shepherd, Birmingham) to Associate Pastor, Our Shepherd, Birmingham
 Schinkel, John A. (Candidate) to Chaplain, Lutheran Homes of Michigan
 Schneider, Paul H. (Pastor, Bethlehem, Glen Arbor) to Pastor, Chapel of the Lakes, Mecosta
 Schroeder, Thomas L. (Sole Pastor, Christ Our King, Saline) to Senior Pastor, Christ Our King, Saline
 Schwartz, John W. (Pastor, St. Stephen, Shelby) to Pastor, Peace, Warren
 Seaver, Wade M. (Candidate) to Associate Pastor, Grace, Auburn
 Sherouse, M. Samuel (Pastor, Messiah, Saginaw) to Pastor, Our Saviour, Armada
 Sikora, E. Anthony (Pastor, Good Shepherd, Middleville) to Pastor, Hope, DeWitt
 Stadelman, Alan R. (Candidate) to Pastor, St. Peter, Three Rivers
 Taylor, Kurt S. (Sole Pastor, St. John, New Boston) to Senior Pastor, St. John, New Boston
 Wagner, Ainslie B. (Pastor, St. Peter, Petersburg) to Pastor, Trinity, Onokama
 Washington, Oliver G. (Candidate) to Chaplain, U.S. Army
 Williams, Gary C. (Candidate) to Chaplain, U.S. Army
 Winningham, David C. (Pastor, U of M Chapel, Ann Arbor) to Pastor, Ascension, East Lansing
 Wollberg, Jeffrey N. (Candidate) to Chaplain, VA Hospital, Battle Creek
 Zeile, Richard A. (Associate Pastor/Headmaster, St. John, Taylor) to Administrative Pastor, St. John, Taylor

Transferred to Other Districts

Baerwolf, Phillip A. (Associate Pastor, St. John, Grand Haven) to Northern Illinois District
Berkesch, Dennis M. (Our Redeemer, Dearborn) to Pacific Southwest District
Biermann, Herbert L. (Emeritus) to Central Illinois District
Billings, Steven S. (Candidate) to South Wisconsin District
Bjorgaard, Jon A. (Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Twp.) to Pacific Southwest District
Butler, Robert W. (Bethlehem, Lewiston) to South Wisconsin District
Canion, Matthew J. (Holy Cross, Warren) to Texas District
Clark, J. Blair Jr. (Associate Pastor, Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Twp.) to Southern District
Collver, Albert B. (Pastor, Hope, DeWitt) to Missouri District
Dancy, Paul B. (Pastor, Our Saviour, Armada) to English District
Faulstick, Roy B. (Candidate) to English District
Finke, Gregory A. (Senior Pastor, Messiah, Midland) to Texas District
Gadbaw, David R. (Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Lake, Addison) to Mid-South District
Garred, Matthew M. (Associate Pastor, Trinity, Reese) to Ohio District
Garrett, Dion T. (Associate Pastor, St. Matthew, Walled Lake) to Missouri District
Garrison, Thomas B. (Pastor, Shepherd in the Pines, Harbor Springs) to Northwest District
Geisler, Herbert G. (Emeritus) to Pacific Southwest District
Girardin, Mark E. (Pastor, Zion, Harbor Beach) to Southern Illinois District
Gleason, William L. (Non-Candidate) to Central Illinois District
Gruenhagen, David L. (Pastor, St. Paul, Coldwater) to Northwest District
Heller, David R. (Army Chaplain) to Florida-Georgia District
Heuser, Mark E. (Associate Pastor, St. John, Rochester) to Pacific Southwest District
Jacobsen, Gary W. (Candidate) to South Dakota District
Jurgensen, Mark A. (Candidate) to Florida-Georgia District
Manor, Jonathan J. (Pastor, Hosanna-Tabor, Redford) to Central Illinois District
Mayes, Benjamin T. G. (Associate Pastor, Our Savior, Grand Rapids) to Missouri District
Meyer, Jonathan D. (Pastor, St. John/St. Peter, Kilmanagh/Bach, MI) to Indiana District
Miller, Kirk D. (Grace, Canton) to Rocky Mountain District
Nemec, Donald P. (Grace, Elk Rapids) to Wyoming District
Nevis, E. Enwood (Candidate) to Florida-Georgia District
Nowak, Thomas M. (St. Paul, Buchanan) to Atlantic District
Okamoto, Toshio (Emeritus) to Ohio District
Reckling, Roger C. (Candidate) to Southeastern District
Scharnitzke, Philip J. (Associate Pastor, Trinity, Utica) to California-Nevada-Hawaii District
Scheer, Ronald P. (Emeritus) to Florida-Georgia District
Schlicker, Gregory A. (Senior Pastor, Zion, Auburn) to Minnesota South District
Shelton Glenn M. (Pastor, Lakeshore, Spring Lake) to Pacific Southwest District
Smith, Andrew D. (Chaplain) to Southeastern District
Wehrspann, Noah J. (Associate Pastor, Zion, Kalamazoo) to Minnesota North District
Weist, James D. (Candidate) to Ohio District
Wendt, Vernon E. Jr. (Candidate) to English District
Whitfield, Alexander (Pastor, Christ the Good Shepherd, Canton) to South Wisconsin District
Wilber, James G. (Emeritus) to Northwest District
Yeager, Mark A. (Non-Candidate) to Pacific Southwest District
Zeuschner, David W. (Candidate) to South Wisconsin District

Inactive

Inactive - Candidate Status

Boerger, Paul M. (Wales) 9/24/07
Brand, Timothy J. (Mayfield) 11/28/07
Eickmann, Robert E. (Coldwater) 1/5/09
Lunneberg, Allen D. (Waterford) 4/30/07
McVey, Daniel J. (Howell) 12/18/07
Martin, Frank H. (Carleton) 9/22/08
Rebert, Terry J. (Lake Orion) 12/31/07
Waddell, James A. (Jackson) 2/28/08

Inactive - Non-Candidate Status

Adler, David L. (Florida) 9/30/06
Downs, G. Travis (Laingsburg) 12/24/08
Kleimola, Dale M. (Milan) 1/1/08
Koehler, C. Jay (Traverse City) 1/14/09
Stahlhut, Stephen C. (Linden) 4/30/06

Inactive - Emeritus

Balzer, James G. (Pastor, Emmanuel, Britton) 7/1/06
DeMeritt, Carl F. (Chaplain, Saginaw) 11/17/06
Eggers, Robert M. (Associate Pastor, Peace, Saginaw) 3/15/06
Fritz, Jeffrey M. (Pastor, Bethlehem, Roseville) 5/31/08
Graves, K. Frank (Senior Pastor, Shepherd of the Lakes, Brighton) 9/30/08
Hamilton, George O. (Administrative Pastor, St. Luke, Ann Arbor) 9/30/08
Hinze, Dennis A. (Non-Candidate) 11/12/08
Keat, James D. (Pastor, Grace, Leslie) 12/31/08
Larsen, Peter E. (Congregation Ministry Facilitator, Michigan District, Ann Arbor) 6/15/07
Kilponen, Roger R. (Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Flint) 12/1/07
Kostizen, Erwin (Senior Pastor, Messiah, Clio) 9/30/08
Laeder, Richard P. (Pastor, Trinity, Lansing) 1/31/09
Mabry, Gilbert R. (Pastor, United in Christ, Flint) 4/11/07
Mann, Robert H. (Pastor, Trinity, Port Huron) 6/30/07
Pohanka, John C. (Senior Pastor, St. John, Midland) 1/10/08
Pollatz, Paul A. (Associate Pastor, St. Matthew, Westland) 9/4/07

Reich, Arthur W. (Pastor, Good Shepherd, Ossineke) 10/31/06
Schilke, Stephen E. (Pastor, Holy Cross, Onaway) 10/31/08
Schultz, Robert J. (Candidate) 5/1/07
Smith, Robert W. (Missionary to Indonesia) 9/30/06
Snider, Merelyn (Candidate) 11/11/08
Teske, Walter W. (Candidate) 12/22/08
Turanski, Ted N. (Pastor, St. Paul, Kalkaska) 6/30/08
Turner, James W. (Pastor, Holy Cross, Detroit) 9/14/06
Verity, Timothy M. (Pastor, Immanuel, Grand Rapids) 1/31/08
Wargo, Paul E. (Pastor, Cedar Crest, White Lake) 6/4/06
Werth, Luther A. (Senior Pastor, Christ Our Savior, Livonia) 9/30/06
Zimmerman, Russell E. (Candidate) 2/7/07

Resigned from Roster

Bickel, Timothy J. (Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Millington) 8/1/08
Gill, John M. (Associate Pastor, All Nations, Troy) 10/31/08
Kelly, Bradley H. (Associate Pastor, Christ, Stevensville) 3/11/08
Rippy, Sean L. (Pastor, Mt. Olive, Grand Rapids) 7/21/07
Weist, James D. (Associate Pastor, Faith, Grand Blanc) 5/3/06
Williams, Edgar L. (Pastor, St. Stephen, Detroit) 7/25/07
Woodring, Daniel H. (Pastor, Prince of Peace, New Buffalo) 3/31/08

Reinstated to Roster

Engel, Brant A. 2/18/08
Weist, James D. 9/24/07

Removed from Roster

Sommerfield, Barry R. (Candidate) 2/7/07
Wahl, Robert K. (Non-Candidate) 5/9/06

Called to Glory

Daniel, Theodore A. (Emeritus) 8/30/08
Frederick, Parke G. (Emeritus) 8/3/06
Krieger, Eugene L. (Emeritus) 7/16/07
Lubben, Darrell M. (Emeritus) 7/20/06
McCain, Paul B. (Emeritus) 7/6/07
Moehring, James E. (Emeritus) 9/15/06
Mowry, Timothy E. (Redeemer, Interlochen) 5/26/08
Schwartz, Vernon H. (Emeritus) 9/15/06
Streffling, Allen R. (Salem, Coloma) 12/30/07
Tuschling, Charles F. (Emeritus) 5/25/06

Congregations Added

Byron Center, Journey of Faith - 3/25/08
Chesterfield, Living Hope of the Bay - 11/16/08
Comstock Park, Family of Christ - 5/23/06
Imlay City, Family of Christ - 12/3/06
Lansing, Living Word - 4/25/07
Rochester Hills, Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word - 2/17/08
Trout Lake, Trout Lake - 1/11/09
Troy, Faith Tamil - 3/25/07

Congregation Merged

Fremont, Living Hope with Baldwin, Grace - 1/4/07

Congregations Disbanded

Ann Arbor, Cross & Resurrection - closing service 4/30/07
Detroit, St. Timothy - closing service 3/1/09
Harbor Springs, Shepherd in the Pines - closing service 8/26/07
Holly, Gethsemane Lutheran Church - closing service 8/27/06
New Buffalo, Prince of Peace - closing service 2/17/08

Ordination Anniversaries

2007

- 60 Years** Charles F. Boerger; John G. Deterding; Dwain M. Gade; Harold G. Molzan
- 50 Years** James L. Ackerman; Ralph W. Carey; Ronald H. Guettler; Norman H. Heintz; Edwin J. Narr
- 40 Years** Warren B. Arndt; David G. Huber; Luke F. Stephan
- 25 Years** Timothy P. Azzam; John A. Bookshaw; John M. Duerr; James D. Erickson; Joseph Fremer; Karl E. Galik; Paul W. Herter; Richard P. Hillenbrand; David A. Jung; Eugene H. Koessel; Thomas M. Lubeck; David P.E. Maier; Daniel J. McVey; John F. Mueller; Peter S. Nickel; Paul G. Ruediger; David F. Sherry; W. Roger Stauffer; Michael L. Teuscher; Timothy M. Verity; Richard J. Wolfram

2008

- 70 Years** Louis W. Grother; Edward M. Ruhlig; Theodore A. Zeile
- 60 Years** Carl F. Schinnerer; Victor J. Spiekerman
- 50 Years** Paul A.O. Boecler; John L. Heins; Dale B. Krueger; Paul L. Maier; Warren L. Paulson; Leroy R. Westphal
- 40 Years** Harold A. Avers; Jeffrey M. Fritz; Alan R. Hartfield; Robert D. Koepfen; Fred C. Krause; Robert H. Mann; Dan L. Seng; Leslie D. Tyvela; Carl W. Waidelich
- 25 Years** Robert B. Appold; Gary L. Beck; John S. Carrier; Robert L. Chadwick; Carl F. DeMeritt; Alan P. Eisinger; Mark S. Flory; Paul A. Hauser; Mark W. Hetzner; Robert E. Kasper; William C. Lahrmann; Randy D. Lett; David H. Reed; Samuel B. Reith; Ronald C. Schultz; Barry C. Sheldon; Stephen P. Starke; Ainslie B. Wagner; Gary C. Williams

2009

- 60 Years** Eldor F. Bickel; Richard A. Krugler
- 50 Years** Roland R. Barkow; David Eberhard; Karl A. Fuhlbrigge; Rodney R. Rynearson; Gerald E. Schudlich; Raymond K. Thomas; Duane T. Wuggazer
- 40 Years** William Besler; Gerald E. Harms; Andrew E. Loesel; Paul O. Marschke; Rodney D. Otto; Paul A. Pollatz; Marvin w. Ramthun; David L. Schrader; Kenneth O. Schroeder; Frederick W. Traugott
- 25 Years** Michael S. Allen; David A. Davis; Lawrence M. Eckart; Harry N. Edenfield; Thomas F. Fischer; Bradley G. Garrison; Gary D. Headapohl; Steven C. Helms; Lawrence K. Matro; Peter L. Mueller; Ray E. Scherbarth; James A. Schouweiler; Jeffrey B. Walsh; Mark C. Whittaker; Bradley J. Yops

Officers

The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, President (2010)
 1st Vice-President: Rev. Dr. William R. Diekelman (2010)
 2nd Vice-President: Rev. Dr. Paul L. Maier (2010)
 3rd Vice-President: Rev. Dr. John C. Wohlrabe Jr. (2010)

4th Vice-President: Rev. Dr. Dean W. Nadasdy (2010)
 5th Vice-President: Rev. Dr. David D. Buegler (2010)
 Secretary: Rev. Dr. Raymond L. Hartwig (2010)
 VP Finance-Treasurer: Dr. Thomas W. Kuchta (2010)

The Michigan District of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

Rev. Dr. C. William Hoesman, President (2009)
 1st Vice-President: Rev. David P. E. Maier (2009)
 2nd Vice-President: Rev. Dr. Wayne H. Wentzel (2009)
 Secretary: Rev. David H. Reed (2009)

3rd Vice-President: Rev. Michael J. Roth (2009)
 4th Vice-President: Rev. Dr. K. Frank Graves (2009)
 Treasurer: Mr. William H. Young (2009)

Circuit Counselors of the Michigan District

(2009)

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Stephen E. Schilke | 17. Michael P. Schulz | 32. Lawrence K. Matro |
| 2. Robert L. Mikkelson | 18. Alan P. Eisinger | 33. James E. Schroeder |
| 3. Dean R. Muhle | 19. John E. Merrill | 34. Robert D. Baerwolf |
| 4. William C. Winter | 20. Steven J. Essenburg | 35. Richard P. Laeder |
| 5. Paul V. Young | 21. David F. Burgess | 36. Jeffrey E. Heimsoth |
| 6. William H. Allwardt | 22. Harold A. Avers | 37. Fred C. Krause |
| 7. Kenneth D. Lueke | 23. Harry N. Edenfield | 38. Dennis L. Lassanske |
| 8. Gerald A. Meyer | 24. Bruce K. Lucas | 39. John Westra |
| 9. Dale C. Ahlschwede | 25. Kurt E. Lambart | 40. Mark W. Love |
| 10. William W. Hessler | 26. Terry A. Nelson | 41. Thomas F. Meyer |
| 11. Clifford F. Bira | 27. Thomas M. Lubeck | 42. Paul R. Naumann |
| 12. Larry M. Eckart | 28. Thomas L. Schroeder | 43. David E. Weiss |
| 13. David H. Hensler | 29. Larry G. Courson | 44. L. Daniel Johnson |
| 14. Gerhardt A. Doroh | 30. R. William Roper | |
| 15. George S. Bagnall | 31. Ted N. Turanski | |
| 16. Eric W. Majeski | | |

Boards and Committees of the Michigan District

Board of Directors

<u>Region</u>	<u>Ordained</u>	<u>Commissioned</u>	<u>Laypersons</u>
Metro East: (2012)	Robert E. Kasper	Stanley R. Topel	Margaret O'Reilly
West: (2012)	Dieter E. Haupt	Richard C. Krueger	Ruth E. Martin
Metro West: (2009)	David P. Gohn	Harvey M. Schmit	Christine Chauvin
North & East: (2009)	Mark D. Brandt	Henry M. Pickelman	Harold M. Braeutigam
			John E. Held
			John C. Raffel
			Duane A. Renken
			Larry A. Bauermeister

Church Extension Board of Trustees

<u>Ordained</u>	<u>Commissioned</u>	<u>Laypersons</u>
Joel F. Hoyer (2012)	Ian K. McDonald (2012)	James R. Saalfield (2009)
Erwin Kostizen (2009)	Julian Petzold (2009)	Ray A. Seppamaki (2012)
Michael J. Lutz (2012)		Kent R. Smith (2009)
		David Vallie (2009)
Staff: Ronald L. Steinke, President & CEO	Paul Wills, VP for Marketing	John Bates, Senior VP & CFO

2009 Convention Nominating Committee

<u>Region</u>	<u>Ordained</u>	<u>Commissioned</u>	<u>Laypersons</u>
Metro East:	Timothy A. Bickel	Gary L. Pawlitz	Phillip Fluegge
Metro West:	Joel H. Sarrault	Daniel L. Ramthun	Larry Seltz
North & East:	Paul R. Hinz	Michael H. Bender	John W. Nutzmann
West:	Robert B. Appold	Timothy L. Ernst	David Marasus

Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support

Ordained

Gary Beck
Mark W. Hetzner, Chairman
Bryan R. Salminen
Luke F. Stephan
Mark C. Whittaker
Richard J. Wolfram

Laypersons

Catherine Lick
Roger Pickering

Commissioned

Ben Freudenburg
Katherine Keller
Beverly Koch
Kathy Krause
Daniel Ramthun

Ex-Officio:

Rev. C. William Hoesman

Commission on Deacon Qualification

Rev. Ted Beiderwieden
Rev. Warren Paulson
Dr. Robert Schultz, Chairman

Chris Brown
Bill Storm

Dr. Jim Boldt
Dr. Ronald Jahnke

District Reconcilers: Rev. Gary L. Bender, Rev. Terry E. Hoes, Mr. Duane F. Nagel, Mr. Duane A. Renken

New Revised Constitution Committee: Rev. Arnold H. Brammeier, Mr. James Garber, Mr. A. William Rolf, Rev. Luther A. Werth

District Legal Counsel: Mr. Dana Dever

District Standing Committees

Stewardship Committee: Mr. Ronald Chewing, Rev. John M. Duerr, Mr. Larry H. Rockensuess, Sr., Rev. R. William Roper, Rev. Stephen E. Schilke, Ms. Mary Smith,

Education Committee: Mr. Joel Bahr, Mr. Ronald Dressler, Mr. Kevin Hendrikson, Rev. Dr. John Herzog, Mr. Robert Hoch, Mr. Eric Pittman, Mr. Michael Rosin, Mr. Dennis Schmidt, Mr. Roy Siefker, Mr. Charles Strohacker, Mr. David Truog,

District Committees

Endowment Advisory Council: Mr. Wayne Franke, Mr. Stephen List; Mr. Barry Olson; Mr. G. Joseph Pasman; Mr. Dennis Tischler; Mr. Martin Zehnder; Mr. John Kidwell; Mr. Chad Woltemath; Mr. William Young; Dr. C. William Hoesman

125th Campaign Steering Committee: Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer; Dr. K. Frank Graves; Dr. John L. Heins; Mr. Gerald Kluck; Dr. David Maier; Dr. Paul Maier; Mr. Philip Moilanen; Mr. Karl Mueller; Mr. Barry Olson; Rev. Michael Roth; Dr. Richard Schlecht; Mr. Ronald Steinke; Dr. Wayne Wentzel; Mr. Robert Zeilinger; Mr. Richard Ziebart, Mr. John Kidwell, Mr. Ray Zavada; Mr. Chad Woltemath, Dr. C. William Hoesman

PCW Ethics Task Force: Mr. John E. Brandt, Mr. Thomas Jaffke, Dr. George Locke, Mr. Keith Minda, Mrs. Susan Palka, Rev. Philip Quardokus, Rev. Luther Werth, Dr. C. William Hoesman

Congregation Ethics Task Force: Rev. Gary Beck, Mr. Bruce Braun, Dr. Perry Bresemann, Mr. William Kaiser, Rev. Kenneth Lueke, Mr. James Saalfeld, Dr. C. William Hoesman

Disaster Response Team: Mr. Joe Anheuser, Mr. Brent Courson, Rev. Larry Courson, Ms. Heidi Fowler-Henzi, Mr. Robert Schafer, Mr. Mark Schroeder, Ms. Susan Wintermeyer-Pingel

Health Advocates Task Force: Mrs. Caroline Klausmeier, Ms. Catherine Lick RN, Mrs. Michell Porisch RN

Children & Family Ministry Task Force: Rev. Todd Biermann, Mrs. Ann Colley, Ms. Caroline Gray, Mr. Mark Nimtz, Mr. David Sheldon, Ms. Christine Stodola

Youth & Family Ministry Task Force: Mr. James Heuseman, Ms. Patricia J. Kernstock, Rev. Nicholas Koschmann, Ms. Emily Norman, Ms. Debora Stark, Mr. John Welte

Children's Ministry Committee: Mrs. Cynthia Brown, Mr. John Hagge, Ms. Rebekka Koehn, Mrs. Susan Regner, Ms. Christine Stodola

Jr High Gathering Planning Committee: Mr. James Anderson, Mrs. Katherine Duvendeck, Mrs. Kristin Hardy, Ms. Brenda Heissenbuettel, Mr. Josh Kittleman, Mrs. Terri Kober, Mrs. Michelle Kranz, Mrs. Kelly Meyer, Ms. Greta Bower, Ms. Nancy Rieter, Ms. Rachel Walsh

Sr High Gathering Planning Committee: Mr. James Anderson, Rev. James Bruner, Mr. Andrew Guenther, Mrs. Janette Hart, Mrs. Rebecca Martinel, Mr. Keith Minda, Mr. Micah Rabe, Mr. Eric Steinke

Lutheran Adult Gathering Planning Committee:	Mr. Richard Bearup, Mrs. Judy Bearup, Rev. David Davis, Mrs. Sally Davis, Mr. Peter Grund, Mrs. Kitty Grund, Mr. Allan Hirt, Mrs. Shirley Hirt, Ms. Marilyn Humphrey, Rev. John Rauh, Mrs. LaVerne Rauh, Mr. O. Dennis Sohn, Mrs. Miriam Sohn, Mr. Keith Waller, Mrs. Kim Waller
Commission on Mental Illness:	Rev. Roland Barkow, Rev. Barton Gray, Mrs. Laura Gray, Rev. Mark Hill, Dr. Carolyn Koppenol, Mrs. Carol Staudacher, Mrs. Linda LaTulip, Rev. Warren Paulson
Principal's Conference Committee:	Mr. Walter Krone, Mrs. Janet McLoughlin, Mr. Julian Petzold, Mr. Eric Pittman, Mr. Thomas Wrege
School Accreditation Committee:	Mrs. Janet Allen, Mr. David Dembeck, Rev. Dr. John Herzog, Mr. David Kusch, Dr. George Locke, Mr. Mark Shallhorn, Mr. Roy Siefker, Mr. Charles Strohacker, Mr. Dale Vorwerk, Mr. Brian Young
Educational Technology Committee:	Mr. Barry Blomquist, Mr. David Meyer, Mr. Mark Schallhorn
Early Childhood Cabinet:	Mrs. Janice Catania, Mrs. Kelley Fehn, Mrs. Rhonda Fishel, Mrs. Deborah McDonald, Mrs. Kathleen Prusak, Mrs. Miriam Sohn, Mrs. Dawn States, Mrs. Shirley Wallace, Mrs. Judy Williams
Finance Committee:	Mr. John Held, Dr. Robert Kasper, Mr. Henry Pickelmann, Mr. Chad Woltemath, Mr. William Young

MICHIGAN DISTRICT MINISTERS OF RELIGION - COMMISSIONED

(March 23, 2006 to March 9, 2009)

District Administration

Braun, Bruce N. - Ann Arbor, Michigan District Superintendent of Lutheran Schools

Walther, Galan D. - Ann Arbor, Michigan District, Executive for Family Life

Principals

- Altevogt, Lester L. – Hemlock, St. Peter
- * Baerwolf, Paul R. – Dearborn, Emmanuel
- Bahr, Joel M. – Kentwood, St. Mark
- * Beckman, Katherine S. Krieger – Sawyer, Trinity
- Beethe, Ivan R. – Conklin, Trinity
- Bender, Michael H. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
- * Bickel, Elaine C. Petzold – Millington, St. Paul
- * Blomquist, Barry E. – Grand Rapids, Our Savior
- * Bremer, David A. – St. Johns, St. Peter
- * Brown, Cynthia A. Haller – Harbor Beach, Zion
- * Campbell, Gary H. – Saginaw, Peace
- * Ceplecha, Paula I. North – Port Hope, St. John
- * Christian, Robert J. – Macomb, Immanuel
- * Davis, Terry M. – Macomb, St. Peter
- * Dockery, Daniel L. – Traverse City, Trinity
- Dressler, Ronald L. – Saginaw, Bethlehem
- * Eisman, Jerry M. – Bay City, St. Paul
- Enge, Jennifer A. Keefer – Bay City, St. John
- * Fredrich, Peter D. – Auburn, Grace
- Fritsch, Kregg C. – Warren, Peace
- * Hall, Carl G. – Northville, St. Paul
- Hambaum, Patricia S. Stange – Bay City, Immanuel
- Hass, Kenneth E. – Port Huron, Trinity
- Heins, Eric J. – Monroe, Holy Ghost
- Hendrikson, Kevin J. – Richville, St. Michael's
- Hilken, John C. – Monroe, Trinity
- * Hindenach, Deanna J. Brill – Paw Paw, Trinity
- Hoefl, Stacy J. McGhee – Rochester, Living Word
- * Hutton, William P. – Muskegon, Trinity
- * Johnson, Gregory K. – Portage, St. Michael
- * Kell, Luther P. – Sterling Heights, St. Paul
- Kleimola, David A. – Clinton Township, St. Luke
- * Kosman, Paul K. – Sturgis, Trinity
- Kovtun, George G. – Richmond, St. Peter's
- * Krone, Walter K. – Dearborn, Guardian
- * Kumm, David H. – Sebewaing, Christ the King
- Kusch, David S. – Farmington Hills, St. Paul's
- Kutz, John C. – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
- Landskroener, James – Lansing, Our Savior
- LaRocque, Janet E. – Bay City, Zion
- * Leidich, Roy E. – Eastpointe, St. Thomas
- Massey, Bradley R. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
- McLoughlin, Janet M. Wooden – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
- Moehring, David P. – Manistee, Trinity
- Nelson-McKenzie, Kristen – Waterford, St. Stephen
- * Neumeyer, Dennis K. – Saginaw (Frankentrost), Immanuel
- Palka, Susan E. McCreadie – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
- Petzold, Julian H. – St. Joseph, Trinity
- * Pickelmann, Henry M. – Bay City, Trinity
- Pickelmann, Jonathon H. – Midland, St. John's
- * Pittman, Eric G. – Royal Oak, St. Paul
- * Quade, Karen J. – Coldwater, St. Paul
- Rosin, Michael P. – Southgate, Christ the King
- * Schallhorn, Mark B. – Flint, St. Mark
- * Schmidt, Dennis M. – Auburn, Zion
- * Schmit, Harvey M. – Wayne, St. Michael
- * Schroeder, Kenneth W. – Rogers City, St. John
- Siefker, Roy David – Detroit, Detroit Urban
- * Smith, James F. Jr. – Reed City, Trinity
- * Stoelting, Daniel D. – Bay City, Faith
- Strohacker, Charles J. – Stevensville, Christ
- * Sturm, Raymond T. – Lapeer, St. Paul
- * Truog, David J. – Big Rapids, St. Peter
- * Waltz, David E. – Fraser, St. John
- Weiss, Jared L. – Shelby Township, Peace
- * Wolter, Roger W. – Saginaw, Holy Cross
- Wrege, Thomas W. – Utica, Trinity

Assistant Principals

- Hoch, Robert M. – Macomb, St. Peter
- * Rashid, Janet M. Schott – Sterling Heights, St. Paul
- * Remer, Rose A. Kark – Utica, Trinity
- * Wilks, Myril A. – Shelby Township, Peace

* Indicates principal/teacher or assistant principal/teacher

Educators in Lutheran Elementary Schools and Early Childhood Centers

Abraham, Rachel M. – Bay City, St. Paul
 Anders, Brian L. – Clinton Township, Trinity
 Anderson, Emily J. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Anderson, Lisa M. Klute – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Angott, Donna L. Renkert – Utica, Trinity
 Aubuchon, Barbara A. Hoefl – Monroe, Trinity
 Baarck, Stephanie L. Kroeger – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Balzer, JoAnn Grote – Sturgis, Trinity
 Barrie, Pamela M. A. Wilson – Alpena, Immanuel
 Bauer, Todd D. – Rochester, St. John
 Bauer, Nancy K. Kiel – Bay City, St. John
 Beach, Sharon R. Schmaltz – Stevensville, Christ
 Bean, Christina L. Silvey – Utica, Trinity
 Behm, Constance R. Rengstorf – Grand Haven, St. John
 Bergant, Virginia A. Albers – Saginaw, Bethlehem
 Bergkoetter, Molly A. Schechte – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Beringer, Daniel W. – Sebawaing, Immanuel
 Beringer, Gloria L. Gehner – Sebawaing, Immanuel
 Berns, Nancy E. Jung – Monroe, Trinity
 Bierce, Anna R. – Auburn, Zion
 Bierlein, Heather M. Shirley – Bay City, 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
 Boldt, John P. – Monroe, Trinity
 Bolt, Jonathan M. – Rochester, Living Word
 Bouma, Mari-Beth Ingalls – Grand Rapids, Immanuel
 Bower, Greta L. – Belleville, Open Arms
 Brand, Susan L. Gibson – Traverse City, Trinity
 Brandt, Susan R. – Saginaw, Bethlehem
 Brenner, Mark D. – Bay City, St. John
 Bresemann, Linda G. Hauren – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Brown, Mark A. – Clinton Township, Trinity
 Brunk, Donna J. – Utica, Trinity
 Buchinger, Lori A. Haines – Millington, St. Paul
 Buchinger, Steven L. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Bunke, James E. – Sebawaing, Immanuel
 Bunkelman, James O. – Monroe, Trinity
 Carlton, Ruth M. Kell – Milford, Christ
 Carrier, Lori J. Grimshaw – Port Huron, Trinity
 Case, Susan G. Grau – St. Joseph, Trinity
 Chaplin, Heidi U. Klemm – Sterling Heights, St. Paul
 Childers, Frances M. Cashmer – New Boston, St. John
 Christie, Linda K. Klausmeier – Traverse City, Trinity
 Clark, Dennis W. – Port Huron, Trinity
 Clark, Mary E. Williams – Detroit, Detroit Urban
 Conger, Norene J. Hass – Eastpointe, St. Thomas
 Contreras, Andrew J. – Richmond, St. Peter's
 Covell, Mary A. Hein – Traverse City, Trinity
 Cowan, Beth A. – Muskegon, Our Redeemer
 Croucher, Sarah R. Steffe – Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
 Dahn, Mary L. Schleicher – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 Daniell, Sheri L. Gross – Dearborn, Emmanuel
 Davey, Stefanie E. – Utica, Trinity
 Davis, Kathryn R. Koenig – New Boston, St. John
 Davis, Leanne S. Schlaefke – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Decheim, Sandra E. Niemi – Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
 DeLage, Deborah L. Knight – Southgate, Christ the King
 Delmotte, Karen M. Reichenbach – Utica, Trinity
 Dembeck, David E. – Macomb, St. Peter
 Demo, Maida R. Sevon – Reese, Trinity
 DeVoy, Tanya M. Walsh – Macomb, Immanuel
 Dickinson, Melinda S. Bathke – Traverse City, Trinity
 Diroff, Jayne K. Kregel – Monroe, Holy Ghost
 Dohrmann, Jane M. Gergman – Reese, Trinity
 Donal, Karyn M. – Farmington Hills, St. Paul's
 Draves, Thomas J. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Drinan, Lori J. Weir – Saginaw, Peace
 Drzyzga, Pamela J. – Bay City, Zion
 Dunklau, Linda J. Bork – Macomb, St. Peter
 Dunsmore, David M. – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Dunsmore, Sharon K. Bruns – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Earley, Karen L. Gross Wolgast – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Efrid, Rebecca L. Difatta – Southgate, Christ the King
 Eichinger, Diane J. Maschke – Bay City, Zion
 Eisenman, Barbara M. Kade – Dearborn, Guardian
 Eising, Christina E. Guettler – Royal Oak, St. Paul
 Eisman, Kathleen S. Ott – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Engelhard, Cynthia M. Elston – Unionville, St. Paul
 Erdman, Jonathan A. – Millington, St. Paul
 Erfourth, Lee E. – Jackson, Trinity
 Ernst, Timothy L. – St. Joseph, Trinity
 Eschmann, Johanna F. – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 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. – Flint, St. Paul
 Farrand, Thomas J. – Stevensville, Christ
 Fechik, Carol A. Voss – Paw Paw, Trinity
 Fehn, Kelley J. Werdeman – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Fehn, Lynn A. Knoll – Saginaw, Good Shepherd
 Felten, Daniel L. – Bridgeport, Faith
 Fielitz, Jane L. Wagner – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 Fischer, Karen E. Murphy – Macomb, St. Peter
 Fischer, Karen K. Nemetz – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Fischer, Melinda A. Wiersig – Detroit, Detroit Urban
 Fish, Dale W. – Bay City, St. John
 Fish, Sarah E. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Fisk, Katrina A. Blackwell – Manistee, Trinity
 Frobels, David P. – Rochester, St. John
 Frusti, Kathleen H. Robertson – Jackson, Trinity
 Fuller, Lynne E. Erikson – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Gallagher, John J. – Muskegon, Trinity
 Gallagher, Megan J. – Shelby Township, Peace
 Gallert, Frederick D. – Grand Rapids, Our Savior
 Garcia, Justin N. – Bay City, St. Paul
 Gehrs, Kathleen A. Sandfort – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Genthner, Clinton F. – Jackson, Trinity
 Gerken, Terri N. Neer – Stevensville, Christ
 Geyer, Stephen H. – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Gibson, Debra S. – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Gilson, Laura M. – Lapeer, St. Paul
 Gioe, Christopher M. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Gioe, Louise E. Scheueman – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Glazier, Roxanne S. Schmerheim Woodcock – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Goetz, Lois A. Mortensen – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 Gnewuch, Cynthia A. Nerge – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Grage, Glenn G. – Bay City, Faith
 Green, Sheila M. Patchett – Fraser, St. John
 Greve, Karen L. Faszholz – Macomb, Immanuel
 Grim, Katie L. – Flint, St. Mark
 Grimm, Ellen K. Dedert – Montague, St. James
 Grimpo, R. Dwain – Bay City, Faith
 Grothaus, Timothy A. – Rochester, St. John
 Gruber, Mary M. Janssens – New Boston, St. John
 Grueber, Susan E. Klein – Saginaw (Frankentrost), Immanuel
 Grupe, Michele S. Rebant – Utica, Trinity
 Gust, Clara F. Gaffke – Port Hope, St. John
 Hagenow, Eric M. – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Hagenow, Margaret A. Schroeder – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Haglund, Jennifer S. – Macomb, St. Peter
 Hand, Marsha J. Meyer – Monroe, Trinity
 Harris, Valerie J. – Utica, Trinity
 Hansell, Christopher G. – Bay City, Immanuel
 Hauser, Briana L. – Saginaw, Peace
 Havers, Brenda E. Krzyske – Utica, Trinity
 Havrilcsak, Laura A. Hart – Flint, St. Paul
 Heck, David P. – Utica, Trinity
 Heck, Zonna L. King – Big Rapids, St. Peter
 Hegenauer, Diane L. Heyl – Wayne, St. Michael
 Heinert, Karla S. – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Helmreich, Harry J. – Traverse City, Trinity
 Hempel, Ruth R. Dornfeld – Northville, St. Paul
 Henwood, Jane D. Coomer – Utica, Trinity
 Hermann, Katie A. – Southgate, Christ the King
 Hermann, Randi S. Rush – Southgate, Christ the King
 Hessler, Lindsey S. Raney – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Hilsabeck, Janet E. Roberts – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 Hinck, John T. – Westland, St. Matthew
 Hoch, Arthur G. – Alpena, Immanuel
 Hoch, Judith L. Bohl – Alpena, Immanuel
 Hoefl, James M. – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
 Hoefl, Karen R. Ging – Westland, St. Matthew

Hoeft, Rebekah J. Holmes – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
 Hoerauf, Karen F. Strickert – Fraser, St. John
 Hohnstadt, Rebecca S. – Lapeer, St. Paul
 Hollrah, Deanna S. – Clinton Township, Trinity
 Holtzen, Mary K. Garchow – Monroe, Trinity
 Holtzen, Richard O. – Monroe, Trinity
 Hooper, Julie L. – Millington, St. Paul
 Hurd, James A. – Saginaw, Holy Cross
 Hurd, Loraine K. Einspahr – Saginaw, Holy Cross
 Hyslop, Dora J. Pingel – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Jackson, Kristen M. Nagy Heyniger – New Boston, St. John
 Jacques, Krista E. Pfeiffer – Macomb, Immanuel
 Jammer, Bonnie M. – Auburn, Zion
 Janetzke, Emily L. Bluege – Bay City, Immanuel
 Janetzke, Kristen S. Billig – Rochester, Living Word
 Jarembo, Marcia S. Sonnenberg – Flint, St. Paul
 Jesgarz, Frederick K. – Manistee, Trinity
 Johnson, Christine A. Eberhard – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 Johnson, Melanie L. – New Boston, St. John
 Jones, Amanda R. Kajjala – Flint, St. Paul
 Jones, Leah M. Schiefer – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Jordan, Sharon B. Berry – Southgate, Christ the King
 Kaiser, David A. – Millington, St. Paul
 Kaiser, Erika J. Goebel – Millington, St. Paul
 Kaschinske, Kenneth A. – Saginaw, Peace
 Kaschube, Elizabeth M. Ueckert – Muskegon, Trinity
 Kasper, Deborah L. Brandt – Macomb, St. Peter
 Keinath, Kay A. VanPetten – Millington, St. Paul
 Kelly, Kimberly A. – St. Joseph, Trinity
 Kern, Aaron F. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Kern, Dennis L. – Stevensville, Christ
 Kern, Kimberly L. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Kern, Stuart C. – Saginaw (Frankentrost), Immanuel
 Keup, Aaron W. – Reed City, Trinity
 Keup, Joel A. – Saginaw, Peace
 Keup, Ronald W. – Reese, Trinity
 Kirchenberg, Mark R. – Manistee, Trinity
 Kirchhoff, David W. – Macomb, Immanuel
 Kitzman, Laura A. Benson – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Klauer, Susan E. Goebel – Richmond, St. Peter's
 Koboldt, Mary E. Dietzel – Saginaw, Peace
 Kolberg, Deborah L. Ziebart – Grand Haven, St. John
 Konkell, Lynnette S. Jensen – Southgate, Christ the King
 Kooi, Patti J. Walter – Grand Haven, St. John
 Kopper, Jill M. – Shelby Township, Peace
 Korbely, Marie A. Engelhardt – Fraser, St. John
 Koschmann, Mark E. – Midland, St. John's
 Kowalke, Julie A. – Utica, Trinity
 Kraft, Mary E. – Royal Oak, St. Paul
 Krause, Beth E. Appold – Lansing, Our Savior
 Krause, Jennifer L. Dietrich – Richville, St. Michael's
 Krenz, Elizabeth A. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Kressbach, Frederick M. – Macomb, Immanuel
 Krieger, Ruth A. Dubke – Berrien Springs, Trinity
 Kruger, Nancy E. – Macomb, Immanuel
 Kruse, Ruth A. Warsinske – Port Huron, Trinity
 Kugler, Colleen J. Klahn – Sawyer, Trinity
 Kundinger, Debra J. Bach – Sebawaing, Immanuel
 Kurien, Rebekah L. Bullock – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 LaFontaine, Cindy R. Havemeier – Grand Blanc, Faith
 Lanning, Chantal M. Kulczycki – Flint, St. Paul
 Lanthier, Elizabeth A. Schoen – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Latin, Keri M. Urban – Reed City, Trinity
 Laubsch, Terry J. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Lavigne, Shannon D. Seeloff – Ann Arbor, Divine Shepherd
 Lederer, Nancy R. Hoegemeyer – Macomb, Immanuel
 Leidecker, Shirley A. Hantak – Macomb, Immanuel
 Leitzke, Heidi L. Harris – Rochester, St. John
 Lemke, Jane E. – Monroe, Trinity
 Lenghart, Susan M. Mitchell – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Lewis, Lori J. Kell – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Lindenfelder, Lynn M. Duhl – Dearborn, Guardian
 List, Vicky L. Schreiner – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Lucas, Cindy L. Doede – Monroe, Trinity
 Lyon, David R. – China, Shanghai, Concordia International
 Machermer, Susan M. Teske – Fraser, St. John
 Manthei, Gregory W. – New Boston, St. John
 Martin, Kathy A. – Bay City, Zion
 Matasovsky, Dina C. Cristante – Wayne, St. Michael
 Matzke, Sally L. Ebert – St. Joseph, Trinity
 Mazur, Tammy E. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 McCabe, Lllisa L. Anderson-Vie – Kentwood, St. Mark
 McClatchey, Rita I. Simanis – Royal Oak, St. Paul
 McCollister, Allison M. Drake – Detroit, Detroit Urban
 McDonald, Deborah M. Crosby – Rochester, Living Word
 McNeely, Mark E. – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 McQueen, Carla J. Wardin – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Meier, Roger E. – St. Joseph, Trinity
 Meyer, Shannon E. McClure – Macomb, Immanuel
 Michael, Patricia M. Sadlon – Berrien Springs, Trinity
 Miller, Tammy L. Wendland – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Mills, Ellen K. Baker – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
 Milnikel, Jenifer J. Engel – St. Joseph, Trinity
 Minda, Keith A. – Saginaw, Peace
 Moehring, Mary M. Bahr – Manistee, Trinity
 Moon, Kathryn J. Schlieger – Flint, St. Paul
 Moro, Martin L. III – Detroit, Detroit Urban
 Mueller, Dawn M. Klein – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Mueller, Robert K. – Saginaw, Peace
 Myers, Paula M. Hedde – Port Huron, Trinity
 Nieman, Dale W. – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 Nelson, Gary R. – Rochester, St. John
 Nelson, Geraldine E. Menth – Alpena, Immanuel
 Neu, Coral L. – Conklin, Trinity
 Neumeyer, Joel K. – Macomb, Immanuel
 Neumeyer, Karen B. Koenig – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Neumeyer, Marsha J. Jastram – Saginaw (Frankentrost), Immanuel
 Nimtz, Wendy E. Blus – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Nobis, Judy A. Hospodar – Kentwood, St. Mark
 Novak, Julie M. Spurgat – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 O'Boyle, Sharilyn M. Specht – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Odinga, Ardith A. Gerken – Saginaw, Holy Cross
 Odinga, Michael D. – Saginaw, Peace
 Oechsner, Heather A. Locke – Macomb, Immanuel
 Olsen, Matthew W. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 O'Meara, Elizabeth E. Plaehn – Macomb, Immanuel
 Ott, Donna J. Paris – Saginaw, Peace
 Otto, Brenda L. – Saginaw, Bethlehem
 Otto, Jane M. – Macomb, St. Peter
 Pagano, MaryAnn Sembach – Sawyer, Trinity
 Pakkala, Deborah L. Falck – Flint, St. Paul
 Palm, Lori A. Montney – Flint, St. Paul
 Palmreuter, David W. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Paluch, Beth A. Hesterman – Muskegon, Trinity
 Paselk, Renate E. Erhardt – Macomb, St. Peter
 Paul, Gregory L. – Royal Oak, St. Paul
 Pearson, Kathryn L. Kraai – Richville, St. Michael's
 Pedersen, Fred R. – Macomb, St. Peter
 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
 Pidsosny, Mary L. Fenske – Detroit, Bethany
 Pierce, Deborah A. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Pifer, Christine A. Gentz – Eastpointe, St. Thomas
 Pike, Kamie L. Reinbold – Reese, Trinity
 Priehs, Warren W. – Shelby Township, Peace
 Prusak, Kathleen A. Hollman – Dearborn, Emmanuel
 Rabe, Ellen J. Scheffler – Port Huron, Trinity
 Rademacher, JoAnn A. Zimmerman – Dearborn, Guardian
 Rankin, Patricia A. Alderman – Saginaw, Holy Cross
 Rapson, Andrea K. Beck – Harbor Beach, Zion
 Rathje, Lynda L. Scarr – Port Huron, Trinity
 Rauschert, Cynthia K. Appold – Bay City, St. John
 Rebeck, Christine J. Cheskey – Rochester, St. John
 Reick, Myron H. – Rochester, Living Word
 Reick, Sandra L. Krey – Rochester, Living Word
 Reinbold, Tricia K. Mallory – Traverse City, Trinity
 Reinert, Daniel M. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Reinhardt, Karen S. Krohe – New Boston, St. John
 Revard, Stephanie R. Weldon – Saginaw, Holy Cross
 Riske, Ralph H. – Auburn, Zion
 Ritz, Wanda L. – Macomb, St. Peter
 Roberts, Gerald M. – Grand Rapids, Our Savior
 Roedel-Oszust, Karen R. Wessel – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 Roedel, Martin O. – Farmington Hills, St. Paul's
 Rolf, Cheryl J. Hahn – Rochester, Living Word
 Rolf, James E. – Rochester, Living Word

Rolf, Michelle P. – Richmond, St. Peter's
 Rosentreter, Kathy E. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Rottermond, Linda I. Zielke – Macomb, Immanuel
 Rudick, Annette K. – Auburn, Grace
 Samsell, Christopher N. – Bay City, Immanuel
 Sarkkinen, Amy A. – Sturgis, Trinity
 Schafer, Joyce L. Unverfehrt – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Schalk, Linda S. Hopp – Rogers City, St. John
 Schallhorn, Vicki L. Wiltenburg – Flint, St. Mark
 Schamber, Bonnie L. Struck – Unionville, St. Paul
 Scheeres, Maribeth – Farmington Hills, St. Paul's
 Scheske, Melissa M. – Sturgis, Trinity
 Scheiderer, Paul M. – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 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 – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 Schilling, Timothy R. – Eastpointe, St. Peter's
 Schimm, Thomas W. – Saginaw, Holy Cross
 Schluckbier, Robert A. – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Schmidt, Kurt E. – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 Schmitt, Kristine E. Halon – Lapeer, St. Paul
 Schmitz, Mary L. Bergdotl Johnson – Richmond, St. Peter's
 Schnack, Deborah G. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Schneider, Patti G. – Battle Creek, St. Mark
 Schoenherr, Barbara I. Jammer – Auburn, Zion
 Schoenknecht, Paul R. – Millington, St. Paul
 Schultz, Jeremy J. – Bay City, Immanuel
 Schwaegerle, Judy L. Matthew – Westland, St. Matthew
 Schwecke, Kathryn L. – Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
 Sebold, Marcia L. Mueller – Dearborn, Guardian
 Seguin, Kathleen J. Auch – Eastpointe, St. Thomas
 Seibel, Diane L. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Sellers, Tammy L. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Shaffer, John O. – Rochester, St. John
 Siefker, Dorothy I. Lemke – Northville, St. Paul
 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, Jennifer M. Schaedig – Alpena, Immanuel
 Sohn, Miriam L. Sattelmeyer – Lansing, Our Savior
 Sonntag, Connie L. Kunding – Bay City, Faith
 Spanos, Esther M. Giese – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
 Springer, Joel W. – Rochester, Living Word
 Springer, Sheri L. Klemm – Rochester, St. John
 Stanley, Lisa S. – Bay City, St. Paul
 Stathakis, Carol B. Schnake – Macomb, St. Peter
 Steffens, Heather A. Dorn – St. Joseph, Trinity
 Steffens, Mark C. – Stevensville, Christ
 Stevens, Joanne M. Toensing – Bay City, St. Paul
 Stevenson, Betty J. Potts – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Stordahl, Jean A. Weigt – Muskegon, Trinity
 Streeter, Kim E. – Macomb, St. Peter
 Strefling, Jessica L. – Midland, St. John's
 Stresman, Kevin D. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Sturgess, Jacqueline M. Montabeau – Eastpointe, St. Thomas
 Sundermann, Dianne S. – Utica, Trinity
 Swazey, Angela N. Kelly – Fraser, St. John
 Swim, Amy B. Kosmatka – St. Joseph, Trinity
 Taggart, Linda J. Lapinsky – Eastpointe, St. Thomas
 Thomas, Jean G. – Hemlock, St. Peter
 Toman, Laura K. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Topel, Wendy S.C. VanBreda – Fraser, St. John
 Torreson, Rodney T. – Grand Rapids, Immanuel
 Truog, Susan L. Carroll – Big Rapids, St. Peter
 Tucker, Lori D. Hegler – Saginaw, Bethlehem
 Twork, Clara J. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Ulmer, Laurie L. Bonzchowski – Stevensville, Christ
 Unger, Allison M. Meineke – Clinton Township, St. Luke
 Unger, Daniel E. – Fraser, St. John
 Valente, Elizabeth A. Mooney – Jackson, Trinity
 Van Dellen, Carol A. Harriman – Waterford, St. Stephen
 Vanick, Edward W. – Eastpointe, St. Thomas
 Van Zweden, Kelli M. Gronewelt – Kentwood, St. Mark
 Vincent, Rebecca C. Timm – Bay City, Immanuel
 Voelz, Robert T. – Southgate, Christ the King
 Volkman, Heather D. – Rochester, Living Word
 Volz, Karen R. Nitz – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
 Wallace, Jeffery L. – Stevensville, Christ
 Walter, Teresa I. Holle – Millington, St. Paul
 Walters, Paulette E. – Sturgis, Trinity
 Walz, Christine J. – Richmond, St. Peter's
 Wargo, Andrew A. – Richmond, St. Peter's
 Wargo, Nicole N. Hurtgam – Macomb, St. Peter
 Washburn, Debra S. Kohler – Macomb, St. Peter
 Watson, Marie C. Buvelot – Bridgman, Immanuel
 Webb, Neil F. – Shelby Township, Peace
 Weber, Carol A. Kamasis – Millington, St. Paul
 Wedde, Deborah D. Keller – Berrien Springs, Trinity
 Wegener, LuAnne S. – Auburn, Zion
 Weiss, Muriel J. Pingel – Saginaw (Frankentrost), Immanuel
 Weiss, Stephanie D. – Harbor Beach, Zion
 Werschky, Sharon L. Schnitker – Sebawaing, Immanuel
 Wesenberg, Deborah L. Galford – Utica, Trinity
 Westendorf, Karen S. Renkert – Utica, Trinity
 Weston, Amy J. Osborne – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
 Wheeler, Julie A. Bittner – Reese, Trinity
 White, Pamela K. Ochs – Alpena, Immanuel
 Wiersig, Christine C. AuBuchon – Farmington Hills, St. Paul's
 Wilke, Nancy E. – Richville, St. Michael's
 Williams, Allan A. – Macomb, Immanuel
 Williams, Elizabeth V. – Detroit, Detroit Urban
 Williams, Judy E. Harmoning – Clinton Township, Trinity
 Winston, Valerie J. – Detroit, Detroit Urban
 Wisnieski, Rebecca R. Rosso – Ann Arbor, St. Paul
 Witchger, Ann G. Gerstacker – Saginaw, Peace
 Wrase, William R. – Dearborn, Guardian
 Wright, Jonathan K. – Detroit, Detroit Urban
 Wyman, Kelly A. Blomstrom – Bay City, St. Paul
 Young, Kathryn J. Grush – Flint, St. Mark
 Zeddies, Michael F. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz

Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit

Haegle, Dennis F. – Sterling Heights, Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit
 Meseke, Steven D. – Sterling Heights, Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit

Principals in Lutheran High Schools

Brandt, John M. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
 Garrabrant, Steven A. – Newport, Lutheran High South
 Looker, Paul J. – 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

* McLoughlin, Mark E. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
 * Ramthun, Daniel W. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland

* Indicates Assistant Principal/Teacher

Educators in Lutheran High Schools

Brandt, John E. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Brown, David C. – Newport, Lutheran High South
Davis, Jeffrey M. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Doyle, Barbara E. Stoll – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Dumar, John E. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Dunklau, Edward H. – 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
Frank, Jon D. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Gierach, Raymond C. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Gieschen, Timothy J. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Grobelny, 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
Hardy, Timothy D. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Harris, Rachel M. Bremer – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Haupt, Natalie A. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Hofmeister, Kurt R. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Horvath, Brian R. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Jagoda, Pamela J. Mendieta – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Jung, Christopher D. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Justice, Donald C. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Kaelberer, Jay A. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Kaschel, Angela M. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Keller, Connie J. Witt – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Klamer, Melissa J. Gunlock – Saginaw, Valley Lutheran High
Kleine, Racheal A. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Kratz, Dean E. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Kratz, Joshua R. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Kwapis, Nicholas A. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Martz, Kristine A. – Kentwood, West Michigan Lutheran High
McDonald, Ian K. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Meyer, Lindsay E. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Meyer, David J. – Kentwood, West Michigan Lutheran High
Meyers, Lisa H. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Nieman, Lenore K. Kelly – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Pollatz, Brian M. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Prechel, Dennis O. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Reed, Abigail L. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Reick, Rebekah A. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Rochlitz, David W. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Roekle, Thomas H. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Rogers, Randall J. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Rohde, Molly J. Helmreich – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Ruth, David G. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Schaidt, Lauren A. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Smith, Eric R. – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Sprow, Keith R. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Strang, Donna J. Reidenbach – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Thompson, Steven L. – Kentwood, West Michigan Lutheran High
Topel, Timothy L. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Unger, Michael E. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Wade, Kevin A. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Weber, Karlton R. – Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Weier, Kent G. – Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Wesley, Ryan E. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
Winter, Elizabeth A. Turanski – Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High
Wolf, Charles H. – Macomb, Lutheran High North
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
Bauer, Jason C. – Interlochen, Redeemer
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
Forster, Jonathan D. – Portage, St. Michael
Frieling, Kimberly S.L. – Monroe, Grace
Gray, Caroline C. – Shelby Township, Shepherd's Gate
Meyer, Kelly Grabarczyk – Jenison, Holy Cross
Hausch, Michael F. – Hamburg, St. Paul
Hollman, Linda M. Kirchner – Livonia, Christ Our Savior
Hueseman, James I. – Gladwin, Our Savior
Kruse, Lavern R. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
Mueller, Scott R. – Bridgeport, Faith
Newman, Joanna N. – Birmingham, Redeemer
Norman, Emily M. – Romeo, Grace Lutheran Fellowship
Otrhalik, Kevin D. – Paw Paw, Trinity
Porisch, Byron D. – Ann Arbor, St. Luke
Reimann, Kimberly J. – Flat Rock, Community
Rupe, Dawn M. Ruelle – Saline, Christ Our King
Schaeffer, Danielle C. Heffern – Battle Creek, St. Mark
Schultz, David M. – Bay City, St. Paul
Schutt, Kim D. – Trenton, St. Paul
Simon, Christina L. – Spring Lake, Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship
Troxel, Christopher D. – Port Huron, Faith
Wells, Timothy M. – Adrian, St. John
Welte, John A. – Walled Lake, St. Matthew
Wittrock, Sarah B. Hinkel – Utica, Trinity
Zielke, Adolph E. – Ann Arbor, St. Paul

Deaconesses

Bielby, Sara M. – Monroe, Immanuel
Hibbard, Mary Anne – Utica, Trinity
Kacmar, Dawn S. Gerike – Sawyer, Trinity
Keller, Katherine J. – Rockford, St. Peter
Nobili, Linda D. Davidson – Rochester, St. John
Rodriguez, Teresita Pedmaja – Detroit, Missionary at Large to Hispanic
Schmid, Erna I. Baehr – Holland, Zion

Directors of Family Life

Azzopardi, Karie R. – Waterford, Peace
Brennan, Max P. – Howell, Heart of the Shepherd
Burmeister, Nathaniel J. – Haslett, St. Luke
Garcia, Adan C. – Flint, St. Paul
Gleim, Laura M. – Millington, St. Paul
Kittleman, Joshua B. – Shelby Township, Peace
Longden, Daniel R. – Petoskey, Zion
Moss, Abigail C. – Ann Arbor, Peace

Directors of Parish Music

Hyslop, Scott M. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Marriott, James F. – Rochester, St. John

Parish Assistants

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

Special Ministries

Aughe, Kent J. – Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods
Barz, Daniel S. – Athens, IL, On-Going Ambassadors/Christ
Baughman, Terry A. – Rochester, Living Word
Bickel, Randall J. – Birch Run, St. Martin
Bode, Timothy A. – Southgate, Christ the King
Bresemann, Perry A. – LCMS, St. Louis, MO
Colley, Ann M. Fisher – Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
Faith, Scott M. – Muskegon, St. Mark
Geikas, Sarah M. Kaufman – Bay City, Immanuel
Gladstone, James H. – Flint, Redeemer
Gresens, Walter F. – Grand Blanc, Faith
Heissenbuettel, Brenda M. – Wyandotte, Trinity
Hoelter, Stephen W. – Farmington Hills, Prince of Peace
Hooper, Susan L. Repp – Grand Blanc, Faith
Horak, John B. – Lansing, Our Savior
Imlah, Peter R. – Charlotte, First
Jorg, R. Blaine – Whitehall, Faith
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
Krupsky, Harold K. – Troy, Faith
Machemer, Melvin A. – Fraser, St. John
Mahler, Richard J. – Royal Oak, St. Paul
Matthias, John W. – Detroit, Peace
McNeil, David A. – Saline, Christ Our King
McPherson, Norman G. – St. Joseph, Trinity
Miles, Robert G. – Bay City, Luth, Child & Family Life
Milz, G. David – Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
Mol, James M. – Flint, St. Mark
Nimtz, Mark A. – Birmingham, Our Shepherd
Nobis, Lloyd B. – Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Ott, Edwin R. – Wayne, St. Michael
Pawlitz, Gary L. – Macomb, Immanuel
Priskorn, Gary J. – Birmingham, Redeemer
Schafer, Robert D. – Rochester, St. John
Sheldon, David A. – Utica, Trinity
von Fange, Susan D. – Clinton Township, Trinity
Werner, Mark A. – St. Johns, St. Peter
Wieneke, Lori S. MacKay – Grand Rapids, St. Matthew
Zobel, Suzanne E. – Macomb, Lutheran Heritage Foundation

Lutheran Special Education Ministries

Demeyere, Roger
Greer, Theresa M. Rosace
Krone, James R.
Lincoln, Cynthia A. Cone

Pagels, James D.
Sheppard, Loren K. Popke
Schneider, Janis E.

Concordia University, Ann Arbor

Adler, Barbara J. Laughlin
Brandon, Katherine J. Schneider
Brandon, Kevin J.
Burroughs, Daniel R.
Freudenburg, Benjamin F.
Genig, Dennis K.
Grese, Susan J. Turner
Hinz, Rachel G. Cousino
Jones, Karen B. Peterson
Kalmes, Michael W.

Kuebler, Eugene C.
Looker, Mark S.
McKinney, Robert D.
Neumann, Gary J.
Refenes, James L.
Rockrohr, Deborah L.
Schnack, John C.
Skov, Neil M.
Winterstein, Charles A.
Wolf, Matthew T.

Candidates

Arnold, Paul W.
Collins, Laura K.
Davis, Julie A. Guenther
Dean, Karen A. Werth
Enge, Heidi A. Seiter
Fabbro, Ruth H. Kast
Faerber, Mark E.
Foley, Gayle C. Ross
Gledhill, Kristin A. Arthurton
Grays, Jean M. Overgaard
Hartfield, Kathryn J. Sattler
Hoeft, Terry L.
Kern, Heidi S.
Keup, Karen L. von Behren
Knudsen, Kristie J. Alexander
Kurtz, Nancy C. Bromund
MacKenzie-Davis, Elizabeth I.
Major, Cynthia C. Schluckebier
Marzluff, Debra M.

Mehltretter, Andrew W.
Meinert, Robert W.
Monroe, Kelly M. Muehlbrandt
Neumeyer, Scott R.
Niska, Heidi A. Bowman
Perich, Cheryl S. White
Doellinger, Melissa L. Riling
Scheler, Jason J.
Steffens, Carl M.
Taplign, Rachel E. Roth
Teske, Amy K.
Tolbert, Sammie L.
Vanneste, Sarah F.
Vogeli, Mitchell R.
Warsinski, Karilyn R.
Weisenbach, Janice L. Dove
Yelden, Susan I.
Young, Jeffrey S.
Zink, Charlene J. Little

Non-Candidates

Adams, Curtis W.
Adams, Robyn L. Wyckhuys
Allen, Ronald M.
Anderson, Kelly E. Nieman
Armstrong, Carolyn M. Dyke Wensky
Arthurton, Melissa R.
Bejot, Joel S.
Benge, Ruth A. Harm
Berthold, Ann L. Williams
Bilkey, Katherine E. Schuknecht
Biermann, Heather L.
Brockberg, Kevin H.
Bruenger, Adam J.
Bruenger, Jennifer L. Zimmerman
Bublitz, Kimberly A. Doyen
Choroba, Katherine J. Kuhl Poisson
Cloeter-Schmidt, Amy M.
Corker, Lynn N.
DeVries, Kristi K.
Dodson, Kristen L. Strang
Dopp, Sherry E. Eggert
Ebel, Anne M. Frank
Ernst, Cynthia S. Secord
Felten, Jolyn R. Daenzer
Feltmann, Kelli A.
Ferry, Cheryl L. Mueller
Garrabrant, Rachel A. Richert
Godbold, Ellen E. Stamm
Grim, Rebecca R.
Grueber, David J.
Gruenhagen, Heather S. Thomson
Hardy, Kristin E. Hirt
Heissenbuettel, Monica M. Frank
Hohnstadt, Shari R. Oestmann
Hoover, Andrea N. Brauer
Kaelberer, Charity A. Key
Kayser, Jennifer M. DeMeritt
Kern, Bonnie L. Leidel
Kirchhoff, Susan K. Smith

Klug, David H.
Krueger, Stephanie D. Walther
Krone, Shirley M. Miller
Lange, Beth L.
Langlois, Tonya M. Fleming
Lauckner, Edith H. Mueller
Leidecker, Karla J. Thanepohn
McNally, Brian D.
Meissner, Rebekah L. Hintzman
Merrill, Kenlyn S. Weller
Merz, Jessica L. Stoltenberg
Moilanen, Karen K. Hemming
Mueller, Walter O.
Nocella, Larry A. Jr.
Oliver, JoAnn Trench
Pavelski, Gregory J.
Pavelski, Suzanne R. Schnell
Peterson, Michelle L. Balsler
Phillips, Anne M. Hoft
Polonkey, Stephanie M.
Ristow, Beth A. Aufdemberge
Rush II, James G.
Schaedig, Kelli R.
Schurig, Kathy A. Fritz
Smith, Gail H. Graham
Smith, Joshua R.
Spencer, Jesseca L. Starr
Stecker, Heidi M. Mueller
Trinklein, Rebecca M.
Van Tol, Rebecca S. Reed
Walter, Timothy P.
Wangelin, Kristin J.
Wentzel, Anne C.
Wenzel, Pamela B.
Westin, Bethany S. Miller
Williamson, Katie L. Widstrand
Wills, Paul R.
Winterstein, Alecia M.
Witte, Lucie E. Stelter

Other

Koehneke, Karen L. – St. Joseph, Trinity

Emeriti

Argue, Joanne R. Prudek
Attenberger, David F.
Aufdemberge, Erwin J.
Aufdemberge, Theodore P.
Bacon, Harold L.
Bailey, Bonnie L. Banash
Bassett, Leonard E.
Bathje, Arnold A.
Beardsley, Ronald L.
Bender, Edgar L.
Bergman, Delia A. Lakeman
Bergman, Henry W.
Beyer, Marilyn A.
Blake, Sharon E. Rachow
Boehm, Jerry R.
Boldt, Harold James
Boots, Cynthia F.
Brauer, Ethan R.
Brautnick, Janice M. McGorman
Bruenger, A. Kenneth
Bunge, Harold O.
Callies, Bernhard J.
Carlson, Sandra L. Gresham Mendians
Carrroll, Dorothy M. Bartusch
Caulkins, Gary W.
Christiansen, Alfred O.
Daenzer, Katherine L. Hoops
Dahlke, Dorothy H.
Dallmann, LaVerne M. Voigt
Danz, Shirley M. Walenter
Dickhudt, Robert J.

Difatta, David C.
Doebler, Lynda M.
Dohrmann, Aaron C.
Dubke, Darwin C.
Dunklau, Esther M. Hauer
Dwyer, Garnet P. Arlt
Eckert, Lorraine R. Kissau
Edenfield, Marilyn J. Kluck
Erber, Glenn R.
Evans, Evelyn L. Griesse
Finkel, Linda L. Callender
Fisceri, Darlene N. Behling
Fischer, Dennis H.
Florip, Eunice E. Merz
Frank, George C.
Freudenburg, Curtis C.
Fricke, John M.
Gast, Carolyn R. Fischer
Gast, Frederick J.
Geil, Jean R. Hendrich Sundell
Gelhausen, Albert F.
Gengler, Constance C. Koester
Gerdes, Katherine M. Cluver
Gerds, Fredrick A.
Gerlach, Eileen K. Altenburg
Gerlach, John W.
Germeroth, Paul L.
Gibson, Lisette L. Lueker
Glotzhober, Alyce K. Kraepel
Gremel, Bruce A.
Grigg, Pauline E. Schoenfeld

Groll, David H.
 Grupe, Elizabeth F. Reinboth
 Grupe, Larry R.
 Guenther, Vernon C.
 Gugel, Ruth E. Krengel
 Hackbarth, Richard O.E.
 Halter, Clifford A.
 Hanke, Elsie C. Hesemann
 Hauser, Arlene J. Maier
 Hauser, Ronald L.
 Headapohl, Virginia A. Randall
 Helmreich, Christine A. Studt
 Himmler, Marvin M.
 Holste, Herman M.
 Hopp, Jerry L.
 Hubmeier, Bruce N.
 Iseler, Janet A. Hartman
 Jahnke, Ronald H.
 Kaiser, Roy G.
 Karsten, Beverly M. Wegner
 Kell, Delmar A.
 Kell, Mary L. Brubaker
 Kempff, Elna M.
 Kern, Loretta L. Gehrke
 Klausmeier, Caroline L. Hartwig
 Klintworth, Kathryn G. Kunkel
 Knopp, Allen M.
 Knuth, Fred F.
 Koerschen, James M.
 Kohtz, Roger O.
 Kosmatka, Bruce J.
 Krach, George M.
 Krause, Alan C.
 Krause, David L.
 Krause, Sandra L. Grousnick
 Krepsky, Richard D.
 Krieger, Edith E. Krueger
 Kuschmann, Margie A. Linder
 Kuschmann, Helmut P.
 Kuske, Mary E. Moll
 Laeder, Leroy D.
 Leatzow, Edward A.
 Lanning, Joyce A. Owen
 Leinberger, David W.
 Lemke, George F.
 Lienau, Jane E. Mund
 List, Rose M. Sachtleben
 Locke, George M.
 Lockhart, Carol E. Jennejahn
 Lockhart, John W.
 Loomans, Lowell A.
 Mahler, William A.
 Marino, Quentin M.
 McCain, Jean A. Geipel
 Merz, Martin C. Jr.
 Meyer, David J.
 Meyer, Susan E. Sharum
 Meyers, Anita G. Steufert
 Miller, Herman F.
 Moerer, Lucille P.
 Mohlenhoff, Richard W.
 Mohlenhoff, William H.
 Moldenhauer, Herbert C.
 Muck, Susan K. Thumm
 Muhl, Carol M. Anderson
 Naber, Darrell H.
 Nieman, Anna E. Kanning
 Nightlinger, Cathy J.
 Olson, John R.
 Opel, Edgar L.
 Opel, Robert Warren
 Otto, Phyllis F. Foreman
 Pagels, Doris E. Meyermann
 Palmeter, Donald W.
 Pankow, Shirley M. Mosch
 Pauli, Elaine E.
 Pawlitz, Carol J. McCollum
 Pfannkuch, Darrell L.
 Pickelman, Maureen R.
 Priehs, Warren F.
 Primeau, Douglas A.
 Quade, Gene W.
 Randall, Sally A. Barry
 Rawson, Kathleen N. Glade
 Reitmeyer, Royce J.
 Richert, Alvin M.
 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.
 Scheiwe, Jean R. Rodammer
 Scheiwe, Warren A.
 Schempf, Richard H.
 Scherer, Ronald D.
 Schiemann, Kathleen R. Wardin
 Schilling, Raymond L.
 Schley, Margaret J. Trautman
 Schmidt, Milton A.
 Schmidt, Paul M.
 Schmucker, Calvin F.
 Schollmeyer, Robert C.
 Schroeder, Dorothy J. Succop
 Schuck, Kathleen A. Alatalo
 Schultz, Lloyd N.
 Schultz, Patricia A. Nagel
 Schultz, Robert L.
 Schumacher, James L.
 Sheldon, Ernest L.
 Smith, Alice E. Kratt
 Spaeth, Carol R. Kionka
 Standiford, Nancy L. Fahl
 Steinweg, Henry W.
 Storck, Charles L.
 Strang, William J.
 Straub, Carl G.
 Stresman, Kenneth C.
 Stresman, Shirley M. Koeppen
 Sturmfels, John H.
 Sutter, Irene N. Troutman
 Taylor, Marcia D.
 Thunder-Haab, Keturah A. Thunder
 Tiedje, Norman A.
 Todt, John H.
 Topel, Stanley R.
 Vogtmann, Janet L. Roth
 Von Behren, Erich W.
 Von Fange, Erich A.
 Vorwerk, Dale H.
 Waak, LeMoyne D.
 Waak, Vera C. Lovercamp
 Wallace, Shirley M. Eggerding
 Ward, Donna J. Feltner
 Warnick, Harriet H. Lange
 Warnick, Howard J.
 Wegener, Thomas L.
 Weiss, Thomas H.
 Wellander, Ronald E.
 Werderman, Amy L. Rohde
 Wied, Alwin J.
 Wiersig, W. Dan
 Willis, Linda J. Eller
 Winter, Paul G.
 Wittig, Evelyn D. Sell
 Wittrock, John H.
 Wondrasch, Ruth M.
 Wrobleski, Richard E.
 Wuertz, Duane W.
 Young, Brian A.
 Zappitell, Kathleen M. Gerber
 Zehnder, James W.
 Zehnder, Wilma Sherrill Moeckei
 Zessin, Catherine E.

MICHIGAN DISTRICT EDUCATOR ROSTER CHANGES

(From March 23, 2006 to March 9, 2009)

Entered the District Through Graduation or Colloquy

Anderson, Emily J. (Ann Arbor) to Ann Arbor, St. Paul
Bauer, Todd D. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Rochester, St. John
Bean, Christina L. Silvey (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Utica, Trinity
Bierce, Anna (Mequon) to Auburn, Zion
Blackwell, Judith J. Radthke (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Dearborn, Emmanuel
Bower, Greta L. (Ann Arbor) to Belleville, Open Arms
Brenner, Mark D. (Ann Arbor) to Bay City, St. John
Bublitz, Kimberly A. Doyen (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Bay City, Immanuel
Doellinger, Melissa L. Riling (Ann Arbor) to Fraser, St. John
Drzyzga, Pamela J. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Bay City, Zion
Garcia, Justin N. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Bay City, St. Paul
Grim, Katie L. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Flint, St. Mark
Gruber, Mary M. Janssens (Cq. Ann Arbor) to New Boston, St. John
Haglund, Jennifer S. (Chicago) to Macomb, St. Peter
Helmreich, Molly J. (Seward) to Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Hermann, Katie A. (Ann Arbor) to Southgate, Christ the King
Hooper, Julie (Ann Arbor) to Millington, St. Paul
Johnson, Gregory K. (Cq. Ann Arbor) Portage, St. Michael
Kaschel, Angela M. (Mequon) to Macomb, Lutheran High North
Kelly, Kimberly A. (Cq. Chicago) to St. Joseph, Trinity
Keup, Aaron W. (Ann Arbor) to Reed City, Trinity
Klamer, Melissa J. Gunlock (Seward) to Saginaw, Valley Lutheran High School
Kratz, Joshua R. (Mequon) to Macomb, Lutheran High North
Kwapis, Nicholas A. (Mequon) to Westland, Lutheran High Westland
Leinhos, Lynn M. Harris (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Shelby Township, Peace
Liss, Joseph T. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Jackson, Trinity
McCabe, Llisa L. Anderson-Vie (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Kentwood, St. Mark
McCray, Briana (Bronxville) to Auburn, Zion
Meineke, Allison M. (Mequon) to Clinton Township, St. Luke
Meyer, Lindsay (River Forest) to Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High School
Piasecki, Allison J. Leach (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Macomb, Immanuel
Rolf, Michelle P. (River Forest) to Battle Creek, St. Mark
Schaedig, Jennifer M. (Ann Arbor) to Alpena, Immanuel
Schaidt, Lauren A. (Mequon) to Rochester Hills, Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit Area
Scheske, Melissa (Mequon) to Coldwater, St. Paul
Schilling, Rebecca A. Massel (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Clinton Township, St. Luke
Sonntag, Connie L. Kindinger (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Bay City, Faith
Steele, Mindy L. Behny (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Bay City, St. Paul
Sturm, Raymond T. (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Lapeer, St. Paul
Timm, Rebecca C. (Ann Arbor) to Dearborn, Emmanuel
Unger, Daniel E. (Mequon) to Fraser, St. John
Weiss, Stephanie D. (Ann Arbor) to Harbor Beach, Zion
Werschky, Sharon L. Schnitker (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Sebewaing, Immanuel
Wesenberg, Deborah L. Galford (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Utica, Trinity
Wisniewski, Rebecca R. Rosso (Cq. Ann Arbor) to Ann Arbor, St. Paul

Newly Rostered Directors of Christian Education

Forster, Jonathan D. (St. Paul) to Portage, St. Michael
Frieling, Kimberly S.L. (Seward) to Monroe, Grace
Gray, Caroline C. (Irvine) to Shelby Township, Shepherd's Gate
Norman, Emily M. (Seward) to Romeo, Grace Lutheran Fellowship

Newly Rostered Deaconesses

Bielby, Sara M. (Ft. Wayne) to Monroe, Immanuel
Keller, Katherine J. (River Forest) to Rochester, St. John

Newly Rostered Directors of Family Life

Brennan, Max P. (Ann Arbor) to Howell, Heart of the Shepherd
Garcia, Adan C. (Ann Arbor) to Flint, St. Paul
Gleim, Laura M. (Ann Arbor) to Millington, St. Paul
Kittleman, Joshua B. (Ann Arbor) to Shelby Township, Peace
Longden, Daniel R. (Ann Arbor) to Petoskey, Zion
Moss, Abigail C. (Ann Arbor) to Ann Arbor, Peace

Newly Rostered Directors of Parish Music

Hyslop, Scott M. (Cq. River Forest) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz

Newly Rostered Lay Ministers

Jorg, R. Blaine (Mequon) to Whitehall, Faith

Transferred from Other Districts

Abraham, Rachel M. (Iowa West) to Bay City, St. Paul
Adams, Curtis W. (Northern Illinois) as Non-Candidate
Baughman, Terry A. (Indiana) to Rochester, Living Word
Bell, Jill R. Burton (South Wisconsin) to Battle Creek, St. Mark
Bell, Scott W. (South Wisconsin) to Battle Creek, St. Mark
Bernau, Leah (Southern Illinois) to Bay City, Faith
Biermann, Heather (SELC) as Non-Candidate
Burroughs, Daniel (Atlantic) to Ann Arbor, Concordia
Carrier, Lori J. Grimshaw (Northern Illinois) to Port Huron, Trinity
Chapman, Darius M. (Texas) to Macomb, St. Peter
Collins, Larua K. (South Wisconsin) as Candidate
DeVries, Kristi K. (Missouri) as Non-Candidate
Ferry, Cheryl L. Mueller (South Wisconsin) as Candidate
Fish, Sara E. (South Wisconsin) to St. Michael's, Richville
Fritsch, Gregg C. (Texas) to Warren, Peace
Gladstone, James H. (Indiana) to Flint, Redeemer
Guenther, Vernon C. (Indiana) as Emeritus
Hansell, Christopher G. (Missouri) to Bay City, Immanuel
Hardies, Michael A. (Florida-Georgia) to Macomb, Lutheran High North
Hinz, Rachel G. Cousino (Mid-South) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Hoover, Andrea N. Brauer (Central Illinois) as Non-Candidate
Imlah, Peter R. (South Wisconsin) to Charlotte, First
Jung, Christopher D. (Minnesota South) as Non-Candidate
Kleimola, David A. (Minnesota South) to Clinton Township, St. Luke
Kumm, David H. (Nebraska) to Sebawaing, Immanuel
Kurien, Rebekah L. (Northern Illinois) as Candidate
Landskroener, James A. (Indiana) to Lansing, Our Savior
Lockhart, Carol E. Jannejohn (Pacific Southwest) as Emeritus
Lockhart, John W. (Pacific Southwest) as Emeritus
Loomans, Lowell A. (Missouri) as Emeritus
Marriott, James F. (Florida-Georgia) to Rochester, St. John
Matson, Rebecca L. (Southeastern) to Ann Arbor, St. Paul
McKinney, Robert D. (Pacific Southwest) to Ann Arbor, Concordia
Meyer, David J. (Nebraska) to Kentwood, West Michigan Lutheran High School
Meyer, Susan E. Sharum – (Harbor Beach, Zion) to Emeritus
Nelson, McKenzie, Kristen – (Eastern) to Waterford, St. Stephen
Neumann, Gary J. (Nebraska) as Candidate
Olsen, Joann I. (Missouri) as Candidate
Rockrohr, Deborah L. (South Wisconsin) to Ann Arbor, Concordia
Roedel, Karen R. Wessel (South Wisconsin) as Candidate
Roedel, Martin O. (South Wisconsin) to Farmington Hills, St. Paul
Rupe, Dawn M. Ruelle (Pacific Southwest District) as Candidate
Schaedig, Kelli R. (Indiana) as Non-Candidate
Schaeffer, Danielle C. Heffern (Florida-Georgia) to Battle Creek, St. Mark
Schmidt, Kurt E. (Southeastern) to Clinton Township, St. Luke
Schnack, Deborah G. (Central Illinois) to Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
Schnack, John C. (Central Illinois) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Schwecke, Kathryn L. (Northern Illinois) to Belleville, Open Arms
Shimoi, Ruth A. (Northwest) to Grand Rapids, Immanuel
Smith, Susan M. (Central Illinois) as Candidate
Spaeth, Carol r. Kionka (Nebraska) as Emeritus
Tipling, Rachel E. Roth (Florida-Georgia) as Candidate
Troxel, Christopher (PSW) to Port Huron, Faith
Troxel, Lisa M. Thanepoln (PSW) to Port Huron, Trinity
Voigt, Jennifer R. Studenski (Missouri) as Candidate
Wangelin, Kristin J. (Missouri) as Non-Candidate
Warsinski, Karilyn R. (California-Nevada-Hawaii) as Candidate
Webb, Neil (Rocky Mountain) to Shelby Township, Peace
Wells, Timothy M. (Minnesota North) to Adrian, St. John
Wentzel, Anne C. (Florida-Georgia) as Non-Candidate
Winterstein, Alecia M. (Central Illinois) as Non-Candidate
Zemke, Stacia M. Ahmann (Missouri) to Bay City, Faith

Transferred Within the District

Benge, Ruth A. Harm (Candidate) to Monroe, Holy Ghost
Bickel, Randall J. (Sebewaing, Immanuel/Unionville, St. Paul) to Birch Run, St. Martin
Bolt, Jonathan M. (Traverse City, Trinity) to Rochester, Living Word
Brandon, Katherine J. Schneider (Candidate) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Cohrs, Richard P. (Sebewaing, Christ the King) to Lansing, Our Savior
Demo, Maida R. Sevon (Candidate) to Reese, Trinity
Diroff, Jayne K. Kregel (Candidate) to Monroe, Holy Ghost
Eichinger, Kurt W. (Midland, Lord of New Life) to Ordained – Midland, Lord of New Life
Fehn, Lynn A. Knoll (Candidate) to Saginaw, Good Shepherd
Gallahger, Megan J. (Bay City, Immanuel) to Shelby Township, Peace
Gilson, Laura M. (Candidate) to Lapeer, St. Paul
Glazier, Roxanne (Saginaw, Peace) to Walled Lake, St. Matthew
Godbold, Ellen E. Stamm (Candidate) to Kentwood, St. Mark
Greer, Theresa M. Rosace (Candidate) to Detroit, Lutheran Special Education Ministries
Grese, Susan J. Turner (Emeritus) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Greve, Karen L. Faszholz (Reinstated) to Macomb, Immanuel
Hambaum, Patricia S. Stange (Richville, St. Michael's) to Bay City, Immanuel
Hauser, Brianna L. McCray (Auburn, Zion) to Saginaw, Peace
Havrilsak, Laura A. Hart (Candidate) to Flint, St. Paul
Heins, Eric J. (Berrien Springs) to Monroe, Holy Ghost
Hempel, Ruth R. Dornfield (Candidate) to Northville, St. Paul
Hinck, John T. (Belleville, Open Arms) to Westland, St. Matthew
Hoeft, Karen (Candidate) to Westland, St. Matthew
Hoeft, Stacy J. McGhee (Redford, Hosanna-Tabor) to Rochester, Living Word
Hutton, William P. (Muskegon, Trinity) to Muskegon, Trinity
Janetzke, Emily L. Bluege (Dearborn, Emmanuel) to Bay City, Immanuel
Janetzke, Kristen S. Billig (Reinstated) to Rochester, Living Word
Johnson, Melanie L. (Candidate) to New Boston, St. John
Jones, Karen B. Peterson (Candidate) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Jones, Leah M. Schiefer (Candidate) to Richville, St. Michael's
Jones, Leah M. Schiefer (Richville, St. Michael's) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Jung, Christopher D. (Candidate) to Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest
Kaschube, Elizabeth M. Uekert (Grand Rapids, Immanuel-St. James) to Muskegon, Trinity
Keller, Katherine J. (Rochester, St. John) to Rockford, St. Peter
Keup, Cara J. Roubal (Battle Creek, St. Mark) to Reed City, Trinity
Kuebler, Eugene C. (Lutheran Special Education Ministries, Detroit) to Concordia University, Ann Arbor
LaRocque, Janet E. (Waterford, St. Stephen) to Bay City, Zion
Mills, Eillen K. Baker (Reinstated) to Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
Mueller, Dawn M. Klein (Candidate) to Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz
Nieman, Dale W. (Candidate) to Eastpointe, St. Peter's
Neumann, Gary J. (Candidate) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Neumeyer, Joel K. (Clinton Township, St. Luke) to Macomb, Immanuel
Nobis, Judy A. Hospodar (Bay City, Zion) to Kentwood, St. Mark
Oechsner, Heather A. Locke (Candidate) to Macomb, Immanuel
Olsen, Matthew W. (Eastpointe, St. Peter) to Flint, St. Paul
Olsen, Matthew W. (Flint, St. Paul) to Walled Lake, St. Matthew
Otto, Brenda L. (Royal Oak, St. Paul) to Saginaw, Bethlehem
Petzold, Julian H. (Living Word, Rochester) to St. Joseph, Trinity
Pichan, Thomas A. (Reinstated) to Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
Pickelmann, Jonathon H. (Saginaw, Bethlehem) to Midland, St. John's
Pidsosny, Mary L. Fenske (Detroit, Bethany) to Birmingham, Our Shepherd
Pidsosny, Mary L. Fenske (Birmingham, Our Shepherd) to Detroit, Bethany
Rabe, Ellen J. Scheffler (Candidate) to Port Huron, Trinity
Reinbold, Tricia K. Mallory (Candidate) to Traverse City, Trinity
Roedel, Karen R. Wessel (Candidate) to Eastpointe, St. Peter
Rolf, Michelle P. (Battle Creek, St. Mark) to Richmond, St. Peter's
Rupe, Dawn M. Ruelle (Candidate) to Saline, Christ Our King
Scheske, Melissa M. Amling (Coldwater, St. Paul) to Sturgis, Trinity
Schnack, Deborah G. Nelson (Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes) to Ann Arbor, St. Paul
Schultz, Mark A. (Macomb, St. Peter) to Ann Arbor, Concordia
Schultz, Ramona S. Hillers (Candidate) to Macomb, St. Peter
Schwecke, Kathryn L. (Belleville, Open Arms) to Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes
Springer, Sheri L. Klemm (Candidate) to Rochester, St. John
Steffens, Heather A. Dorn (Eastpointe, St. Peter's) to St. Joseph, Trinity
Stoelting, Daniel D. (Lansing, Our Savior) to Bay City, Faith
Swazey, Angela N. Kelly (Reinstated) to Redford, Hosanna-Tabor
Swazey, Angela N. Kelly (Redford, Hosanna-Tabor) to Fraser, St. John
Vincent, Rebecca C. Timm (Candidate) to Bay City, Immanuel
Wargo, Andrew A. (Clinton Township, St. Luke) to Richmond, St. Peter's
Wargo, Nicole N. Hurttgam (Reed City, Trinity) to Macomb, St. Peter
Weiss, Jared L. (Clinton Township, St. Luke) to Shelby Township, Peace
Wheeler, Julie A. Bittner (Candidate) to Reese, Trinity
Wolf, Matthew T. (Saginaw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran High) to Ann Arbor, Concordia University
Wrege, Thomas W. (Jackson, Trinity) to Utica, Trinity
Wyman, Kelly A. Blomstrom (Newport, Lutheran High South) to Bay City, St. Paul
Young, Jeffrey S. (Unionville, St. Paul) to Flint, St. Paul

Transferred to Other Districts

Albrecht, Dorothy A. Theiss (Reinstated) to Missouri District
Arrick, Mary S. Petzold (Candidate) to English District
Baringer, Brooke A. Kabobel (Saginaw, Peace) to Ohio District
Bell, Jill R. Burton (Battle Creek, St. Mark) to South Wisconsin District
Bell, Scott W. (Candidate) to South Wisconsin District
Bernau, Leah L. (Bay City, Faith) to Southern Illinois District
Bickel, Eric J. (Jackson, Trinity) to Missouri District
Brenner, Beth A. Pearson (Non-Candidate) to Northern Illinois District
Bruick II, George A. (Battle Creek, St. Mark) to California Nevada Hawaii District
Buuck, Steven J. (Macomb, Lutheran High North) to Pacific Southwest District
Cohrs, Richard P. (Candidate) to Missouri District
Dancy, Heidi L. Scherfling (Candidate) to Florida-Georgia District
Dash, Russell W. (Westland, St. Matthew) to Missouri District
Dedor, Rhonda L. (Milford, Christ) to Minnesota South District
Dent, Kelli L. Coleman (Candidate) to Iowa District East
Drager, Christopher S. (Kalamazoo, Zion) to Northern Illinois District
Engelbrecht, John M. (Kentwood, West Michigan Lutheran High) to Missouri District
Erdman, Jerald S. (Detroit, Detroit Urban) to Northern Illinois District
Freitag, Gene R. (Macomb, Lutheran High North) to Florida-Georgia District
Garske, Herbert E. (Emeritus) to Nebraska District
Gerken, Joshua P. (Holt, Messiah) to Ohio District
Gledhill, Eric A. (Non-Candidate) to Missouri District
Hagge, John B. (Montague, St. James) to Mid-South District
Hartmann, Royce R. (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) to Ohio District
Hildebrand, Laura A. Giger (Candidate) to Indiana District
King, Wayne A. (Non-Candidate) to South Wisconsin District
Knorp, Brendan D. (Clinton Township, Trinity) to Missouri District
Liss, Joseph T. (Jackson, Trinity) to Indiana District
Luehmann, Kayla (Rochester, Living Word) to Pacific Southwest District
Matson, Rebecca L. (Ann Arbor, St. Paul) to Florida-Georgia District
Miller, Joanne M. Doan (Emeritus) to Northwest District
Neumann, Karla R. Kemerling (Candidate) to Northern Illinois District
Oblinger, Carolyn D. Luedtke (Candidate) to Texas District
Pahlkötter, Henry G. II (Flint, St. Paul) to Minnesota South District
Parron, Richard K. (Candidate) to Southeastern District
Rathje, John R. (Non-Candidate) to Missouri District
Richards, James K. (Clinton Township, Trinity) to Florida-Georgia District
Rogner, Kenneth C. (Rochester, St. John) to Indiana District
Sandmann, Danny C. (Candidate) to Central Illinois District
Sasse, Linda K. Maitland (Rochester, Living Word) to Florida-Georgia District
Schleicher, Amy L. Walquist (Candidate) to Montana District
Schleicher, Jason P. (Saginaw, Bethlehem) to Montana District
Schleicher, Kimberly J. Walquist (Candidate) to Texas District
Schleicher, Matthew J. (Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest) to Texas District
Schmidt, Kurt E. (Candidate) to Southeastern District
Schultz, Andrew J. (Concordia, Ann Arbor) to Nebraska District
Schultz, Mark A. (Concordia, Ann Arbor) to North Wisconsin District
Schultz, Ramona S. Hillers (Candidate) to North Wisconsin District
Schwerin, Daniel P. (Candidate) to Missouri District
Scott, Aaron M. (Southgate, Christ the King) to South Wisconsin District
Shimoi, Ruth A. (Candidate) to Montana District
Sieger, Barbara J. Hempel (Candidate) to Ohio District
Sitas, William J. Jr. (Monroe, Holy Ghost) to Iowa District East
Smith, Donna A. (Marlette, Our Savior) to Central Illinois District
Smith, William T. (Cadillac, Emmanuel) to Ohio District
Steele, Kenneth M. (Non-Candidate) to Indiana District
Steele, Mindy L. Behny (Bay City, St. Paul) to Indiana District
Steensma, Richard D. Jr. (Non-Candidate) to Missouri District
Stuhr, Lloyd R. (Non-Candidate) to Nebraska District
Taggatz, Roxanne M. Wurm (Bay City, Immanuel) to Southern Illinois District
Webb, Neil F. (Candidate) to Rocky Mountain District
Wilbert, Warren N. (Emeritus) to Indiana District
Winkelman, Steven R. (Shelby Township, Peace) to Texas District
Winningham, Gail L. Heggemeier (Reinstated) to Texas District
Yochum, Lawrence H. III (Farmington Hills, Prince of Peace) to Iowa East District
Zemke, Stasia M. Ahmann (Candidate) to Southern Illinois District

INACTIVE

Inactive – Candidate Status

Baringer, Brooke A. Kabobel – (Saginaw, Peace) 06/30/2008
Bell, Scott W. – (Battle Creek, St. Mark) 07/25/2008
Caulkins, Gary W. – (Non-Candidate) 09/05/2007
Cohrs, Richard P. – (Lansing, Our Savior) 02/14/2008
Dean, Karen A. Werth – (Macomb, Immanuel) 03/06/2006
Demo, Maida R. Sevon – (Non-Candidate) 05/27/2006
Fabbro, Ruth H. Kast – (Non-Candidate) 07/24/2006
Fehn, Lynn A. Knoll – (Non-Candidate) 08/31/2007
Foley, Gayle C. Ross – (Royal Oak, St. Paul) 07/07/2006
Gilson, Laura M. – (Non-Candidate) 06/12/2007
Godbold, Ellen E. Stamm – (Non-Candidate) 07/13/2007
Grays, Jean M. Overgaard – (Detroit, St. John) 09/18/2008
Greer, Theresa M. Rosace – (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) 07/20/2006
Hartfield, Kathryn J. Sattler – (Non-Candidate) 11/11/2008
Havrilsak, Laura A. Hart – (Fraser, St. John) 07/07/2006
Hempel, Ruth R. Dornfeld – (Allen Park, Mount Hope) 06/15/2006
Hildebrand, Laura A. Giger – (Non-Candidate) 1/8/2008
Hoeft, Karen R. Ging – (Westland, St. Matthew) 07/02/2007
Johnson, Melanie L. Marshall – (Allen Park, Mount Hope) 07/13/2006
Jones, Leah M. Schiefer – (Non-Candidate) 03/13/2007
Jung, Christopher D. – (Non-Candidate) 04/04/2008
Keup, Karen L. von Behren – (Reese, Trinity) 06/15/2008
Kim, Hoon – (Algonac, First Evangelical) 08/10/2006
Killteman, Sarah K. Schmidt – (Dearborn, Emmanuel) 07/10/2006
Knudsen, Kristie J. Alexander – (Non-Candidate) 02/21/2008
Kurtz, Nancy C. Bromund – (Non-Candidate) 12/19/2006
MacKenzie-Davis, Elizabeth I. – (Rochester Hills, Lutheran High Northwest) 11/01/2007
Mehltretter, Andrew W. – (Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes) 06/14/2006
Meinert, Robert W. – (Birmingham, Our Shepherd) 03/25/2008
Mohlenhoff, William H. – (Jackson, Trinity) 07/02/07
Monroe, Kelly M. Muehlbrandt – (Non-Candidate) 11/13/2008
Niska, Heidi A. Bowman – (Brighton, Shepherd of the Lakes) 09/19/2008
Oechsner, Heather A. Locke – (Non-Candidate) 07/09/2007
Reinbold, Tricia K. Mallory – (Non-Candidate) 06/03/2008
Riling, Melissa L. – (Fraser, St. John) 08/15/2008
Scheler, Jason J. – (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) 07/01/2008
Schmidt, Kurt E. – (Fraser, St. John) 06/15/2006
Schultz, Ramona S. Hillers – (Monroe, Trinity) 07/30/2005
Schultz, Ramona S. Hillers – (Macomb, St. Peter) 08/25/2008
Scott, Amy M. Kalis – (Eastpointe, St. Thomas) 06/30/2006
Shimoi, Ruth A. – (Grand Rapids, Immanuel) 12/03/2007
Smith, William T. – (Cadillac, Emmanuel) 09/20/2007
Teske, Amy K. Stevens – (Non-Candidate) 03/01/2006
Thiede, Lori A. – (Paw Paw, Trinity) 10/16/2005
Tolbert, Sammie L. – (Detroit, St. Timothy) 11/18/2008
Vanneste, Sarah F. – (Westland, St. Matthew) 07/17/2007
Vincent, Rebecca C. Timm – (Non-Candidate) 01/28/2008
Vogeli, Mitchell R. – (Macomb, St. Peter) 06/15/2006
Weisenbach, Janice L. Dove – (Bay City, Zion) 06/23/2007
Yelden, Susan I. – (St. Johns, St. Peter) 09/28/2008
Young, Jeffrey S. – (Flint, St. Paul) 10/28/2008
Zemke, Stasia M. Ahmann – (Bay City, Faith) 06/11/2008

Inactive – Non-Candidate Status

Allen, Ronald M. – (Ann Arbor, Concordia) 01/01/2009
Anderson, Kelly E. Nieman – (Westland, Lutheran High Westland) 06/15/2008
Bejot, Joel S. – (Midland, St. John's) 06/09/2008
Benge, Ruth A. Harm – (Monroe, Holy Ghost) 12/14/2007
Berthold, Ann L. Williams – (Non-Candidate) 11/20/2008
Biermann, Heather L. – (Non-Candidate) 11/20/2008
Bragenzer, Deborah L. Fischer – (Petoskey, Zion) 06/30/2006
Brenner, Beth A. Pearson – (New Boston, St. John) 06/21/2007
Bublitz, Kimberly A. Doyen – (Bay City, Immanuel) 06/23/2008
Caulkins, Gary W. – (Candidate) 01/24/2007
Cloeter-Schmidt, Amy M. – (Ann Arbor, St. Paul) 09/03/2008
Corker, Lynn N. – (Saline, Christ Our King) 10/01/2007
Dodson, Kristen L. Strang – (Detroit, Detroit Urban) 06/03/2008
Ebel, Anne M. Frank – (Non-Candidate) 11/20/2008
Feltmann, Kelli A. – (Saginaw, Peace) 08/21/2007
Ferry, Cheryl L. Mueller – (Candidate) 01/02/2009
Godbold, Ellen E. Stamm – (Kentwood, St. Mark) 07/25/08
Grim, Rebecca R. – (Harbor Beach, Zion) 10/31/2008
Hardy, Kristin E. Hirt – (Clinton Township, Trinity) 01/30/2006
Heissenbuettel, Monica M. Frank – (Non-Candidate) 11/20/2008

Hintzman, Rebekah L. – (Dearborn, Emmanuel) 08/15/2006
Hohnstadt, Shari R. Oestmann – (Detroit, Lutheran Special Education Ministries) 11/13/2007
Kaelberer, Charity A. Key – (Non-Candidate) 11/20/2008
Kayser, Jennifer M. Demeritt – (Candidate) 11/05/2008
Kern, Bonnie L. Leidel – (Richville, St. Michael's) 07/13/2007
Klug, David H – (Reinstated) 04/01/2008
Knudsen, Kristie J. Alexander – (Millington, St. Paul) 10/30/2006
Krone, Shirley M. Miller – (Candidate) 01/28/2008
Krueger, Stephanie D. Walther – (Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz) 07/01/2006
Langlois, Tonya M. Fleming – (Rogers City, St. John) 07/20/2008
Merrill, Kenlyn S. Weller – (Fraser, St. John) 09/05/2008
Merz, Jessica L. Stoltenberg – (Birmingham, Our Shepherd) 10/18/2006
Mueller, Walter O. – (Non-Candidate) 11/20/2008
Nocella, Larry A. Jr. – (Monroe, Holy Ghost) 08/26/2008
Peterson, Michelle L. Balsler – (Candidate) 10/23/2008
Phillips, Anne M. Hoft – (Macomb, Lutheran High North) 10/30/2006
Polonkey, Stephanie M. – (Lake Orion, Good Shepherd) 12/26/2007
Reinbold, Tricia K. Mallory – (Traverse City, Trinity) 07/09/2007
Rohde, Aaron T. – (Rochester, Living Word) 09/01/2006
Schruig, Kathy A. Fritz – (Candidate) 11/04/2008
Smith, Joshua R. – (Ann Arbor, Concordia) 11/15/2007
Snyder, Kimberly A. – (Macomb, Immanuel) 09/05/2006
Spencer, Jessica L. Starr – (Candidate) to Non-Candidate 11/04/2007
Steele, Kenneth M. – (Saginaw, Bethlehem) 04/05/2006
Thorp, Gladys E. Frank – (Lansing, Our Savior) 06/03/2008
Trinklein, Rebecca M. – (Bay City, Immanuel) 09/01/2006
Vincent, Rebecca C. Timm – (Dearborn, Emmanuel) 08/28/2007
Westin, Bethany S. Miller – (Jackson, Trinity) 06/28/2007
Williamson, Katie L. Widstrand – (Eastpointe, St. Thomas) 10/24/2007
Wills, Paul R. – (Non-Candidate) 11/20/2008
Witte, Lucie E. Stelter – (Detroit, Mount Calvary) 12/04/2006

Inactive – Emeriti Status

Attenberger, David F. – (Eastpointe, St. Peter's) 06/15/2006
Brauatick, Janied M. McGorman – (Rochester, St. John) 06/30/2006
Caulkins, Gary W. – (Candidate) 06/10/2008
Daenzer, Katherine L. Hoops – (Macomb, St. Peter) 08/15/2008
Dahlke, Dorothy H. – (Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz) 07/31/2008
Dallmann, LaVerne M. Voigt – (Macomb, Lutheran High North) 12/01/2007
Evans, Evelyn L. Griesse – (Bay City, Faith) 06/15/2008
Freitag, Gene R. – (Macomb, Lutheran High North) 06/15/2006
Gerlach, Eileen K. Altenburg – (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) 06/30/2008
Gerlach, John W. – (Westland, Lutheran High Westland) 06/30/2008
Gibson, Lisette L. Lueker – (Bay City, St. Paul) 07/31/2008
Gremel, Bruce A. – (Non-Candidate) 01/01/2009
Grese, Susan J. – (Turner – Ann Arbor, St. Paul) 08/01/2006
Grupe, Elizabeth F. Reinboth – (Utica, Trinity) 06/30/2006
Gast, Frederick J. – (Shelby Township, Peace) 06/16/2007
Hackbarth, Richard OE. – (St. Joseph, Trinity) 07/15/2007
Kosmatka, Bruce J. – (Utica, Trinity) 06/30/2008
Leatzow, Edward A. – (Candidate) 12/31/2007
Lemke, George F. – (Holt, St. Matthew) 12/31/2005
Karsten, Beverly M. Wegner – (Alpena, Immanuel) 07/15/06
Klintworth, Kathryn G. Kunkel – (Ann Arbor, Concordia) 03/17/2007
Koerschen, James M. – (Non-Candidate) 05/15/2006
Meyer, Susan E. Sharum – (Harbor Beach, Zion) 06/30/2008
Moerer, Lucille P. – (Rochester, St. John) 07/31/2008
Mohlenhoff, William H. – (Candidate) 01/23/2008
Olson, John R. – (Auburn, Zion) 02/01/2009
Pickelman, Maureen R. – (Clinton Township, St. Luke) 07/01/2007
Primeau, Douglas A. – (Warren, Peace) 07/01/2007
Randall, Sally A. Barry – (Utica, Trinity) 06/15/2006
Rawson, Kathleen N. Glade – (Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz) 07/31/2008
Rockensuess, Sr., Larry H. – (Candidate) 10/21/2008
Roth, Carlyn J. Hodde – (Detroit, East Bethlehem) 10/10/2006
Samsell, Alva L. – (Port Huron, Faith) 12/31/2007
Scherer, Ronald D. – (Eastpointe, St. Peter's) 07/19/2006
Schiemann, Kathleen R. Wardin – (St. Peter, Hemlock) 06/01/2007
Schmidt, Paul M. – (Detroit, St. John) 12/31/2006
Schmucker, Calvin F. – (Traverse City, Trinity) 07/01/2007
Schumacher, James L. – (Bay City, Faith) 08/01/2006
Strang, William J. – (Walled Lake, St. Matthew) 06/30/2008
Smith, Alice E. Kratt – (Indonesia, Skeolah Pelita Harapan) 09/20/2006
Webb, Richard E. – (Rochester, St. John) 12/31/2007
Weiss, Thomas H. – (Rochester, St. John) 07/01/2007
Wiersig, W. Dan – (Non-Candidate) 10/22/2008
Willis, Linda J. Eller – (Alpena, Immanuel) 06/30/2006
Young, Brian A. – (Bay City, Immanuel) 06/30/2008

Reinstated to the Roster

Albrecht, Dorothy A. Theiss – 02/2007
Arnold, Paul W. – 09/2007
Breite, Christine L. Meier – 09/2007
Coleman, Michelle R. Leigh – 09/2007
Davis, Leanne A. – 09/2006
Faerber, Mark E. – 11/2006
Greve, Karen L. Faszholz – 09/2008
Hoeft, Terry L. – 02/2008
Jagoda, Pamela – 09/2007
Jantezke, Kristen S. Billig – 09/2007
Kern, Heidi S. Loesel – 11/2006
Klug, David H – 03/2008
Kovtun, George G. – 09/2006

Kruse, Ruth A. Warsinske – 11/2007
Marzluft, Debra M. – 09/2008
Neumeyer, Scott – 09/2008
Nihiser, Jane A. – 09/2008
Pichan, Thomas A. – 11/2006
Pifer, Christine A. – 11/2005
Schleicher, Amy L. Walquist – 04/2008
Schleicher, Kimberly J. – 09/2006
Schoenherr, Barbara – 09/2006
Swazey, Angela – 09/2006
Teske, Amy K. Stevens – 09/2007
Webb, Neil F. – 09/2007
Winningham, Gail – 09/2006

Resigned from Roster

Bach, Lisa A. Rude – 03/27/2006
Beethe, Irene E. Grueber – 02/02/2007
Bragenzer, Deborah L. Fischer – 02/28/2007
Brenner, Renee C. Jenista – 07/30/2006
Buesing, Richard G. – 11/03/2006
Case, Kimberly A. Snyder – 12/15/2007
Contreras, Katie J. Drake – 02/25/2007
Etheridge, Kimberly D. Stange – 11/23/2007
Frusti, Timothy M. – 08/25/2008
Grissom, Shelley J. Kramp – 01/29/2007
Keup, Cara J. Roubal – 05/19/2008
Kittleman, Sarah K. Schmidt – 09/25/2008
Mueller, Christine L. Simmons – 02/28/2007
Mueller, Marlene M. Schmid – 01/29/2009
Nelson, Nicole R. – 01/31/2009
Neumeyer, Scott R. – 10/16/2006
Nihiser, Jane A. Wollenburg – 02/22/2008

Olsen, Joann I. – 10/02/2007
Reinert, Jodi L. Zehnder – 11/04/2008
Rohde, Aaron T. – 10/27/06
Schafer, Beverly A. – 07/29/2007
Schleicher, Amy L. Walquist – 07/17/2006
Schultz, Andrea J. Harder – 04/10/2006
Schumacher, Richard W. Jr. – 07/16/2008
Scott, Amy M. Kalis – 11/13/2007
Smith, Susan M. Orr – 12/31/2008
Thorp, Gladys E. Frank – 02/03/2003
Timm, Nancy C. Manke – 04/10/2006
Troxel, Lisa M. Thanepoln – 7/19/2007
Vogt, Donald A. – 04/19/2006
Voigt, Jennifer R. Studenski – 08/24/2007
Webb, Neil F. – 02/06/2007
Webb, Richard E. – 03/27/2008
Welte, Yvonne M. Kraehnke – 07/05/2007

Removed from Roster

Carrier, Amy L. – 03/29/2006
Cashmer, Carol L. Cecilia – 02/03/2009
Collins, Karen S. Laeder – 07/17/2007
Goetsch, Debra L. – 12/10/2008
Heins, Ronald O. – 03/04/2008
Johnson, Kraig C. – 03/30/2007
Kim, Hoon J. – 03/04/2008
Klug, David H. – 01/28/2008
Leinhos, Lynn M. Harris – 01/28/2008
Love, Diane K. Ryherd – 12/10/2008
Osborne, Michael J. – 03/31/2006
Pacifci, Joni B. Sweatt – 03/31/2006

Parks, Michelle E. Bischoff Jones – 05/11/2006
Ringel, David T. – 04/04/2008
Rohde, Daniel J. – 01/28/2008
Seng, Rebekah J. – 05/11/2006
Teske, Amy K. Stevens – 03/30/2007
Thiede, Lori A. – 03/30/2007
Trombly, Barbara J. – 03/29/2006
Vicari, Matthew V. – 09/25/2008
Walker, Sandra L. Higgins – 03/31/2006
Watenpool, Jennifer L. – 03/30/2007
Waters, M. Kay Gruber – 04/04/2008

Called to Glory

Fechner, Erwin W. – 02/13/2007
Kimsal, Ronald F. – 03/24/2006
Kleinedler, Sharlene A. Nipp – 11/10/2006
Ollhoff, Jeanne A. – 03/26/2008
Papenberg, Walter L. – 04/17/2006
Prokopy, Paul E. – 02/06/2008
Reisenbichler, Melvin H. – 11/07/2006
Rudolph, Elton A. – 07/29/2004

Sawyer, Cynthia R. Berg – 03/07/2008
Schutzler, Sharon L. Hasso – 08/31/2007
Schwartz, Justin C. – 05/13/2006
Timm, Donald C. – 06/08/2007
Winter, Ernest A. – 09/26/2007
Wolter, Arthur L. – 02/21/2009
Zorn, Glen R. – 08/10/2007

School Openings

School Closings

Allen Park, Mt. Hope – 06/11/2006
Dearborn, Atonement Lutheran Preschool – 06/09/2006
Detroit, East Bethlehem – 06/05/2006
Holland, Zion – 06/30/2007

COMMISSIONED ANNIVERSARIES

IN 2006

- 50 Years** Aufdemberge, Theodore P.; Beardsley, Ronald L.; Bender, Edgar L.; Gelhausen, Albert F.; Kohtz, Roger O.; Scherer, Ronald D.
- 40 Years** Dahlke, Dorothy H.; Fricke, John M.; Kern, Stuart C.; Krone, Walter K.; Lemke, George F.; Ollhoff, Jeanne A.; Roth, Leslie D.; Schumacher, James L.; Siefker, Roy David; Steffens, Mark C.; Young, Brian A.
- 25 Years** Blake, Sharon E. Rachow; Brown, Cynthia A. Haller; Brown, David C.; Edenfield, Marilyn J. Kluck; Green, Sheila M. Patchett; Grage, Glenn G.; Grobelny, Cheryl A. Hoscheit; Gutenkunst, Gary A.; Leidecker, Shirley A. Hantak; Lenghart, Susan M. Mitchell; Machemer, Melvin A.; Mills, Ellen K. Baker; Nimtz, Mark A.; Pawlitz, Carol J. McCollum; Randall, Sally A. Bany; Rathje, Lynda L. Scarr; Rochlitz, David W.; Schuck, Kathleen A. Alatalo; Sohn, Miriam L. Sattelmeier; Stresman, Kevin D.; Weiss, Muriel J. Pingel; Wiersig, Christine C. AuBuschon; Williams, Elizabeth V.; Zeddies, Michael F.

IN 2007

- 50 Years** Aufdemberge, Erwin J.; Carroll, Dorothy M. Bartusch; Marino, Quentin M.; Meyer, David J.; Stresman, Kenneth C.; Topel, Stanley R.; Winter, Paul G.; Wuertz, Duane W.;
- 40 Years** Kaschinske, Kenneth A.; Klages, Kenneth J.; Mohlenhoff, William H.; Pickelman, Maureen R.; Primeau, Douglas A.; Roth, Carlyn J. Hodde; Smith, James F.; Stevens, Joanne M. Toensing; Vogtmann, Janet L. Roth; Wallace, Shirley M. Eggerding; Wittig, Evelyn D. Sell;
- 25 Years** Angott, Donna L. Renkert; Beringer, Gloria L. Gehner; Buchinger, Lori A. Haines; Bunkelman, James O.; Daenzer, Katherine L. Hoops; Dahn, Mary L. Schleicher; Dunsmore, Sharon K. Bruns; Fahlsing, Gloria D.; Gieschen, Timothy J.; Goetz, Lois M. Mortensen; Harris, Valerie J.; Heck, Zonna L. King; Hilsabeck, Janet E. Roberts; Jacques, Krista E. Pfeiffer; Krieger, Ruth A. Dubke; Moro III, Martin L.; Pakkala, Deborah L. Falck; Rapson, Andrea K. Beck; Refenes, James L.; Schafer, Joyce L. Unverfehrt; Topel, Timothy L.; Walter, Teresa I. Holle; Walters, Paulette E.; Zobel, Suzanne E.;

IN 2008

- 50 Years** Bergman, Delia A. Lakeman; Dickhudt, Robert J.; Geil, Jean R. Henrich Sundell; Krepsky, Richard D.; Kuske, Mary E. Moll; Opel, Edgar L.; Schultz, Lloyd N.; Schultz, Robert L.;
- 40 Years** Altevogt, Lester L.; Davis, Terry M.; Gerlach, John W.; Hackbarth, Richard O.E.; Hollrah, Deanna S.; Hubmeier, Bruce N.; Kern, Loretta L. Gehrke; Kuschmann, Margie A. Linder; Laubsch, Terry J.; McNeeley, Mark E.; Neumeyer, Dennis K.; Priskorn, Gary J.; Sundermann, Dianne S.; Vorwerk, Dale H.;
- 25 Years** Bouma, Mari-Beth Ingalls; Cashmer, Carol L. Cecilia; DeLage, Deborah L. Knight; Drinan, Lori J. Weir; Dockery, Daniel L.; Engelhard, Cynthia M. Elston; Guenther, Douglas D.; Hollman, Linda M. Kirchner; Kosman, Paul K.; Lanning, Joyce A. Owen; Lincoln, Cynthia A. Cone; Looker, Paul J.; Lucas, Cindy L. Doede; Martin, Kathy A.; Nelson, Gary R.; Paselk, Renate E. Erhardt; Ramthun, Daniel W.; Rogers, Randall J.; Schmidt, Kurt E.

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99th Convention of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod
June 28 – July 1, 2009
Ann Arbor, Michigan
District President’s Report



“Celebrate Jesus” is the theme that has been chosen for the 2009 Convention of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. Throughout the past triennium, we have recalled the 2006 District Convention theme “*Celebrating God’s Faithfulness*.” We thank and praise Him as we have been blessed as His *Redeemed* people, *Refreshed* by the power of His Word, and *Ready* to undertake the ministry before us in the Michigan District. It is both humbling and exciting to think back over this past triennium and celebrate His presence. Now, in 2009, we celebrate in the midst of a challenging context in society. These times would seemingly not lead to celebration but rather to anxiety, fear, hopelessness, and a myriad of other descriptors that would drain any sense of celebration. However, in the face of such, we recall God’s invitation to turn to Him, “Come unto me all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.” The reference here is not only to a momentary rest but an inner rest that provides peace, engenders hope, and grants joy as we look to the unfolding of Jesus’ will. Therefore, this Convention shall focus upon the “basics” to simply “*Celebrate Jesus*.” St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians in chapter two, verse five shares that “your attitude is to be the same as that of Christ Jesus ...” May He grant that to us as we look forward to the focus upon Him, as we gather in this 99th Convention of The Michigan District of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.

This report is presented with the hope and prayer that God will bless our mutual efforts as we review, remember, and anticipate a new triennium. May the attitude of Jesus referenced above lead us to greater understanding of “taking the very nature of a servant.” May we serve one another and those who do not yet know the joy of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. May our mutual efforts enable many to “*Celebrate Jesus*” to His glory and good and the extension of His Kingdom in time and eternity.

District Mission and Ministry

District Outcomes – Part I



As we are organized for ministry in the Michigan District, we are very thankful for the Spirit’s guidance and direction in following a Mission Statement, Ministry Core Values, and Major Outcomes. Our unique mission statement is *To Bolster Congregations and Congregational Leadership*. This has continued to be the focus throughout this past triennium. In accomplishing His mission, we operate according to our Ministry Core Values. You will note that the reports throughout this Convention Workbook have been organized around our Ministry Core Values toward accomplishing our **Major Outcomes**. What follows is a review of those Major Outcomes as they have set the course for ministry activities in the past triennium.

The first Major Outcome is to develop an **Outreach Mindset**. The goal is that “*Michigan District congregations are sensitive to those without Christ within their communities and beyond and actively share Christ’s love with them, integrating them into the body of Christ.*” This highlights care and concern for the communities in which our congregations are located. We seek to reach out to others having been nurtured through the Word and Sacrament ministry. As the congregation is so strengthened from within, it is then enabled to reach and enfold others into the body of Christ. Our congregations, through the Spirit’s blessings, are the “Church homes” for all of us in our individual congregations. May our congregations be winsome in attracting others to the joy of the fellowship in Christ.

The second Major Outcome recognizes the critical importance of the well-being of all who would function as **Servant Leaders** in the church. It is recognized that our Ministers of Religion – Ordained and Commissioned, are a gift of our Lord in His Church. May God be praised for them. Therefore, the Michigan District has focused on a second Major Outcome to the end that the “*Michigan District has a sufficient number of Ministers of Religion – Ordained and Commissioned to meet the needs of its congregations and ministries. These workers have a personal relationship with Christ*

and are filled with integrity and joy, and are well respected and supported financially.” We currently have 148 Michigan District students preparing for professional church work.



The third Major Outcome of the District widens the circle of consideration in our fellowship together in the Church of our Lord Jesus. It is one thing, as in Outcome #2 above, to provide church workers for the District. As they serve and function in the congregations of the District, it is vital to recognize the **fellowship into which we have been called** with our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 1:9). Thus, Outcome #3 states that *“Michigan District congregations and professional church workers demonstrate respect, trust, and support for each other and for District and Synod as they engage in interdependent ministries.”* We need one another in His service. We need the awareness of a deep, God-given fellowship with individual church workers and congregations. There needs to be collegiality and collaboration among us. We build upon one another’s strengths and strengthen one another in Law and Gospel ministry. This is done for the sake of effective witness in a dying world. This unity and spirit of fellowship and friendship is vital.

Thus, as we recognize that we are to be inviting congregations celebrating the presence of Jesus, it is necessary that our congregations are **resourced for ministry**. Therefore, Outcome #4 states that *“Michigan District congregations recognize, use and share innovative, effective resources the Spirit grants to His church for service to Christ and to people.”* The work of our District staff, inclusive of those located in our Ann Arbor office and those out in the District, has this focus on resourcing.

It follows then, as the District focuses upon these four Major Outcomes, that we organize to accomplish them. All of the work that is done by the staff of the Michigan District fits under the Ministry Core Values and Major Outcomes. As the Annual Work Plan of the District is prepared, every inclusion of the budget must be related to one of the Outcomes. A series of measurements of these outcomes is used by the Board of Directors to review ministry. Reports of the accomplishment of the Outcomes are presented at each of the Board of Directors’ meetings. That which follows will report how the District staff, organized into departments, works together to achieve the Outcomes.

District Organization and Structure - Part II

In addition to the ecclesiastical supervision and administration of the President’s office, there are three other departments. The three departments are Mission Services, Member Services, and General Services.

Mission Services Department

We celebrate the presence of Jesus through the work of the Mission Services Department of the Michigan District. This department is led by Pastor Roosevelt Gray Jr., Mission Services Director. During this past triennium, seven **new missions** have been established and one is currently in process of calling a mission planter. Continuing in the planning process, as we enter this triennium begun in 2009, there are 10 other mission sites that are in varying stages toward implementation. We praise God for those that were begun and have a sense of eager anticipation of God’s creative Spirit working towards the goal of planting mission congregations.



In addition to planting mission congregations, there is also a focus upon **“specialized ministries.”** Specialized ministries include attention to those among us who are benefitted by ministries for the blind, the deaf, the urban contexts, the ethnic groups, and campus ministry. In all of these specialized ministries, the desire is to be winsome in witness as faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is shared. In this time, matters of the clear Word of God and absolute truth are often relegated by some to simply “one among many” value systems. There is a very pointed need to explain the grace of God in Jesus Christ. We pray for many to “seek and ask” that we might be given the opportunity to give answer. This area of ministry is inclusive of the *Ablaze!* initiative in our Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. Its goal is to reach 100,000,000 people with the Gospel by the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. With this goal in mind, two Torch Relays have occurred in the past triennium. The first relay was from Hell, Michigan to Paradise, Michigan, entitled “Hell to Paradise.” In 2008, the Torch Relay was entitled “Coast to Coast” which traveled from

the east side to the west side of Michigan. For 2009, the Torch Relay is entitled “For the Heart of Michigan.” This Torch Relay will end on Concordia’s campus immediately prior to the opening of the District Convention, June 28th. It is hoped that many will gather to celebrate the completion of this witness undertaking. The runners, their sponsors, and the rallies at congregations throughout the District are focused on witnessing to the lost that they may come to “Celebrate Jesus.”



In accomplishing the goal of the Mission Department, attention is given to the **provision of Church Workers**. In the past, there have been different ethnic tracts to enable men of various ethnic groups to become pastors. There has been a new undertaking in this past triennium, which was initiated and is now being implemented. This program is entitled the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program. It was passed at the 2007 Convention of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. The training is being provided by our seminaries. This approach to developing pastors for service within The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod will enable contextual seminary education as

they train to become pastors. They continue to live and serve “at home” and yet receive a seminary education. These men will have the title “Specific Ministry Pastor.” After Ordination, they will be recognized as Pastors of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, subject to some limitations of type of ministry and place of ministry. It is a great joy to notice the energy, the excitement, and the commitment of these prospective SMP pastors in their love for the Lord Jesus and their desire to serve Him. It is absolutely critical for our Church that these outreach ministries, in particular ethnic and other specialized ministries, be begun. May we celebrate and serve effectively together.

There also has been in this past triennium, a development of focus on **urban ministry in cooperation with other nearby districts**. Districts working together are located around the Great Lakes and are inclusive of South Wisconsin, Northern Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and the two non-geographic districts of our Synod – SELC (Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches) and the English District. This program is titled “Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP).” This ministry seeks to revitalize urban congregations in ministry to the communities in which they exist. This is done in collaboration and cooperation with the LCMS World Mission and the Center for U.S. Missions.

Member Services Department

Among the departments of the Michigan District, the focus now turns to the Member Services Department. Pastor Richard Wolfram is the Director of Member Services. The particular emphasis of the Member Services Department is upon the “members” of Synod. The definition of members, according to the Handbook of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, includes the Ministers of Religion – Ordained and Commissioned and the congregations of the District and Synod. In other words, the members of Synod are **professional church workers and congregations**. From the previous review of the four Major Outcomes, the Member Services Department focuses most heavily in Outcomes two, three, and four. Thus, many conferences are provided for church workers and congregations for equipping, resourcing, and networking for effective ministry.

A critical aspect of the Member Services Department is carried out by the Michigan District Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support. This Commission meets regularly to provide **care for the workers of the District**. The Michigan District Sower’s Fund has been a tremendous blessing in providing for counseling and other needs of our church workers in times of crisis. We thank and praise God for the continued strong support for the Sower’s Fund, and for the kindness of all who contribute. Aid is necessarily offered confidentially. It is heart-warming to see the ways in which those faced with crisis in their ministry have been helped. Stop-gap and other emergency situations can be met to relieve the stress and difficulty that our workers face in such times. We thank God.



In the day-to-day life of our churches, their members, and their staffs, **conflict** occurs. In the past triennium, it seems, there has been an increase in the amount of conflict in the congregations of our District. The question is whether we are doing a better job of discovering those conflicts or that there are simply more conflicts. Suffice it to say that conflict is being discovered through the help of Congregation Ministry Facilitators and our Circuit Counselors and hopefully can be dealt with before it escalates to split congregations and impair ministry. To meet that need, the Michigan District in the past triennium has developed **Unity Ministry** led by Pastor Peter Larsen. Unity is a ministry of mediation that works toward reconciliation and provides a practical, workable way of dealing with conflict and plan for future ministry. Additionally, the Michigan District has Synodical Reconcilers. Currently, there are three who are able to help in congregational and worker conflict.

You may recall from the 2006 Michigan District Convention the presentation of “**Partners in Ministry**” for both congregations and professional church workers. These two documents regarding ethical conduct between and among professional church workers and congregations were to be studied throughout the District and then presented again at this 2009 District Convention. During this triennium, that task has been accomplished. Thanks are due to all! Included in the Workbook are the finalized Principles of Conduct for Professional Church Workers and Congregations for accepting by the District in Convention. May the Lord bless this effort to build and to nurture strong relationships among us as members of the Michigan District and The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.

It is also a continuing effort of the Michigan District to provide better resources in helping congregations to acquire and retain professional church workers. The effort continues as we meet with congregations experiencing a vacancy in the pastoral office. The Circuit Counselor, the Congregation Ministry Facilitator, and yours truly have continued to meet with congregations as they seek to fill the pastoral office. These congregation vacancy visits build fellowship and heighten awareness of the wonderful congregations in our District!

During the past triennium, the service of the **Congregation Ministry Facilitators** (CMF) has continued as they resource congregations throughout the District. The District has existed for a portion of the triennium with only two full-time Congregation Ministry Facilitators, Pastors Galan Walther and Rick Wolfram. Pastor Roosevelt Gray, Jr. also provides CMF ministry to those of the Mission Department. It is a joy to share that recently an additional half-time Congregation Ministry Facilitator, Pastor Gary Bender, who also serves at St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth, has been added to the staff. He is in position and provides service to the smaller congregations of the District.



Several other ministry areas are also covered by the Member Services Department. A major amount of staff time in the person of the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Bruce Braun, continues to focus upon the **schools of our District**. The need of our schools and our congregations for funding of mission and ministry is particularly acute in these times of economic stress. There is also considerable focus in the area of **Family Life** led by Pastor Galan Walther. The need has led to a partnership between the District and Concordia University Ann Arbor in developing the Family Friendly Partners Network. It has grown to a number of congregations

in the District and finds a number of congregations waiting to begin involvement in the Family Friendly Partners Network.

Member Services also provides the opportunity for attention to Disaster Relief. Help has been organized and includes financial support, personal involvement, and many other aspects of meeting the needs of those involved in disasters. In this triennium, the southern portion of our country, after Hurricane Ike, has received aid in the aftermath of this disaster.

There is also attention to Intentional Interim Ministry and Chaplaincy led by Pastor Warren Paulson who also serves as Executive Chaplain of the District. Pastor Paulson also works with those involved in Deacon ministry. Another aspect of service is the development of Parish Nurses who serve very effectively across the congregations of the District. Member Services also provides attention to Stewardship development. Mental Illness, via the Mental Illness Task Force, is another need addressed. We thank God for all involved who give of themselves to help others.

General Services Department

The General Services Department provides wonderful support in accomplishing the Outcomes of the District as previously referenced. The involvement of this Department touches, in many ways through the District staff, the congregations, and the ministries of the entire District. The work of the General Services Department often goes unseen but is absolutely critical to the accomplishment of all that proceeds in this report.

The General Services Department is designed to be a support department for the other departments, offices, and commissions of the District. Mr. Chad Woltemath, Vice President of Finance, coordinates the department's three offices of Communications, Development, and Business.

The **Communications** office keeps the congregations, church workers, and laity informed of the mission and ministry that is done on behalf of the congregations of the District as well as provides information on the resources it provides back to its members. In addition, news from sister congregations and other relevant ministry information is also shared through the District's bi-monthly publication *Michigan In Touch*, the weekly e-bulletin, and the District website (www.michigandistrict.org). Changing technology continues to provide opportunities and challenges for the communications office as it seeks to embrace the latest and most cost-effective means of communication while providing information to those who have not yet adopted newer technology.

The main focus of the Development office this past triennium has been on the quiet phase of the **District's 125th Anniversary Thank Offering, *The Future is Now***. While the two main objectives of the Thank Offering have been Michigan mission starts and support for Michigan students preparing to be professional church workers, a third leg has been added in 2009 in support of the International Ministry goals of the national Synod campaign ***Fan into Flame***. The Development office is led by Mr. Ray Zavada, Vice President of Development, as he regularly visits congregations, thanks them for their support of the District's work at large, and communicates the need for continued support.



The Business office provides various support to District mission and ministry including accounting, budgeting, human resource management, contract review, and property management. The business office also provides event coordination services to assist the various committees with logistical aspects of conferences and events.

Concluding Thoughts

As follows from the bylaw provision for Presidential term limits, this fourth triennium of service marks my final triennium. The glance back over this fourth triennium is as exciting and encouraging as have been the previous three! It is a great joy to focus on the faithfulness of our Lord, His love for us, and His provision of Word and Sacrament ministry that enables The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod to exist. It is humbling as He lays before us His mission and extends to us the invitation to participate with Him in its accomplishment as fellow servants. The joy of service is that which I pray for all who work together to face the challenges and the opportunities as we walk together on the way to heaven.



The mission and ministry of the District exists only because the congregations of the District exist. The congregations exist only because of God's call into existence as He gathers them around Word and Sacrament ministry. May the Lord be praised for all who serve in the congregations of our District. We thank and praise Him for the **Michigan District Board of Directors** who work together so cooperatively and collegially, for our **elected officers**, and for our **Circuit Counselors** as all labor behind the scenes without a lot of public recognition. We also are moved to be thankful for the various task forces, committees, and other organizations and entities throughout our District. There are so many who do so well in looking beyond themselves to the service of others. May God be praised for them!

It is a particular blessing of yours truly to contemplate the partnership that has been shared throughout this past triennium with the **Vice Presidents** of the Michigan District. It is a privilege to serve together with them. May God be praised for First Vice President David Maier, Second Vice President Wayne Wentzel, Third Vice President Michael Roth, and Fourth Vice President K. Frank Graves. The District has been well served both regionally and collectively by these men.

Another source of great joy that is both humbling and exciting is that of our **District staff**. Each morning is begun with the staff gathering in devotion. Our devotion and prayer always includes a congregation or ministry, four church workers of the District by name and picture and the name and picture of one of the Michigan District professional church work students. Gathering around the Word at the beginning of each day brings the sure promise of the Spirit's working in and among us as a team. What a joy it is to work together in His service!



Another reflection that eventuates in prayer and thanksgiving to our good and gracious God is directed toward Julie Strobl. Julie began her service in this triennium as my Executive Assistant. Julie began with a sense of ministry, has served wonderfully effectively, and is a tremendous blessing. It has been and continues to be a joy to work together as a team with Julie. May such service bring her joy.

Finally, it is my great joy to seek your permission of sharing, also, a personal word with regard to God's gift of Barb. She is a blessing in my life in so many ways that I cannot count them all. Her partnership, not only in my life but in aspects of District ministry, for these last 12 years has brought me blessings of love, support, partnership, commitment, strength, and encouragement in carrying out this ministry. Whatever yours truly has been able to offer in service to the Lord and His Church has been only positively impacted by Barb. I thank and praise God and ask your prayer for Barb, especially as she begins to put up with me full-time in retirement!

A final reflection is that the theme for this Convention is so appropriate. In recalling the beginning of this service in 1997, and now by His grace completing this journey of service, I do so simply with joy at the opportunity to "*Celebrate Jesus*" with you. He is so good and so gracious. In many regards, even after 12 years it seems as if I am just good and started in this task. On the other hand, in many ways, it seems like we have been doing this together for much more than 12 years. This is a good feeling enabled by God's grace in Christ. It is time for new leadership. As the Lord leads, my whole-hearted support, in transition and beyond, will continue for the sake of His Church and His District. We are privileged by Him to serve. May it have been done to His glory, the lifting high of His cross, and the building and extending of His Kingdom. May God bless the ministry of the Michigan District through our congregations that many others will come to "*Celebrate Jesus*."

Circuit Counselors' Reports

Circuit #1 – Mackinac Straits Circuit

Rev. Stephen E. Schilke, Counselor

Roster of Congregations: Cheboygan, St. John – Keith Schneider; DeTour Village, Redeemer – vacant; Drummond Island, Drummond Island – vacant; Engadine, Bethlehem – Arthur Bode; Germfask, Grace – Arthur Bode; Hawks, Faith – Jack Ferguson; Kinross, St. Paul, Charles Burhop; Newberry, Trinity – Daniel Clemons; Onaway, Holy Cross – vacant; Paradise, Paradise – Daniel Clemons; Rogers City (Moltke), Immanuel – Eric Voigt; Rogers City, Peace – Kevin Jones; Rogers City, St. John – John Schreiber; Rogers City (Belknap), St Michael – Paul Hopkins; Sault St. Marie, St. Barnabas – Charles Burhop.

Pastor Roger Kilponen is serving as Vacancy Pastor for Redeemer, DeTour Village and Drummond Island. The vacancy pastor at Holy Cross, Onaway is Pastor Barton Gray.

Education being offered in the Circuit: St. John, Rogers City: K-8 Day School; Holy Cross, Onaway: Pre-school; St. John Cheboygan: Pre-school and Kindergarten.

This, the northern most circuit in the Michigan District, continues to be a vibrant group of congregations that more and more are receiving members of the southern congregations of Michigan as summer residents and permanent retirees. We welcome the opportunity to provide spiritual care for all of these new members as well as the visiting vacationers along with our nucleus of permanent 'up-north' residents.

Circuit #2-- Alpena Circuit

Rev. Robert L. Mikkelson, Counselor

Circuit #2 is in Northeast Michigan. Because of our proximity and common concerns, Circuit #2 works closely with Circuit #1 which is the northern most circuit of the Michigan District. Circuits #1 and #2 hold Winkel meetings together that are held on the first Tuesday of each month from 10am till 2:30pm. They alternate host congregations between the Circuits with the congregations' ladies groups providing the noon meal. Even though attendants travel long distances, they look forward to an encouraging time together. Morale is good at Winkels. Yearly, congregations in the circuits strive to cooperate in holding joint Reformation and Ascension services. Some pastors and congregations organize and staff a yearly confirmation retreat held at Loon Lake Retreat Center in Hale, MI. The Alpena Mackinac Straits Mission Action Council (TAMSMAC) has been active since 1987 when there were 15 congregations in the two Circuits. The number of congregations has grown to 22 now. TAMSMAC is an amalgamation of all the LCMS churches in these two northern circuits binding themselves together for the sake of spreading the Gospel of Jesus in the North.

St. John's Lutheran Church, Hillman - St. John's has been serving the northeast portion of Montmorency County since 1888. Rev. Jason Mandley has served the congregation since

1999. Despite an aging population, migration and difficult economic times, the congregation continues to hold its own while faithfully proclaiming God's Word and administering the Holy Sacraments. Some significant events of the past three years include the purchase of the new hymnal Lutheran Service Book, the purchase of a new organ and putting a new roof on the church. The Early Childhood Center, which opened in 2004, has expanded to offer Kindergarten and First Grade as well as Preschool. The director, Mrs. Debbie Miller, has over 20 years of experience teaching in Macomb County. St. John's and her members have also been active and visible in the Hillman community. The congregation conducts church services on a regular basis for the residents of the local nursing home. The church opens its doors to the community by allowing community members to use the gym and some of the school teams hold practice in the facility. The congregation hosts benefit dinners for causes in the community that are consistent with congregational values. St. John's realizes that all blessings come as a result of God's goodness and they look forward to the church's 125th anniversary in 2013.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Posen - St. Paul is an historical congregation founded in 1873. Due to failing health, Pastor Harold Molzan retired and Rev. David Spaeth is serving as Vacancy Pastor. St. Paul is a worshipping congregation and strives to maintain the integrity of the Gospel.

Living Water Lutheran Church, Mio - Rev. Carlo Sgambelluri is serving Living Water Lutheran Church along with the Faith, Glennie and part-time vacancy duties at Bethlehem, Lewiston. Living Water is a church in mission which reaches out, holds Bible Study, and is organizing to become more stable and to grow.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Ossineke - Pastor Arthur Reich retired and Intentional Interim Minister, Pastor Barton Gray, helped the congregation adjust to Pastor Reich's absence and set goals for growth. With the ordination and call of Pastor Dennis Neigh, Good Shepherd shares the services of Pastor Neigh in a dual parish agreement with Faith in Harrisville. Good Shepherd is the larger of the two congregations with average worship attendance of 40-45 weekly. Good Shepherd has active boards, lay involvement, Bible Studies and children's programs. They respond to needs, strive to serve and reach out that others may be won for Christ.

Faith Lutheran Church, Harrisville - Dennis Neigh has been a servant in Word and Sacrament Ministry of Faith for approximately eleven years. He was ordained and installed as Pastor in 2008 after serving Faith as a Deacon. Although Northern Michigan is suffering greatly because of the economy, the congregation has remained viable. They have a membership of 20+ and worship an average of 15 this past year. The congregation finds the Lord in all things. They are loving and active. They maintain their building and grounds and continue to be a close knit group while caring about the community as well. Recently, Dale Job, a member of the

congregation, started his studies through the Deacon Training Program of the District with Pastor Neigh's support.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Alpena - Rev. William Morris is serving as an Administrative Pastor and Rev. James Erickson as Associate Pastor. The Pastors are involved in community concerns, radio ministry, writing religion articles in the newspaper, and are active in the school. The congregation hosts a Good Friday Treore Service that is well attended by visitors in the community and is the most frequent host of circuit joint Reformation Services and larger conferences. They are very active in youth programs and evangelism outreach. Immanuel is the largest congregation in Circuit #2 and is a good "big sister" congregation to other LCMS churches in the area. The congregation operates a Lutheran Elementary School with seven full and part time teachers along with Mrs. Pam White who serves as Principal.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lewiston - Rev. Carlo Sgambelluri and Rev. David Spaeth continue to share duties as Vacancy Pastors at Bethlehem after Pastor Bob Butler took a call to Wisconsin. Bethlehem has started a training program for young men of the congregation who may become elders of the church one day. They also hold a Vacation Bible School program which is blessed with exceptional attendance of 100 children from the church and community. They are an active and involved congregation who addresses itself to ministry, purity of doctrine and evangelical outreach.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hubbard Lake (Formerly of Herron) – St. Paul is served by Rev. Robert L. Mikkelson. In September 2004, the congregation voted to build new facilities. As time lapsed, a public school six miles away that was forced to close became available and was purchased by St. Paul in 2007. The building is under renovation and has enough space available to carry out its ministry until a new church building can be added. The congregation has been worshipping in the school since January 4, 2009. Architects plans for building a new church are being completed and the congregation will approve a date for ground breaking. They intend to use the new space to expand its ministry to serve and reach more people with the Gospel. St. Paul is supportive of Christian education programs in its congregation and financially assists families whose children attend Immanuel Lutheran School in Alpena. It also has aid and scholarship funds for those who pursue fulltime church work.

Circuit #3 - Timberline Circuit **Rev. Dean R. Muhle, Counselor**

St. John, Au Gres – Currently served by Vacancy Pastor, Rev. Robert Eggers
Baptized Membership – 297; Communicant Membership – 230; Average Worship Attendance – 74

Our Savior, Glennie – Currently served by Vacancy Pastor, Rev. Carlo Sgambelluri
Baptized Membership – 29; Communicant Membership – 26; Average Worship Attendance – 27

St. Paul, Hale – Rev. Dean Muhle
Baptized Membership – 441; Communicant Membership – 346; Average Worship Attendance – 110

Trinity, Oscoda – Rev. Timothy Azzam
Baptized Membership – 470; Communicant Membership – 331; Average Worship Attendance – 143

Faith, Prescott – Rev. Daniel Jansen
Baptized Membership – 423; Communicant Membership – 347; Average Worship Attendance – 115

Bethlehem, Standish – Currently served by Intentional Interim Pastor, Rev. David E. Hakes
Baptized Membership – 296; Communicant Membership – 236; Average Worship Attendance – 85

Zion, Tawas City – Rev. Steven Mahlborg
Baptized Membership – 475; Communicant Membership – 385; Average Worship Attendance – 93

Good News Ministries, Whittemore – Served by Deacon Jack Rohn
Baptized Membership – 205; Communicant Membership – 136; Average Worship Attendance – 75

Circuit #4 – Gladwin Circuit **Rev. William C. Winter, Counselor**

The Gladwin Circuit is made up of six congregations in the gateway to the northern counties of the Lower Peninsula. We minister, we serve, 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 is served by the Rev. Kevin Leidich who was installed in October of 2005 from the state of Wisconsin.

Our Savior, Gladwin is served by the Rev. Matthew Schulz, who graduated from our seminary in St. Louis in the spring of 2006. He was installed as pastor on July 23rd of that year.

St. John, Houghton Lake is served by the Rev. William Winter who has been blessed to serve God's people at St. John for over 33 years.

St. Luke, Harrison has been served by the Rev. Michael Schaedig since his installation in 2003, which was his first parish since graduation from Ft. Wayne as a second career pastor.

Hope Lutheran Church, St. Helen is served by the Rev. Rodney Morrison who was installed just last spring, in 2008, having graduated from our seminary in Ft. Wayne.

St. John, West Branch is served by the Rev. Howard Travis, a second career pastor from Ft. Wayne. Pastor Travis was installed at St. John in the summer of 2006.

We meet monthly for Winkel, on the last Tuesday, except during the summer months. We rotate serving as host among the congregations of the Timberline and Gladwin circuits. We have been meeting jointly with the Timberline Circuit for the past year or more. We meet for Holy Communion and casuistry, ending with lunch at a local watering hole.

A significant event for our northern region was when the four circuits of the north played host to a "Peacemakers" Seminar, led by Dr. Ted Kober from Ambassadors of Reconciliation. The one-day seminar was attended by laymen and clergy from the four northern circuits of the Michigan District at the fellowship hall of St. John Lutheran Church of Hillman, MI. We must always remember to give thanks to God for the great gifts with which He has blessed our Church through her laymen, teachers and pastors.

God has truly blessed the Michigan District and the Gladwin Circuit with quality men of God in the pastoral offices of her member churches. All of the pastoral offices in Circuit #4 are filled, for which we give great thanks.

Circuit #5 – Midland Circuit **Rev. Paul Young, Counselor**

The Lord continues to be gracious to Circuit 5. Our eleven churches, counting Christ the King Chapel at CMU, continue to gather from our own unique settings to support each other. We continue to be enriched within our monthly meetings as we rotate to each of the church settings. Gatherings include:

1. Coffee and donuts;
2. Host church leads us in Service with Holy Communion;
3. Bible study or a current topic or issue, such as review of the "Report of the Blue Ribbon Task Force for the Funding the Mission;
4. Finish with Circuit "Business" and personal updates

While each meeting may be considered a "highlight" for the Circuit, there were some events for record:

- Installation of Rev Jon Bakker as Assistant Pastor of Zion Lutheran/Christ the King Chapel at CMU on June 18, 2006
- Rev Paul Young attended National Circuit Counselors Conference in Milwaukee, WI, Sept. 12-14, 2006
- Ordination/Installation of Rev Larry Wright at Our Savior, Midland on July 1, 2007
- Installation of Rev Michael Buckhorn on September 20, 2007
- Retirement of Rev John Pohanka from St. John, Midland – Rev Lawrence Witto Interim – November 2007
- Ordination/Installation of Rev Kurt Eichinger for

Lord of New Life at Our Savior Lutheran in Midland, June 22, 2008

- Installation of Ed Doerner at Messiah Lutheran, Midland by Rev John Langewisch (Messiah) on August 17, 2008
- The Circuit Convocation was held at Christ the King Lutheran Chapel, CMU campus in Mt Pleasant on October 19, 2008
- Rev Larry Warsinski and Dale P. Gust were Circuit 5 delegates to the "2007 Synodical Convention"

We make note of the Circuits continued support of missions, particularly student outreach and support at Christ the King. Each of our Pastors brings experience, knowledge and the love for God's Gospel in Christ Jesus from different walks and settings. Two of our Pastors celebrated 25-years in the ministry: Rev David Reed and Rev Sam Reith. One Pastor (retired) celebrated 40-years in the ministry: Rev Bob Koeppen.

The Lord continues to be gracious to Circuit 5 for our walk together in Word and Sacrament, common faith and encouragement to each. While there are challenges to meet in each of our congregations, and those with schools in maintaining enrollments, our Lord strengthens and guides. To our Lord be all praise, honor, power and glory.

Circuit #6 - Bay Circuit **Rev. William Allwardt, Counselor**

Our churches in Bay City and Bay County include: Faith (Bay City), Immanuel (Bay City), Pilgrim (Essexville), St. John (Amelith), St. John (Pinconning), St. Paul (Frankenlust), Trinity (Monitor) and Zion (Bay City). We normally meet and enjoy our collegiality on the third Tuesday morning of the month from September through May.

Events that have taken place during these past three years or are taking place include the following.

Faith, Bay City had the privilege to welcome in August of 2008, Associate Pastor George Morris to its staff. Teacher Dwain Grimpso served as interim principal for two years until August of 2008 when Dan Stoelting was installed as called principal/teacher. Ministry emphasis "Expanding Our Faith" provided for facility updates in the sanctuary, fellowship space, restrooms, offices and classrooms.

St. Paul, Frankenlust was also privileged to add in August of 2007 an Associate Pastor, Rev. Corey Grunklee. A new ministry began in December of 2008 known as Angel Ministry. Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing food relief and contributing to benevolent outreaches in communities throughout the United States.

Trinity, Monitor completed the remodeling of its school and the addition of a gymnasium/fellowship.

St. John, Amelith expanded and modernized its school in the summer of 2006 with a 15,000 sq. ft. addition that was built in large part by Laborers for Christ and St. John members. The new facility has been in use since September of 2006 with increasing enrollments each year since its construction. The addition rebuilt the educational portion of the 1955 school by adding four 30 x 30 foot classrooms for double classes in grades 1-8 and two 30 x 45 foot classrooms for the preschool and kindergarten programs. The old school was remodeled into an administrative wing with a faculty/meeting room, expanded church/school office area with work room, offices for pastor and assistant as well as a chapel/meeting room, confirmation room/meeting room and library/cafeteria/meeting room. Phase I of St. John's Master plan for growth was financed by St. John members and a loan from Church Extension Fund. Of course, a school is much more than bricks and mortar and we at St. John praise God for its fine principal and faculty. The modernized and expanded facility has surely been a drawing card for prospective parents. The stewardship challenges within the parish remain great in light of Michigan's economy and our nation's financial woes. Yet, in spite of such things, we thank and praise God for His ongoing faithfulness and all-encompassing grace. In 2006, St. John-Amelith also received Synod's new hymnal, Lutheran Service Book, with thanksgiving for use in worship and it has been a blessing to the parish. Staff milestones celebrated in 2008 included Mr. Ed Opel's 50th anniversary in the teaching ministry, Pastor Stephen Starke's 25th ordination anniversary, and Mrs. Cindy Rauschert's 10th anniversary as teacher at St. John Lutheran School-Amelith. To God be all glory!

Immanuel, Bay City – Pastor Leslie Tyvela is currently serving the Immanuel congregation. Baptized membership – 2484; Communicant membership – 1767; Average Worship Attendance – 403.

Pilgrim, Essexville – Pastor Carl Trosien is currently serving the Pilgrim congregation. Baptized membership – 653; Communicant membership – 512; Average Worship Attendance – 155.

Zion, Bay City – Pastor William Allwardt and Pastor John Wernecke are currently serving the Zion congregation. Baptized membership – 1985; Communicant membership – 1520; Average Worship Attendance – 464.

St. John, Pinconning – Pastor David Jung is currently serving the St. John congregation. Baptized membership – 465; Communicant membership – 378; Average Worship Attendance – 147.

Circuit #7 – Thumb East Circuit **Rev. Kenneth D. Lueke, Counselor**

Congregations in the Circuit: St. Peter, Kinde - Rev. David Putz; St. John, Port Hope - Rev. Greg Eilers (Day School - Preschool – 8th); Zion, Harbor Beach - Rev. David McCloskey (Day School - Preschool – 8th); Trinity, Forestville - Rev. Richard Wilson; St. John, Port Sanilac - Rev. Leo Thoms; St. John, Palms – Rev. Henry Hales; Peace, Sandusky - Rev.

Richard Tino (Preschool); Our Savior, Marlette - Rev. Eric Kilmer (Day School - Preschool – 4th); Our Savior, Bad Axe – Rev. Raymond Sting and Rev. Kenneth Lueke, Circuit Counselor (Preschool)

General Circuit News:

- Thumb East Circuit meets with Thumb West Circuit for monthly Winkels, consisting of worship, an exegetical or sermon study, lunch, a topical presentation and time for casuistry.
- Also, the pastors and wives of the two Circuits get together annually for both a Christmas party and a summer cookout and picnic.
- The Rev. Henry Hales became pastor of St. John, Palms and the Rev. David McCloskey became pastor of Zion, Harbor Beach during this last triennium.

Congregational Activity:

St. Peter, Kinde – The congregation has been undergoing renovation of its facilities, making major improvements. The congregation is involved in several outreach programs in the community, and the Ladies' Aid continues to raise money for missions, help for local families and assistance to nursing home residents. Its pastor led the first Memorial Day Service held in Kinde, working with local veterans. Their 2008 Mission Festival included the Rev. Robert Rahn of Lutheran Heritage Foundation as the preacher.

St. John, Port Hope - St. John celebrated its 140th anniversary in 2008. Its pastor also celebrated his 10th anniversary in the ministry. It operates a Day School that runs Preschool through 8th. Through Word and Sacrament, church membership and attendance at worship has risen in these last three years.

Zion, Harbor Beach - The congregation completed its year-long celebration of its 125th anniversary. It continues to maintain a Christian Day School (grades Preschool through 8th). They installed their new pastor, the Rev. David McCloskey. The congregation is currently updating its broadcast facilities to allow a more professional broadcast of its weekly Services over cable TV. It also has a ministry to the hearing impaired, has established a Day Care ministry, and are in the planning stages for a new day care facility. It is in the process of evaluating how Zion interacts with the community to see what steps can be taken for greater interaction with it.

Trinity, Forestville - The congregation celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2007.

St. John, Port Sanilac - Formed in 1857, St. John is 152 years old. Though small, St. John has expanded its ministry to offer weekly services at the local retirement home, and through last year's VBS program, baptized three children.

St. John, Palms - The congregation is over 90 years old. In this last triennium, they celebrated the installation of their new pastor, the Rev. Henry Hales.

Peace, Sandusky - During this last triennium, Peace completed work on its facilities, making it handicapped accessible

throughout. The congregation also installed new pipes for its pipe organ.

Our Savior, Marlette – The congregation is continuing to work toward its goal of offering a Lutheran School in Marlette with grades preschool through 8th. They are up to Grade Four as of now.

Our Savior, Bad Axe - In August of 2007, the congregation completed Phase One of its building program which includes a new gathering area, offices, nursery, conference area, handicapped facilities and elevator. Phase Two of the expansion will include a fellowship/recreation hall. We are also in the process of renovating our Preschool facilities, and have completed work on a new playground area. The congregation also celebrated the Ordination and Installation of the Rev. Ray Sting as its Assistant Pastor who, up until that time, had been serving the congregation as a licensed Deacon. The congregation also hosts a weekly radio broadcast, "On Solid Ground," reaching Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac counties. In this last triennium, our Missions committee has hosted our annual Missionfest, which has included representatives from POBLO, Lutheran Heritage Foundation and MOST Ministries. This fall's Missionfest will host the organization, "Food For the Poor." We will also be one of the rally points for this summer's Ablaze Torch Relay Race. We continue to periodically offer various events for the community, such as an Advent Concert with David Paul Britton, and the film series, "The Truth Project."

Circuit #8 – Thumb West Circuit
Rev. Gerald Meyer, Counselor

St. Peter, Bach (Sebewaing) – Shortly before the 2006 convention, St. Peter Congregation had formed a dual parish with St. John's, Kilmanagh. The two congregations have worked together in the last three years to implement the agreement. St. Peter, Bach continues to support an average of 6-8 students yearly by paying in full tuition at Christ the King Lutheran School - \$3250 per student each year. The congregation has also supplied Lutheran World Relief and local county homeless shelters with approximately 500 quilts. The congregation is looking forward to celebrating the church's 100th anniversary in 2012. While there have been some difficult and trying times, the doors remain open, the Gospel is preached and the Sacraments are administered according to Christ's institution. Pastor Allen Stoll who is currently serving in the capacity of Intentional Interim Pastor has been well received and his visitation to the sick, shut-in and others is greatly appreciated. Finally, the congregation purchased the Lutheran Service Book and uses it regularly in worship.

Good Shepherd, Caseville – Over the past three years, Good Shepherd has seen some growth in its Sunday School. The congregation has also seen some growth in financial support which has allowed them to purchase a Clavinova which is used to lead singing for worship. The congregation also was able to purchase new seating for the nave. They enjoy Sunday morning Bible study and appreciate the Children's message that became part of the Sunday morning worship. Unfortunately, their

much beloved Pastor Jim Nihiser accepted a call to serve on the other side of the state, so the congregation is currently in the process of calling a pastor to serve them in the years to come.

Good Shepherd, Cass City – Good Shepherd is blessed with three good organists and so it was with great joy that we dedicated our new organ on June 11, 2006. The congregation joined Synod's "Adopt a Missionary" program and currently supports Missionary Matthew Heise who works in Russia and other areas of the old Soviet Union. We purchased the Lutheran Service Book and dedicated the hymnals in September of 2007. We celebrated the 40th anniversary of the dedication of our present sanctuary in December of 2007 and the 60th anniversary of the founding of our congregation in January of 2008. Currently, the pews in the church are in the process of being refinished, a new tile floor has been installed and the interior of the church has been repainted.

Grace, Fairgrove - Without accruing any debt, we paved our parking lot and replaced the church's sidewalks, making them handicap accessible. We engaged, with the assistance of Thrivent, in a campaign in late 2006 to clean up the landscaping of a number of our community's shut-ins, our community's cemetery, and our town park. In the summer of 2007, seven people (two teams of five adults) embarked on a short term mission trip to the Shoshone people of the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming. These people assisted the called pastor in conducting Vacation Bible School, making a number of repairs to the facility and painted the interior of the church. In 2008, we raised money to send a number of youth and youth leaders to the Higher Things youth gathering in Pennsylvania. Also in 2008, the women of the parish began to make quilts for cancer victims of the parish and community.

St. Paul, Linkville (Pigeon) - God has richly blessed this small rural congregation since our last report. Our Vacation Bible School continues to draw many children from the community. The average attendance is around 60 children, many of whom have never heard the Gospel. We pray for the Holy Spirit's blessing upon them. We have averaged 15 new adult confirmands over the last three years, some of whom are relatives of existing members but many who have been invited to our services by friends and relatives. We rejoice that one of our own, Josh Errer, has begun his studies to enter into the Office of the Holy Ministry at our seminary in St. Louis. He is the first son of our congregation to do this. We continue to support him with our treasures and prayers as he pursues his studies leading to ordination. We give praise and thanks to God for giving us the privilege of proclaiming His marvelous deeds here in this small corner of the Thumb.

St. John's, Kilmanagh (Sebewaing) – St. John's congregation has been working with St. Peter, Bach at implementing the joint parish agreement between them. The agreement has allowed the congregation to continue to serve its members as it has done for 133 years, without having to worry about how to meet expenses. The congregation has been able to make some needed repairs and renovations, including work on its organ. Currently, the congregation is being served by Pastor Allen Stoll as an Intentional Interim Pastor. His outgoing

personality, diligent care for the sick and shut-ins, and strong proclamation of the Gospel are appreciated by the people and attendance at worship services is increasing.

Immanuel, Sebewaing – Having the vision of seeing “Jesus in every Heart, and Head, and Hand,” Immanuel continues to experience God’s grace and share the Savior’s love. To equip God’s saints, we extended a call in 2007 to the Rev. Michael Boyer to serve as Associate Pastor. In 2008, we extended a call to our new school administrator, Mr. David Kumm.

St. Paul, Unionville – St. Paul Lutheran Church continues to support its members through the lively preaching of the Gospel and faithful attention to the sick and shut-ins. It continues, in partnership with Immanuel, Sebewaing, to operate Christ the King Lutheran School, providing the facilities for the lower grades and calling the teachers for those classrooms. This is no small expense to the congregation, but the members continue their long tradition of commitment to supporting Lutheran elementary education.

Circuit #9 – Frankenmuth Circuit
Rev. Dale C. Ahlschwede, Counselor

“As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.” Isaiah 55: 10-11.

What a wonderful and exciting promise God gives us. As a result of God’s faithfulness to His every promise, I can report most assuredly that God’s divine will and purpose are being realized throughout the congregations and communities that comprise Circuit #9 in our Michigan District which include Immanuel, Frankentrost – St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth – St. Michael, Richville – St. Paul, Caro – St. Paul, Millington – Trinity, Reese – and Trinity-St. James, Munger. The 67 teachers and 13 pastors who serve God’s people in these 7 congregations are among the most talented and committed church workers to be found in the LCMS. We give thanks to God for these precious gifts to His Church on earth. While I could compile a list of all the “ministries and events and activities” that have gone on over the past three years in our circuit, suffice it to say that the Word of God has been and is being faithfully proclaimed from the pulpits, taught in the schools, and modeled in the lives of the believers. Hundreds of infants have been washed in the waters of Holy Baptism, nearly a hundred adults have also been led to kneel and be washed in these Baptismal waters. And one by one, individuals feel the tap of God on the shoulder and dedicate their time, talents and life to the Lord as they prepare for full time church work. In the last three year period, 16 short-term mission trips have carried the Good News and a caring hand from Circuit #9 to countless individuals in Third World countries. In the midst of the dark side of the times in which we live today, we are excited about the opportunity we have to let our light so shine before men that they may see our good God and His good works (through our own) and finally give

glory to our great God in heaven. Our prayer is that His name would continue to be hallowed, His kingdom continue to come, and His will continue to be done in us (the members of the congregations in circuit #9) and through us, as we find more and more ways to share God’s Word with the world in which we live. To God be the glory!

Circuit #10 – Saginaw Circuit
Rev. William W. Hessler, Counselor

Twelve congregations comprise the Michigan District’s Saginaw Circuit #10.

- 1) Bethlehem, Saginaw is served by the Rev. Michael R. Korte, Administrative Pastor, and the Rev. Charles F. Buckhahn, Associate Pastor.
- 2) The Rev. William W. Hessler ministers to Faith, Bridgeport, and also serves as the Circuit Counselor.
- 3) The Rev. Mark P. Buckert serves Good Shepherd, Saginaw. The congregation also participates in the Synod’s Vicarage program.
- 4) The Rev. James F. Krueger was installed as Pastor of Holy Cross, Saginaw in January, 2009. The Rev. Luther Werth served Holy Cross as its Intentional Interim Pastor after the Rev. Timothy Loewe completed his ministry in July, 2007.
- 5) After the Rev. M. Samuel Sherouse accepted a Call out of the Circuit in March, 2008, the Rev. Robert Schultz began serving Messiah, Carrollton as Interim Pastor.
- 6) Deacon Richard Mallory continues to provide Word and Sacrament ministry to the saints at Nativity, St. Charles.
- 7) Peace, Saginaw continues to be served by the Rev. C. William Weis, Senior Pastor, and the Rev. Paul R. Hinz, Pastor.
- 8) Redeemer, Saginaw saw the Rev. J. Robert Herrod accept a Call out of the Circuit in November, 2007. The Rev. John Mueller from Valley Lutheran High School provided pulpit supply until the Rev. Stephen Schilke became Redeemer’s Intentional Interim Pastor in November, 2008.
- 9) St. Mark, Saginaw continues to be served by the Rev. Edward Meyer. St. Mark also honored Deacon Roy Luplow upon his retirement following many years of faithful service.
- 10) The Rev. Martin J. Hagenow, Senior Pastor, and the Rev. Richard E. Mundt, Associate Pastor, continue serving the saints at St. Peter, Hemlock.
- 11) St. Philip, Owosso is served by the Rev. Brian Heidt.
- 12) The Rev. Paul A. Hauser continues ministering to the good saints at Zion (Hemlock).

The Circuit enjoys a close working relationship with Saginaw’s Valley Lutheran High School where the Rev. John Mueller ministers as Pastor on Staff. The Circuit also enjoys the experienced input of several Emeriti: the Rev. Paul R. Beck (Good Shepherd), The Rev. Bert Eggers, the Rev. Edward L. Kast, and the Rev. Charles Smith (Peace), and the Rev. Robert Koeppen and the Rev. Edward Pankow (St. Peter).

The Saginaw Circuit meets monthly from September – June, except for those months where there is a district conference. Generally the Circuit meets jointly with the neighboring Frankenmuth Circuit every other month. It was also the Circuit's privilege to host the Spring 2009 North & East Region Pastors' Conference. The Rev. Dr. James A. Waddell, LCMS Pastor and Instructor in the Department of Near Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan, led the pastors in his presentation: "Looking Forward in Harmony: Reintroducing the Conversation about Worship in the Lutheran Congregation."

Circuit #11 – Flint North Circuit
Rev. Clifford F. Bira, Counselor

Christ the King, Flint began Deaf mission under District Missionary at Large Pastor Tom Dunseth and also hosted the Church Interpreter Training Institute from the Ft. Wayne Seminary who gave a weekend workshop to help train the interpreters in churches all over Michigan. With thanksgiving to God, willing workers from St Lorenz, Frankenmuth graciously provided needed repairs and renovations to the church roof, barn, and sanctuary chancel area. Since adding Deaf Ministry, congregation membership has increased from 8 to 35.

Christ, Birch Run - no report.

Holy Cross, Flushing continues to provide leadership in its community by assisting to found and lead a brand new Flushing Community Outreach Center ministry in partnership with six other community congregations to jointly meet the needs of the poor and needy. Holy Cross continues to be a training center for church workers as they serve with the members of the congregation toward certification as a Director of Christian Education and another as Director of Christian Outreach. Our DCE, Carolyn Bira, has recently contributed authorship to a portion of a new book on Confirmation Ministry from Concordia Publishing House. Rev. Clifford Bira, Senior Pastor, has made two mission trips to Latvia, doing leadership training and connecting with Latvian Lutheran Church leaders as a team member concerning Pastoral Leadership Institute International leadership training for its leaders. He has also completed certification as a "Mission Coach" to work with church planters and also to work with Michigan District coaches who are part of the new District Ablaze Effort of revitalizing many congregations in the District. The congregation, while welcoming home one of its international missionary couples, continues to support ongoing international mission work in Latvia and Central Africa.

Messiah, Clio celebrated the ministry and retirement of its founding Pastor, Rev. Erv Kostizen and the addition of a new Associate Pastor, Rev. Eric Cloeter.

Our Savior, Flint celebrated the 80th anniversary of its congregation and continues to reach out to the neighborhoods in the north end of Flint with a Food Bank and after school reading program.

St. Martin, Birch Run has enjoyed the Lord's many blessings as they devote themselves to "Reaching, Bringing and Touching." They completed a successful Capital Stewardship Campaign "One Faith-One Future" to reduce debt; installed Randy Bickel as their new Director of Family Life & Youth; joined the Ablaze movement; and increased lay involvement. Outreach efforts include their 4th Comedy Night, Offering the Truth Project and Financial Peace University for teaching; as well as hosting the testimony of Biggest Loser contestants Shellay & Amy. The congregation has set a goal of 1000 members by 2012 and has supported a second Homes of Hope mission trip in Mexicali, Mexico.

St. Paul, Flint celebrated the ministry and retirement of Senior Pastor Rev. Roger Kilponen and has called Associate Pastor Rev. Steven Maske to become their new Senior Pastor. 2007 saw the addition of Deacon Bill Storm to the staff and in 2008, the addition of Chris Garcia as Director of Family Life. During the past three years, the congregation has engaged in two significant and in depth mission and ministry studies to aid the plan for the future work of God through their congregation. In 2009, the congregation is celebrating its 100th Anniversary.

United In Christ, Flint celebrated the retirement of its first pastor, Rev. Gilbert Mabry in 2007 who had brought them together as one congregation from Mt. Olive & St. Andrew Lutheran Churches. On July 1, 2007, they ordained and installed Rev. David E. Daniel as their second pastor to serve United In Christ. October 12, 2007 saw the celebration of their 10th Anniversary as a merged congregation. New outreach and service efforts are being launched such as "Trunk or Treat" outreach into nearby neighborhoods, food baskets for the needy, and collecting medicine, clothing and other items for international mission work in Haiti. The congregation is an active participant with Love, INC. of Genesee County servicing the food and clothing needs of these requiring such aid.

Circuit #12 – Flint South Circuit
Rev. Larry Eckart, Counselor

Trinity, Fenton - Trinity is midway through a campaign to pay off the CEF mortgage on their future site. The congregation has a diverse array of ministries with a strong focus on local and foreign missions. They continue to be a solid congregation led by Pastor Dean Dumbrille.

Redeemer, Flint - Redeemer solidified its Adult Bible Study ministry and improved their music ministry with the addition of a full time organist. They continue to look for ways to strengthen their overall ministry under the leadership of Pastor Tim Speckman.

Peace, Flint – Peace had a significant change in October, 2008 as Pastor Jim Wilber retired after spending almost his entire ministry as the congregation's pastor. The congregation is now served by Intentional Interim Pastor, Paul Boerger. Together, Pastor Boerger and the people of Peace, Flint continue their ministry on Flint's south side.

Christ, Goodrich - Christ Lutheran has been reaching out

to the lost through various Bible Studies. They are holding their own in the difficult economy. Some families in the congregation have significantly increased their regular church attendance. Pastor Kelly Todd continues his faithful leadership.

Pilgrim, Burton - In spite of the Flint economy pitching downward in the last three years, Pilgrim continues its Word and Sacrament ministry. In addition to his normal duties, Pastor Dan Wonderly offers his advanced training as a counselor to both congregation and community.

Faith, Grand Blanc - Faith had the interesting experience of switching their Associate and Senior Pastors in the last year. They are focusing on family ministry and gearing their total ministry mix toward building the Christian family. Marriage and family ministry is also used specifically as an outreach to the community. As of March 2009, they are in the process of calling a new Youth Pastor whose ministry will help young people be leaders in family ministry today. Faith is led by Senior Pastor Todd Biermann and Associate Pastor Wayne Wentzel.

New Life, Swartz Creek - New Life is a growing congregation. 90% of their members come from people previously disconnected from the church. Like so many congregations in Genesee County, New Life took a huge hit financially in the last part of 2008. The congregation is currently re-tooling to minister more effectively given the economic landscape. The congregation is served by Pastor Brad Yops.

Prince of Peace, Ortonville - Prince of Peace, Ortonville continues to minister to the community along Grange Hall Road.

Hope, Linden - Hope has enjoyed the development of its Family Ministry, Women's Ministry and Men's Ministry in the last three years. The congregation continues to have a strong connection with the local school system, annually hosting the high school Baccalaureate service and co-hosting with the school system, an annual benefit dance for needy families in the area. 200 kids regularly come to Hope's VBS in June. The congregation voted in January to add a 5,700 square foot addition. Hope is led by Pastor Larry Eckart.

Circuit #13 – Lapeer Circuit **Rev. David H. Hensler, Counselor**

St. Paul, Lapeer – St. Paul, Lapeer, operates a three to four year old pre-school and an early five through eighth grade day school. In 2008, St. Paul celebrated its 135th Anniversary of serving the Lapeer community. St. Paul operates a Food for Families program which feeds about 80 people every Friday. The congregation also conducts a food distribution program that gives food to about 700 needy people each fall. The congregation also partially sponsors Vicar J.P. Cima, a LCMS missionary in Vietnam. We have also taken on a project of building a community health clinic in Vietnam in the Phuong Vien province. 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 our community during the cold months. This year, for the first time, St. Paul sponsored a community garden by making garden plots

available on the churches' land to families of the community who wanted to grow their own garden food. There were over 20 garden plots. It was a wonderful tool for creating goodwill in the community.

St. Timothy, Otisville - St. Timothy continues to experience God's blessings of spiritual and unit growth. We have been blessed with Bible study leaders and weekly attendance has grown to over 70 adults. We continue our Food Bank program serving Otisville and surrounding communities. A festive Sunday School Rally Day and a Trunk -n- Treat festival are recent additions to church and local community activities. The last two years we have also contributed financially and physically to the Habitat for Humanity program. All praise to God!

St. Mark, Flint – Our congregation operates a day school, consisting of pre-school through eighth grade. It's a blessing to teach God's children with God's Word. To watch them grow in their Christian faith and life is a joy! In 2006, St. Mark changed its governance to policy-based. This structure streamlines the decision-making process and involves more people in ministry and less in attending meetings. In 2007, nineteen members went on a week-long mission trip to Agua Viva Children's Home in Guatemala. Another trip is planned for this July. Also, closer to home, approximately 20 members of St. Mark have renovated seven rooms at the Lutheran Boys Home in Bay City. More ways of reaching out with the love of Jesus are being sought.

New Life in Christ, North Branch – was served by Deacon Bill Storm (2006-2007). On April 24th 2008, Joseph Schierlinger became a licensed deacon and is now serving New Life. Many thanks to the Lord for the retired pastors, Rev. Ed Narr and Rev. Marvin Ramthun, that helped us through the beginning of 2008. Our fellowship hall is completed and works out great for large events. In 2007, we started three new projects to get our community involved with us. First is the Father/Son dinner which is held in the winter. The first speaker was a local man who wrote Christian children's books, the following year we had former Detroit Lion player, Eric Hipple. In the spring we have the Biker's Blessing. There is Christian music, a sermon and then the blessing of the bikers for a safe season. In the summer, we have a local Golf Outing that involves most of the area businesses. All events were very successful. Even though we regret to say we have lost seven members over the past three years, by death or moving on, we can thank the Lord for the 27 new members of New Life. Sunday School registration still averages in the mid-30's, with seven more to be confirmed in 2009. V.B.S. is always successful, averaging 50, with more than half being non-members. May God continue to bless His little church on the corner.

Trinity, Davison – God has copiously blessed Trinity during the past three years. Even though Trinity had been vacant during two of the past three years the congregation experienced growth and her members made strategic plans for future kingdom work. During the final two years of the extended vacancy, Trinity sold its former office building and relocated the church offices to the main church building. A small office building near the church was acquired and remodeled to serve the church's

youth ministries. Trinity brings Christ to the local community through its growing Mothers of Preschoolers, Vacation Bible School, and seasonal events and activities. In late 2008, the congregation made a significant investment in sound and video projection as these technologies are now part of all worship services. God has been good.

Calvary, Flint – In August of 2006, we changed pastors. Rev. Henry Wesenberg started serving as our pastor. We celebrated our 75th Anniversary on October 29, 2006. In January and February of 2007, we looked at different possibilities for Calvary's future. It was decided to continue with Pastor Wesenberg as a part-time pastor. In the fall, the parsonage next to the church was demolished, since it had not been used as our parsonage for over ten years and was in very bad shape. We are involved in several social ministry projects. We work with Love, Inc. to help provide some of the personal products that people need. We also make donations to some of the local food banks. We helped sponsor a food bank giveaway where over 200 people each got two bags of groceries. Our ladies also make hundreds of quilts each year. We also have a food collection for the Ft. Wayne seminary each year. Though we are a very small congregation in a very disadvantaged neighborhood, we are able to proclaim the Gospel every Sunday.

Holy Redeemer, Dryden – Since the last Michigan District Convention, Holy Redeemer has worked with Rev. Galan Walther, our Congregational Ministry Facilitator, to renew its core values, mission and vision statements. Based on this effort, the congregation's ministry boards are now implementing various strategies to work toward our shared vision. In June of 2009, the congregation will also dedicate a meditation and prayer garden for use by the public and the members of Holy Redeemer.

Circuit #14 – Port Huron Circuit Rev. Gerhardt Doroh, Counselor

During the last triennium God's people move boldly forward in outreach and mission. The Lord continued to bless the ministries of Circuit 14.

After a time of extended vacancy First Lutheran, Algonac received Pastor Robert Herrod into their midst. Not only did Pastor Herrod arrive, but shortly thereafter his new bride Lynn joined him in ministry. During the vacancy, the congregation gained a new sense of mission and outreach to the Algonac area.

At this same time a group from First Lutheran felt the Lord leading them to establish a mission congregation. Through prayer and the study of God's Word, this group formed Living Faith in Marine City. In 2008, Living Faith Lutheran Church called Pastor Scott Roberts (Terri), a 2008 Concordia Seminary graduate to serve as their first resident Pastor. Pastor Roberts continues to lead the congregation in worship and growth each week at a grade school facility.

Up the river, Immanuel, St. Clair continues to be a growing congregation active in outreach, and sending medical and construction mission teams to South America, a pre-school and early childhood ministry. Plans for a new sanctuary were

placed on hold. The congregation continues to be blessed with Pastor Allan Schweiger (Melody) and Pastor Joseph Doenges (Mitzi). Deanna Mehlberg joined the staff as Director of Christian Education.

The city of Port Huron continues to be served by Trinity and Faith. Trinity is now served by Pastor John Carrier (Lori). Pastor Carrier follows the retirement of Robert Mann (Joan). Ken Hass serves as principal of the school. Trinity is active in ministry and outreach to an area which is changing and being revitalized. Mr. Paul Kruse serves as a DELTO Vicar planting a mission congregation in Marysville. This mission is being guided by Trinity and Immanuel with circuit support.

Faith in Port Huron is presently being served by Pastor Tim Eichberger (Kathy) who will retire in 2009. The congregation is served by Mr. Chris Troxel as Director of Children and Youth. Mr. Sam Samsell and Susan retired from active ministry. The congregation also completed a major renovation and expansion of their facilities.

As we head to the thumb area St. Matthew, Lexington continues to be faithfully served and growing under Pastor Barry Sheldon (Kathy). The congregation celebrated Pastor Sheldon's 25th Anniversary in the ministry, all of the years served at St. Matthew.

Hope, Goodells continues to be a preaching station served by retired Pastors and male teachers from Lutheran High School North.

St. Andrew, Memphis witnessed a change in pastoral leadership as Pastor Joshua Ball (Elizabeth) was called in 2008. The congregation is witnessing a growth under Pastor Ball, whose family was one of the founding families of the congregation.

Our Saviour, Armada experienced a change in Pastoral leadership as Pastor Sam Sherouse (Beverly) was called to serve. The congregation continues to offer the Noah's Ark Preschool. They have set in place a vision to grow a Family Life Ministry.

St. Peter's, Richmond continues to be led by Pastors Gerhardt Doroh (Rita) and Randy Lett (Peggy). The school ministry is under the leadership of Mr. George Kovtun. A full time Director of Youth was established and is under the leadership of Mr. John Summers. Men's and Women's Ministries continue to grow under the leadership of Mrs. Heidi Devroy. Each year a stateside mission trip and a foreign mission take place involving youth through adults. A Christian Counseling ministry is offered under the leadership of Peggy Lett, LPC, NCC.

2009 saw the addition to the Circuit of Living Hope of the Bay in Chesterfield. Living Hope was a District mission plant under the leadership of Pastor Paul Werner (Sue). Pastor Werner has received and accepted the call to serve as the first resident Pastor of Living Hope of the Bay Lutheran Church. The Congregation worked with Michigan District Church Extension to purchase property in the area as a future building site.

We complete the Circuit at St. Peter's, Fairhaven where Pastor

Robert Wagner (Kathy) continues to serve. The congregation continues to look at plans for expansion and growth.

Circuit #15 – Macomb North Circuit

Rev. Steve Bagnall, Counselor

Christ, New Baltimore - Pastor Barry Mueller
Baptized: 183; Communicant: 143; AWA: 99

Good Shepherd, Chesterfield (New Baltimore) – Pastor David Ulm with 5 on staff
Baptized: 128; Communicant: 107; AWA: 72
Significant Events: Hosted MCREST in November and the Food Pantry continues to assist community.

Immanuel, Macomb – Pastor Michael Lutz and Pastor Greg Griffith with 68 on staff
Baptized: 4225; Communicant: 2516; AWA: 1278
Day School Enrollment: 355 and Pre-School Enrollment: 174
Significant Events: The congregation started a Junior Kindergarten and Tiny Treasures (6 week session for 2 yr. old with 22 enrolled). They also started Stephen Ministry and established Faith Milestones which is a ministry emphasizing special moments in children's lives to help parents raise their children in the ways of the Lord. The chapel was remodeled with updated technology and we began our Oasis (interactive) Service. We purchased the property to the north of our campus. Three major mission trips to Brazil, Alaska, Ensinada were sponsored. We celebrated the 10th Anniversary of our Worship Center and the 25th Anniversary of the Preschool. Additional staff was added, the Minister of Technology, Minister of Youth and a Young Adult Intern. Dr. Gary Pawlitz is semi-retired and serving as our Minister to Older Adults (55 years and older). We also completed our seventh capital stewardship campaign and began our eighth campaign.

St. John, Ray Twp. – Pastor Edward Steeh
Baptized: 262; Communicant: 205; AWA: 110
Significant Events: Plans are underway for building additions to the Parish Hall and Narthex.

St. Luke, Clinton Township – Pastor Bert Thompson and Pastor G. Stevens Bagnall with 21 on staff
Baptized: 1361; Communicant: 1019; AWA: 415
Day School Enrollment: 119 and Pre-School Enrollment: 44

St. Peter, Macomb – Pastor Robert Kasper, Pastor Kenneth Wagener, Pastor Brian Davies and Pastor Gregory Lorenz
Baptized: 3333; Communicant: 2439; AWA: 1303

Trinity, Clinton Township – Pastor Ken Wise and Pastor Thees Hoft with 37 on staff
Baptized: 2455; Communicant: 1760; AWA: 921
Day School Enrollment: 208 and Pre-School Enrollment: 158
Significant Events: ChristCare Small Group ministry started and the congregation has added a Youth Minister to the staff. The Senior Pastor attended the Pastor Leadership Institute. Capital improvements were made to the facility. The Engaged Church process has begun. Our congregation was recognized

as a 20-year founding partner congregation of the Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team. We conducted three congregation-wide “spiritual campaigns” with large group Bible studies correlated with worship and sermon themes. Traditional Sunday School was reformatted to a workshop rotational learning station format and we added “Children’s Church” a 20-minute age appropriate message and worship time for children ages 3-8 years old during our 11:00 a.m. Sunday worship service.

Circuit #16 – Macomb Northwest Circuit

Rev. Eric Majeski, Counselor

Grace, Romeo – Rev. Eric Majeski
Baptized Membership – 678; Communicant Membership – 491; Average Worship Attendance – 225

Peace, Shelby Twp. – Vacant
Baptized Membership – 675; Communicant Membership – 563; Average Worship Attendance – 414

Redemption, Sterling Heights – Vacant
Baptized Membership – 363; Communicant Membership – 275; Average Worship Attendance – 119

St. Paul, Sterling Heights – Rev. Walter Keller
Baptized Membership – 225; Communicant Membership – 201; Average Worship Attendance – 120

Faith, Troy – Rev. Warren Arndt, Rev. Paul Arndt, Rev. Frederick Traugott, Rev. Antonio Boos
Baptized Membership – 3908; Communicant Membership – 3102; Average Worship Attendance – 1727

Trinity, Utica – Rev. Norman Koy, Rev. Shawn Fenske, Rev. Justin Krupsky
Baptized Membership – 4389; Communicant Membership – 3206; Average Worship Attendance – 1541

Our Redeemer, Washington – Rev. Jeffrey Draeger
Baptized Membership – 542; Communicant Membership – 439; Average Worship Attendance – 259

Shepherd’s Gate, Shelby Twp. – Rev. Jonathan Trinklein, Rev. Craig Meyer
Baptized Membership – 1312; Communicant Membership – 981; Average Worship Attendance – 937

All Nation’s, Troy – Rev. Farrukh Khan, Rev. Khurran Khan, Rev. Amer Khan, Rev. Afzal Mash, Rev. Arul Alexander Sundaradhas, Rev. Gary Rohwer
Baptized Membership – 128; Communicant Membership – 118; Average Worship Attendance – 80

Family of Christ, Imlay City – Currently served by Vacancy Pastor, Rev. Lynn Witt
Family of Christ has been a member congregation since 2006. The congregation averages about 84 in worship every week.

Faith Tamil, Troy – Currently served by Vacancy Pastor, Rev. Arul Alexander Sundaradhas
Faith Tamil became a member congregation in 2007. They are currently averaging 64 in worship each week.

Circuit #17 – Oakland North Circuit
Rev. Michael P. Schulz, Counselor

Circuit congregations include St. Trinity, Clarkston; Good Shepherd, Lake Orion; Holy Cross, Oxford; Crown of Life, Rochester Hills; Gethsemane, Rochester Hills; Living Word, Rochester; St. John, Rochester; St. Stephen, Waterford; and Incarnate Word, Rochester Hills. The mission work at St. Paul Community Lutheran site in Pontiac continues under the guidance of Dietrick Gladden.

Our circuit meets with the Circuit #26 - Kensington Circuit for Winkel conferences on the second Tuesday of September, November, December, January, February, March, and April.

St. Trinity, Clarkston – Vacant

The congregation is in the process of calling a pastor to serve this vibrant congregation, which continues to carry out its mission statement “As we grow in Christ’s love and Word, we will share Christ’s love with the world.”

Good Shepherd, Lake Orion – Rev. Eric Tritten and Rev. James Van Dellen

At Good Shepherd, Lake Orion we have been blessed by God to continue to grow in ministry opportunities and service for the sake of the Kingdom. Some of the highlights include:

- We have maintained a ministry presence in Haiti. Having built Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Carrefour Declos, Haiti, we continue to financially support the ministry of that congregation by funding their lay-pastor, supporting a large community garden, assisting their orphans, and helping fill needs during mission trips.
- We brought Reitte Joseph, a young Haitian woman with a bone tumor on her jaw to the US for surgery. Reitte lived with us and participated in our congregation for about a year, and we were blessed through her presence.
- More locally, we have sought to partner with St. Paul, Pontiac by supporting their food bank, providing meals for special events, and providing needed supplies.
- There are also three students from a local mission in Pontiac who are enrolled in our elementary school, their tuition being covered through donations and mission funding.
- Good Shepherd has committed to partnering with Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity, and helped to build several homes with man-hours. We also financially supported to the level of half a house each of the last three years.
- We also helped to build a new home for the Schrauger Family, a local family that lost two of their sons in a single car accident, while another son was severely wounded in Iraq.

There were a couple significant anniversaries celebrated at Good Shepherd.

- 2008 – Pastor Eric Tritten celebrated his tenth year in the ministry.

- 2009 – Marks the Thirtieth Anniversary of the God Squad Puppet Ministry.

A significant change also took place in the ministry of Good Shepherd as Pastor James Van Dellen announced his plan for retirement. Looking ahead to July, 2010, Pastor Van Dellen will retire near his fortieth anniversary in the ministry. In October 2008, under Pastor Van Dellen’s leadership, the Voter’s Assembly approved a transition plan appointing Pastor Tritten to serve as the Senior Pastor providing a smooth transition for the congregation into the future.

Holy Cross, Oxford – Rev. Michael P. Schulz

Holy Cross continues to minister to the community through its preschool which began its 44th year under the guidance of its current director, Cynthia Macks. The congregation has also been supportive of the St. Paul, Pontiac mission, helping with its food bank as well as with monetary support. Several of our members have become involved with Thrivent Habitat for Humanity and we will continue to support their work. Our M.O.P.S. ministry continues to prosper and our worship life was greatly enhanced with the purchase of a new Allen organ.

Crown of Life, Rochester Hills – Vacant

During the past three years, Crown of Life was affected by the retirement of its long time beloved pastor, The Rev. Terry Rebert. Emeritus Pastor William Otten conducted worship services and has been instrumental in keeping the church focused on the mission of the church. During the pastoral vacancy Crown of Life continues its service with Motor City Ministries, continuing to serve dinner on Sunday once a month, Thanksgiving with turkey, and Christmas with ham and all the trimmings. In February of 2007, Crown of Life signed a contract with the Michigan District Intentional Interim Program. Rev. Albert I. Prouty began serving, to see the congregation through a period of transition and with God’s help began to recover and march ahead. Pastor Prouty in cooperation with The Rev. Galan Walther, Michigan District Congregation Ministry Facilitator, will serve until such a time that the new pastor is on board. Crown of Life has rebounded and is looking ahead to a new and exciting future. The church has many dedicated members who have made a supreme effort to keep their church a viable and thriving congregation. Property manager, Jerry Grimes with the assistance of many willing workers, has improved the appearance of the facilities. Hard work cleared out many trees and brushes to make the church visible. The building was painted and stained so its new appearance is visible once again from the roadside. During the Interim ministry, Rev. Dr. Richard Wolfram conducted a highly successful Consecration Sunday. As a result the annual commitment was increased by some 41 percent. During 2008, Crown of Life was able to commit \$18,000 to the Michigan District Missions effort. The congregation once again has a small but quality choir, with a gifted choir director, two pianists, a guitarist, a flutist, and several young violinists. In February 2009, Rev. Galan Walther conducted a Share life seminar which was attended by a good number of members. A new and concerted effort to rebuild the Sunday School has been very rewarding. In March 2009, Rev. Roosevelt Gray conducted a Friendly Church workshop, followed by a Friendship Sunday. A number of

dedicated people work at the Palace and serve at other events to raise some funds for special projects. Crown of Life has submitted an application for a convertible vicar who hopefully will begin working in June of 2009 and prayerfully be the new pastor of Crown of Life in 2010. To God alone be the glory.

Living Word, Rochester – Rev. John Kassen
Living Word Lutheran Church in Rochester is now 18 years old, having been founded by Pastor John Kassen in 1991. Living Word has developed from a small mission focused Bible study group of 6 families into an established congregation worshipping 350 each weekend with a school enrollment of 190 students and a summer ministry enrollment of 140 students. During 2007, Principal Stacy Hoeft and Music Director Terry Baughman began their ministry at Living Word. Stacy has provided strong leadership to the early childhood center, elementary school, and summer programs, while Terry has been instrumental in developing both traditional and contemporary music ministries which are meeting the spiritual needs of members and visitors alike. The integration and use of projection technologies into the worship and visual arts ministries of the congregation has helped foster vibrant and winsome weekly worship. The congregation has also been blessed by the ministries of Deacon Mark Pretznaw and Deacon Steve Smith, each providing the congregation with a variety of unique talents. These individuals, along with the 30 other full and part-time workers at Living word, are “teaching people to know and share God’s grace in Jesus Christ” in unique and engaging ways.

St. John, Rochester – Rev. Dr. Karl Galik, Rev. Luke Timm and Rev. Gregory Sawyer
With the mission of “inviting everyone we know to experience the heart of God”:

- St. John conducts five weekly worship services ranging from Traditional to Contemporary with attendance of 900-1200 worshippers.

- St. John continues to be a “tithing” congregation supporting our Michigan District, Synod, and mission outreach to “Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8) with our tithe.

- Members have teamed up and traveled to New Orleans the past two summers to assist with Hurricane Katrina clean-up and rebuilding efforts. St. John also “experiences the heart of God” by its involvement with the Family of God Detroit Mission, the Detroit Rescue Mission, Crossroads Pregnancy Center, Christmas Gifts for all God’s Children, the Detroit Urban Lutheran School, and other local service organizations. We also support a mission project in Kenya, Africa.

- MEAP scores for St. John School students are consistently above the average of community schools. St. John students participate in the Future City regional and national contests and have been recipients of top awards for the past 15 years. They finished first in the State this year and were invited to Washington, D.C., to compete in the national competition.

- For the past 18 years, St. John has supported a viable Stephen Ministry program that serves our members and the Rochester community. To date, more than 150 members have been trained as Stephen Ministers.

- St. John established a new tradition by hosting a Valentine Concert the past two years featuring all of St. John’s music groups plus choirs from Lutheran High School Northwest.

Installations:

- The Rev. Dr. Gregory Sawyer was installed as Associate Pastor of Adult Discipleship and Leadership Development in August, 2008.

- Mr. James Marriott was installed as Director of Worship in September, 2007.

Retirements: Mr. Thomas Weiss, Principal of our Day School, retired in May, 2007.

Anniversaries and Ministry Milestone Celebration(s): The Rev. Dr. Karl Galik, Senior Pastor, celebrated his 25th Anniversary in the Ministry (May, 2008).

Gethsemane, Rochester Hills – Rev. Thomas Fischer
Baptized Membership – 197; Communicant Membership – 158; Average Worship Attendance – 89.

Incarnate Word, Rochester Hills – Vacant
Incarnate Word became a member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod on February 17, 2008. They are currently worshipping at Lutheran High School Northwest in Rochester Hills.

St. Stephen, Waterford – Rev. Douglas Stowe
Baptized Membership – 915; Communicant Membership – 687; Average Worship Attendance – 334.

Circuit #18 – Birmingham Circuit Pastor Alan Eisinger, Counselor

Circuit 18, the Birmingham Circuit, is primarily located in south Oakland County. The Circuit covers an area bounded on the south by Hazel Park, Troy on the north, Warren on the east, and Bloomfield Hills on the west. In the ten congregations, there are 6,800 baptized souls, 5,300 communicant members, two Christian Day Schools, and six pre-schools.

Word and Sacrament ministry is carried out at Trinity Lutheran Church in Berkley. The congregation is served by the Rev. Dr. David Prout.

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Birmingham is the largest congregation in the circuit. It is served by Rev. Carl Gnewuch and Rev. Ray Scherbarth. Congregational member, Steve Woodfin, is participating in the first class of the LCMS Specific Ministry Program. A new narthex has been added that includes a visitor center and coffee bar, a bookstore opened, and small group ministry implemented. OSLC has also seen their Early Childhood Program experience rapid growth with the addition of an infant program.

The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer also serves the Birmingham community. Rev. Randy Schlak and Rev. Cary Richert are the pastors. Redeemer is in the early stages of a multi-million dollar fundraising campaign to enlarge their sanctuary.

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in Bloomfield Hills is served by Rev. Jon Reusch, with the help of Rev. Jim Ackerman, Emeritus. Cross of Christ's Sunday School, titled "Sonlight City" continues to grow in popularity and numbers. The congregation also has sponsored a number of workshops and retreats on contemporary topics.

Hazel Park Lutheran Church in Hazel Park is served by Rev. Cory Fanning.

Rev. Peter Nickel is Pastor of Huntington Woods Lutheran Church in Huntington Woods. As the only church in Huntington Woods, the congregation continues to play a unique role in the city. The congregation operates a large pre-school that serves both congregation and community. An elevator has also been added to make the sanctuary handicapped accessible from the education wing.

Our Savior – Deaf has found a home at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Birmingham. The congregation is served by Rev. Thomas Dunseth. It continues to reach out to the deaf of the tri-county area.

St. Paul, Royal Oak is served by Rev. Jeremy Schultz. Family Life Interns from Concordia University Ann Arbor and Church Family Nights have helped draw people together for learning and service opportunities, as well as a shared meal. Worship has been enhanced with addition of a new Minister of Music, LSB hymnals, and a Grand Piano. Significant improvements have been made to the campus buildings and grounds such as repaving all of their parking lots, updating the school stage, putting in new gym windows, painting the interior and exterior of school, and much more.

St. Augustine Lutheran Church in Troy is served by Rev. Paul Monson. Rev. Monson is a son of the congregation and followed his father as its pastor. Their "Kings Court" children's ministry has tripled in size over the last three years. A projection system has been incorporated into Sunday worship as well as a contemporary format for worship.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Warren is served by Rev. Alan Eisinger and is the only congregation in the circuit that is not in Oakland County. Holy Cross continues to operate New Hope Ministries, a food pantry that provides groceries on an emergency basis. New Hope also distributes baskets to those in need at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. Holy Cross also participates in "MCREST", a program whereby congregations shelter the homeless one week out of the year. Every August, the congregation sponsors a "Back to School Blast" in which backpacks are filled with school supplies and distributed to families who need them. Sports physicals and haircuts are also made available. The congregation is looking to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2010.

Finally, the Birmingham Circuit proudly claims eight retired pastors. They are Rev. James Ackerman, Rev. Bill Grafe, Rev. Ron Guettler, Rev. Carl Mehl, Rev. John Monson, Rev. Lorne Ruhl, Rev. Ralph Unger, and Rev. Duane Wuggazer.

Circuit #19 – Macomb South Circuit **Rev. John Merrill, Counselor**

St. Peter's, Eastpointe – Rev. Mark Haller, Rev. Seth Hemme
Baptized Membership – 1333; Communicant Membership – 985; Average Worship Attendance – 606

St. Thomas, Eastpointe – Rev. Mark Hetzner, Rev. Samuel Grayl
Baptized Membership – 1284; Communicant Membership – 951; Average Worship Attendance – 536

St. John, Fraser – Rev. John Merrill, Rev. Bradley Smith
Baptized Membership – 1554; Communicant Membership – 1129; Average Worship Attendance – 620

Bethlehem, Roseville – Rev. Jeffrey Frechette
Baptized Membership – 365; Communicant Membership – 268; Average Worship Attendance – 90

Hope, Warren – Rev. John Duerr
Baptized Membership – 973; Communicant Membership – 760; Average Worship Attendance – 401

Peace, Warren – Rev. John Schwartz
Baptized Membership – 300; Communicant Membership – 238; Average Worship Attendance – 163

Trinity, Warren – Rev. Ryan Reese
Baptized Membership – 347; Communicant Membership – 320; Average Worship Attendance – 105

Circuit #20 – Detroit East Circuit **Rev. Steven J. Essenburg, Counselor**

The members of Circuit #20 are Peace Lutheran Church in Detroit - Rev. John Straub, Pastor; Bethany Lutheran Church in Detroit - Rev. Peter Brueckner, Pastor; Charity Lutheran Church - Rev. Steven Essenberg, Pastor; Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Detroit - Rev. James Hill, Pastor; Resurrection Lutheran Church in Detroit - Rev. Scott Benjamin, Pastor; Epiphany Lutheran Church in Detroit - Rev. Richard Robinson, Pastor; East Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Detroit - Rev. Asaph James, Pastor; and Redemption Lutheran Church in Detroit.

Rev. Steven Essenburg was appointed to be counselor when Rev. Arnold Brammeier resigned.

East Bethlehem continues to maintain a parochial school. There are various head start, pre-school, tutoring, and education programs at several churches. The Circuit is also home to Lutheran City Ministries which carries on a ministry to the least, last and lost in Detroit. This organization continues to be the catalyst for several models of growing ministry in the city. Rudy McCloud, an EIIT Vicar, continues in his training with field work at Lutheran City Ministries. The Circuit plans to continue exploring new models of continued ministry and presence in the city. Many of the congregations are experiencing renewed community outreach, and several new grass roots initiatives have been launched in

new areas such as housing and public school partnerships.

Circuit #21 – Detroit Central Circuit
Rev. David Burgess, Counselor

St. Philip, Detroit – Rev. David Burgess
Baptized Membership – 185; Communicant Membership – 130; Average Worship Attendance – 90

Historic Trinity, Detroit – Rev. David Eberhard
Baptized Membership – 1665; Communicant Membership – 939; Average Worship Attendance – 450

Berea, Detroit – Rev. Mark Griffin
Baptized Membership – 180; Communicant Membership – 172; Average Worship Attendance – 98

Bethlehem, Detroit – Bethlehem, Detroit is currently sharing their facilities with Bread of Life Lutheran Church as they serve the Spanish community, led by Rev. Gregory Lorenz and Deaconess Teresita Rodriguez.

Nazareth, Detroit – Served by Rev. Steven Essenburg
Baptized Membership – 71; Communicant Membership – 50; Average Worship Attendance – 35

St. John, Detroit – Rev. James Hill
Baptized Membership – 128; Communicant Membership – 97; Average Worship Attendance – 51

St. Stephen, Detroit – Served by Rev. John Herzog
Baptized Membership – 187; Communicant Membership – 113; Average Worship Attendance – 55

Lutheran City Ministries (Circuit 20) has successfully launched the Family of God mission plant in Detroit (Circuit 21). Each week, they average 51 people in worship.

Circuit #22 – Detroit West Circuit
Rev. Harold Avers, Counselor

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

Greenfield Peace, Detroit – Rev. Harold Avers
Baptized Membership – 315; Communicant Membership – 210; Average Worship Attendance – 101

Holy Cross, Detroit – Rev. John Urvan
Baptized Membership – 237; Communicant Membership – 212; Average Worship Attendance – 85

Outer Drive Faith, Detroit – Rev. Eddie Morales
Baptized Membership – 488; Communicant Membership – 477; Average Worship Attendance – 140

St. Timothy, Detroit – congregation closed in 2009

Redford, Detroit – Rev. Ernest Wendt is serving them during

the vacancy.

Baptized Membership – 234; Communicant Membership – 187; Average Worship Attendance – 46

Circuit #23 - Downriver Circuit
Rev. Harry N. Edenfield, Counselor

The Downriver Circuit consists of the following: Calvary, Lincoln Park (Vicar - Mark W. Arendell); Christ, River Rouge (Vacant); Christ The King, Southgate (Senior Pastor - Terry Cashmer, Associate Pastor - Harry Edenfield, Associate Pastor - Jason Cashmer); Community, Flat Rock (Senior Administrative Pastor - David Gohn); Mt. Hope, Allen Park (Senior Pastor - Randy Johnson); Our Redeemer, Taylor (Pastor - Erv Hutter); St. John's, Taylor (Senior Pastor/Head Master - Dr. Richard Zeile); St. Paul, Trenton (Senior Pastor - John L. Bush, Associate Pastor - Nicholas W. Koschmann); Trinity, Wyandotte (Senior Administrative Pastor - Kenneth M. Spence); At Large as Certified Pastor Counselor - Carl W. Waidelich; Intentional Interim Pastor - Albert I. Prouty

The following congregations operate preschool/day schools: Christ The King, Southgate - preschool/day school; Community, Flat Rock – preschool; Mt. Hope, Allen Park – preschool; St. John's, Taylor - preschool/day school; St. Paul, Trenton – preschool.

Retirements

Carol Cashmer - Christ The King, Southgate – 2008

Installations

Vicar Mark W. Arendell - Calvary, Lincoln Park - 2008
Miss Sarah Marody - Christ The King, Southgate - 2007
Mrs. Janice Kane - Christ The King, Southgate - 2007
Mrs. Joyce Zanley - Christ The King, Southgate - 2007
Miss Katie Hermann - Christ The King, Southgate - 2008
Mrs. Saira Kolasa - Christ The King, Southgate - 2008
Rev. Dr. Richard A. Ziele - St. John Taylor - 2007
Rev. Nicholas W. Koschmann - St. Paul, Trenton - 2007

Calvary, Lincoln Park - There have been a number of changes at Calvary in 2008. Calvary was blessed by the ministry of Rev. Karl Fuhlbrigg, its Intentional Interim pastor, for the past five years and Rev. Albert Prouty, who has served as Calvary's Visitation Pastor since 2001. Pastor Fuhlbrigg retired in August of 2008. The congregation has moved forward with the installation of a new vicar, Mark Arendell, who arrived with his lovely wife Cherrie, at the beginning of September. Pastor Prouty retired from service at Calvary at the end of September. Vicar Arendell will be eligible for his first call in September, 2009. The congregation is looking forward to calling a full time pastor. Calvary has been blessed with an increase in worship attendance with the new adult members joining the congregation. The church has had an increase in the number of infant baptisms as well. The church's Bible Study attendance has increased. The English as a Second Language program which began in 2006 continues and the Food Bank ministry has been expanded to help people with financial and lodging needs. Calvary's VBS was again up and running in the summer of 2008 and will continue in 2009. Calvary's Childcare Center started a preschool program, and Calvary continues to be blessed with the Detroit Downriver

Head Start program in its school building.

Christ, River Rouge - A small group of 15 to 20 faithful worship regularly at Christ Lutheran.

Christ The King, Southgate - Christ The King Lutheran Church was challenged by our Lord in 2006 with the blessing of new property of 47 acres with existing buildings, still in the city of Southgate. They renovated a gymnasium/fellowship center and conduct Sunday worship, Bible Class and Sunday school every Sunday at 10:30am. An early childhood center costing a million dollars was completed at this Pennsylvania Campus opening in 2008. Construction of a new sanctuary seating 900-1000 worshippers begins when their present property is sold. Despite the economic downturn, their mission offering continue to be over 180,000 dollars. And weekend, adult Bible studies connected to worship are attended by 350 people. They have also received 900,000 dollars for the new sanctuary fund above tithes and offerings. Our Lord is so powerful and so gracious, "Thanks be to God!"

Community, Flat Rock - Since the last Michigan District convention, CLC, Flat Rock continued its history of growth and community involvement. Early in 2004, the year that it observed its 25th anniversary, Community was recognized by the LCMS as one of Synod's top 30 congregations in confirming adult members. In 2006 CLC was recognized as one of Synod's top five congregations in confirming adults. Over 200 adults joined the church in the past two years necessitating the moving of Sunday worship into the church's Life Center. Community's Helping Hands ministry experienced record demand for individual and family assistance. During this time, its Creative Learning Campus preschool program grew from 25 students to over 50.

Mt. Hope, Allen Park - Over the last three years God has truly blessed us with the resources to obtain our goals as stated in Mount Hope's Mission Statement Revitalize Within-Reach Out. We "revitalized within" by increasing enrollment with our new full-day Preschool Program. In addition, through generous donations of beloved congregation members and their families, we installed state-of-the-art Audio Visual Equipment in our sanctuary and a security system for our building. Also, we enhanced our Praise Worship by adding Youth instrumentalists. In 2008 "we reached out" to our neighbors through an evangelizing tool called "Are You Thirsty?" Another way we are "reaching out" to the downriver community is by becoming a '50/50' partner with the "Fish and Loaves Pantry ministry."

Our Redeemer, Taylor - On January 3, 2009, the Our Redeemer congregation reached a milestone of having served the LORD for 100 years. On January 3, 1909, a group of 25 Slovak immigrants gathered in the Delray neighborhood of Detroit to form a congregation. "First Slavish Evangelical Lutheran Congregation" was incorporated later that month. Over the years the congregations named changed to "First Slovak" (1939) and finally to "Our Redeemer" (1957). The congregation moved from Delray to Taylor in 1966. The parish joined the Missouri Synod in 1912, moved to the Slovak Synod in 1928, and returned to the Missouri Synod in 1966. Pastor Andrew Daniel served as synodical president of the Slovak Synod for 10 years. The congregation hosted a day of commemoration on May 17, 2009.

Also during the past triennium, the Rev. Erwin M. Hutter was called and installed as the pastor of Our Redeemer on July 16, 2006.

St. John's, Taylor - The community of Taylor, as part of the Detroit metropolitan area, has been losing jobs and population. 131 year-old St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church struggles amid these trends, yet constantly finds joy in the Lord's work. An important part of this joy is our partnership with our sister Confessional Lutheran Churches, particularly the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, for those who receive the seed of the Word in our ministry often bear fruit in other Christian churches where they find employment and a settled home. A review of members no longer active in the last 4 years revealed that 75 (13% of the congregation) had moved out of the area; this included a large percentage of members received and/or baptized in the previous 5 years, younger families or individuals particularly dependent upon the job market. An important ministry continues to be our K-8 school. For the last three years it has had 30 pupils in three rooms, regarded as undesirable by some, but ideal for individual attention, knowing students' needs well and interacting with families. Since the school has become smaller, it has proven more fruitful in yielding adult baptisms and confirmations than in many years when it was larger. Emphasis on stewardship, with intentional pledging of time talent and treasure (presented as our tribute on Christ the King Sunday) has been pursued with the emphasis on training all members to give intentionally to the Lord. Emphasis on outreach has also been implemented through an Evangelism committee of six who visit visitors, elder visits, and a deacon-in-training. A telephone survey of Taylor was performed in the Fall suggesting that 40% of respondents recognized the church and how to find it, 32% had some idea as to what ministries/activities were offered, and 20% were open to learning more about the church. This suggests that while St. John's enjoys high visibility compared to most churches, there is still ample opportunity among the 60% who do not know of the church's existence. 8,000 postcards inviting new-moves to Christmas, and then to Easter have been mailed in recent years, and about 6,000 door to door fliers continue to be delivered in various neighborhoods by Pastor and church members. The Evangelism committee also sees that greeters distribute church information at community events hosted at St. John's including flea markets, dinners, and the Family Fun Fair held in May. Worship life at St. John's conforms to the Lutheran Service Book which was adopted 3 years ago (painlessly, to the surprise of some). For 2009, the pastor is currently preaching on the 38 saints' days traditionally observed by Lutherans found in LSB.

Dr. Richard Zeile, Senior Pastor/Headmaster

St. Paul, Trenton - In June of 2007, Nick Koschmann was installed as Associate Pastor of Youth & Young Adults. He has added numerous programs for our middle and high school students. We commissioned short-term missionary teams in 2007 and 2008 that went to Anapra, Mexico, and Navsi, Czech Republic, where they taught Vacation Bible School and ESL. Our Christian Preschool continues to offer an excellent education to children ages three and four to prepare them for Kindergarten. A Young Fives program is also offered. In September of 2008, additional classes were added to meet the request of the community; this brings our current enrollment to 187 with twelve Preschool staff. The St. Paul Concert Series offers many forms of worship through music; one of which

is the Palm Sunday drama which transforms the sanctuary into a marketplace in Jerusalem where the people welcome Jesus with their songs and praises of Hosanna. The drama is comprised of 85 people—members of the Concert Choir, children's choir and volunteer actors. A Seder Meal was held to acquaint us with the Jewish Passover customs. Adult Bible Fellowship groups are meeting and plans for additional groups are in process. Vacation Bible School welcomed 450 children to our campus where 100 volunteers shared the Word of God through Bible stories, music, crafts and recreation. For the past three years St. Paul family and friends have donated hundreds of bags of groceries as part of our Thanksgiving Eve worship experience. In 2008 the bags were divided between the Spirit of Hope and the Helping Hands Community Pantry housed at Community Lutheran Church in Flat Rock. St. Paul of Trenton is humbled as we reflect on what God has accomplished through us; we know He has more plans for this congregation and we pray we will remain faithful in our service to Him and to His people.

Trinity, Wyandotte - Over the last three years since the last Michigan District Convention we have: Worked with Rev. Galan Walther and Natural Church Development (Phase 1) to: Write and implement a Three Year Plan, Write revised Call and Job Descriptions for Staff, Write revised Board Chair functional expectations, Write revised board descriptions, Write a job description for every task in the church. We have submitted questionnaires for processing to begin phase 2. We are in the process of revising our Three Year Plan. Air conditioning in both the Church Sanctuary and Community Building Fellowship Hall was installed. We also installed a Phone Tree for instant congregational information and a digital sound system in the sanctuary. The Lutheran Service Books were purchased to replace The Lutheran Hymnals. A Food Pantry was created and operated with a Voucher System for both member and non-member referrals. Also, a Clothing Bank for children ages 12 and down for both member and non-member referrals is operational. An Equipment Bank for an older population in need of special devices was also created and now operating.

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

St. John, New Boston – Rev. Kurt Taylor, Rev. David Schmidt
Baptized Membership – 1000; Communicant Membership – 779;
Average Worship Attendance – 399

Christ Our Shepherd, Newport – They are current served by
Vacancy Pastor, Rev. John Schinkel
Baptized Membership – 59; Communicant Membership – 46;
Average Worship Attendance – 36

Grace, Monroe – Rev. Ronald Schultz, Rev. Mark Witte
Baptized Membership – 840; Communicant Membership – 338;
Average Worship Attendance – 240

Holy Ghost, Monroe – Rev. Larry Loree, Sr.
Baptized Membership – 896; Communicant Membership – 505;
Average Worship Attendance – 250

Immanuel, Monroe – Rev. Bruce Lucas
Baptized Membership – 450; Communicant Membership – 371;
Average Worship Attendance – 158

Trinity, Monroe – Rev. Stanley AuBuchon, Rev. Jeffrey Walsh,
Rev. Bruce Crabtree
Baptized Membership – 2462; Communicant Membership –
1890; Average Worship Attendance – 590

Christ the King, Lambertville – Rev. Timothy Loewe
Baptized Membership – 150; Communicant Membership – 150;
Average Worship Attendance – 70

St. Peter, Petersburg – Rev. Mark Flory
Baptized Membership – 484; Communicant Membership – 370;
Average Worship Attendance – 91

Circuit #25 – Dearborn Circuit
Rev. Kurt Lambart, Counselor

Christ the Good Shepherd, Canton – vacant
Baptized membership – 154; Communicant membership – 121;
Average worship attendance - 100

Atonement, Dearborn – Pastor Dan Muecke
The past three years have been years of re-orientation. The congregation is revising its orientation from having its mission centered around its school to becoming a center of Christianity in an increasingly non-Christian culture. The congregation has been growing and exploring new ways to engage in ministry during the past three years.

Emmanuel, Dearborn – Pastor Rodney Zwonitzer and Pastor Joel Baseley
Baptized membership – 1052; Communicant membership – 878;
Average worship attendance - 304

Guardian, Dearborn – Pastor Darryl Andrzejewski
Guardian saw an upswing in worship attendance in 2008. Detroit native, Pastor Darryl Andrzejewski, came on board as Senior Pastor in August 2008, and is leading Guardian through Vision 2010; an aggressive plan to reach up, reach in, and reach out. \$95,000 has been designated for technology upgrades in the sanctuary, five new staff members will be added to the congregational ministries in 2009, while a comprehensive plan of dedicating ourselves to making heaven bigger tomorrow by sharing Jesus on earth today is unfolding.

Our Redeemer, Dearborn – Pastor Roderick Schultz
In an effort to fulfill its role as the assembly of saints in which the Gospel is taught purely and the sacraments are administered correctly, Our Redeemer is committed to providing traditional, confessional, and liturgical worship, with Christ and His cross as the focus. Under the care of newly called pastor, Rev. Roderick Schultz, the congregation maintains a long-standing commitment to the neighborhood and surrounding community through outreach activities such as youth game nights, a food pantry for seasonal distribution, as well as continued support of various local mission projects.

Our Master, Inkster – Pastor David Huber
Our Master has entered into an agreement with the congregation with whom its facilities were being shared on a rental basis for that congregation to purchase the property and buildings. A

down payment has been made. While this other congregation puts together the means to complete the purchase, the use of the site on a shared basis continues. Both congregations conduct their worship and programs from the location with the other group now responsible for most of the operational and upkeep work and expenses of the facilities. Our Master anticipates disbanding prior to the next Michigan District Convention and is working at preparing its members for that time and event.

Living Word, Plymouth – Pastor Randall Duncan
Baptized membership – 267; Communicant membership – 266;
Average worship attendance - 298

St. Michael, Wayne – Pastor Andrew Gruenhagen
Baptized membership – 412; Communicant membership – 353;
Average worship attendance - 239

Our Saviour, Westland - vacant
Baptized membership – 42; Communicant membership – 35;
Average worship attendance - 25

St. Matthew, Westland – Pastor Kurt Lambart
St. Matthew continues a seven year decline in membership, attendance, and offerings. In January of 2007, the congregation enacted a reduction-in-force and terminated two teachers and the Associate Pastor. St. Matthew is served by a wonderful staff who is putting forth courageous effort.

Circuit #26 – Kensington Circuit
Rev. Terry Nelson, Counselor

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church, Brighton - Rev. Mark Milatz
Dr. K. Frank Graves retired in September, 2008.
Shepherd of the Lakes has a preschool and a day school.

Faith Lutheran Church, Highland - Rev. Terry A. Claus

Christ Lutheran Church, Milford - Rev. Richard E. Pape
Christ has a preschool, kindergarten, and parent-tot class.

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, South Lyon - Rev. Terry A. Nelson
Cross of Christ has a preschool.

Cedar Crest Lutheran Church, White Lake - Rev. Kirk Abatelli
Rev. Abatelli has served at Cedar Crest since June, 2006.

St. Mark Lutheran Church, West Bloomfield - Rev. Charles Ferry
Over the last three years, St. Mark has seen a number of changes. Shortly after the last Michigan District Convention in 2006, St. Mark began a pastoral vacancy as Pastor Al Lunneberg departed. The members of the congregation continued to work together to provide for the needs of the congregation and to call a new pastor. We thank God for Rev. Julian Maire and Rev. Roosevelt Gray as well as others who served the congregation during the vacancy. St. Mark congregation applied for a new seminary graduate. Rev. Charles Ferry, a Milwaukee native, was ordained and installed

in June, ending the 18 month vacancy. St. Mark is now busily reaching out to members and community alike.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Walled Lake - Rev. Paul M. Moldenhauer/Rev. Robert J. Nelson
This past triennium started with beloved Minister of Family Life, Shar Kleinedler, going to heaven; and with the founder of our International Ministry, Carol Christenson, retiring. God provided the following co-workers to fill other ministry staff vacancies: Pastor Rob Nelson working primarily out of our Wixom campus; Thomas Czinder as Minister of Worship; and teachers Roxanne Glazier, Rebekah Kurien and Matt Olsen. God has sustained the ministry through the economic challenges that have resulted in reduced staff and decreased enrollments in our school and Hearts & Hands Child Development Center. The International Ministry, mostly to Japanese, continues to serve about 350 adults and 120 children per week.

Peace Lutheran Church, Waterford - Rev. William D. Merrell
Peace has a preschool. Peace is involved in the Family Friendly Network.

Circuit #27 – Livonia Circuit
Rev. Thomas M. Lubeck, Counselor

The Livonia Circuit of the Michigan District consists of the following congregations: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Dearborn Heights - served by interim pastor Rev. Milton Schemm; Saint Paul Lutheran Church, Farmington Hills - served by Rev. John Meyer (includes a Lutheran School); Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Farmington Hills - served by Rev. Thomas Lange; Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church of Redford - served by Rev. Paul Undlin (includes a Lutheran School); Saint Paul Lutheran Church, Northville - served by Rev. Thomas Lubeck and Associate Pastor Christopher Fairbairn (includes a Lutheran School); Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church of Livonia - served by Intentional Interim Pastor Rev. John Heins; Assistant Pastor Robert Bayer and Assistant Pastor Rev. Anthony Creeden; Salem Lutheran Church of Westland - served by Intentional Interim Pastor Carl DeMeritt; and Grace Lutheran Church of Canton - served by Rev. Steven Newton.

Over the past three years the circuit has welcomed Pastors Creeden, DeMeritt, Heins, Newton, and Undlin in our fellowship.

Circuit #28 – Milan Circuit
Rev. Thomas Schroeder, Counselor

St. Thomas, Ann Arbor - Pastor Charles Schultz
Since 2005, St. Thomas has been exploring new ways to reach out to its local community. We have hosted astronomy nights and movie nights for our neighbors, community yard sales and a bicycle Sunday. The congregation has been newly blessed by the involvement of Concordia students, who have led Bible studies, youth group activities, and the choir. St. Thomas has also increased its commitment to Christian education.

It partners with St. Paul Lutheran School and provides significant financial support for college and seminary students.

Open Arms, Belleville – Pastor James Richter
Baptized membership – 225; Communicant membership – 170; Average Worship Attendance – 137

Emmanuel Britton - Pastor Douglas Adams
Over the past three years, Emmanuel has celebrated the retirement of Pastor James Balzer from the ministry after over 12 years of faithful service to Emmanuel. During the vacancy and calling process the congregation continued to be involved with the Family Partners Network. The congregation continued to reach out into the community through various programs like a senior outreach called The Lunch Bunch, an outreach to parents with young children called Holiday on the Ridge. Emmanuel continues to develop new ways to use it newer addition as programs and opportunities for contact with the community increases. In December 2008, the congregation called Pastor Douglas Adams as pastor. His installation service took place on Sunday, December 14, 2008 making this a special Christmas season for pastor and people alike. It is a wonderful blessing to see the Lord's hand at work as He continues to bless Emmanuel as they seek to do His will and reach out into their neighboring communities.

St. Paul, Milan – Pastor Philip Penhallegon is serving the Milan congregation during their vacancy.
Baptized membership – 295; Communicant membership – 231; Average Worship Attendance – 58

St. Paul, New Boston – Pastor D. Lee Cullen, Jr.
Baptized membership – 486; Communicant membership – 385; Average Worship Attendance – 154

Christ Our King, Saline – Pastor Thomas Schroeder, Pastor Dean Wachholz and Pastor Donald Kirchhoff, EM
This year Christ Our King, Saline marks its 30th anniversary under the theme, “Thirty Years of Purpose!” Anniversaries are always occasions for thanksgiving as we remember the unmerited blessings of our God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thirty years of purpose reminds us that God has given us His Word. In addition, He has given us the necessary tools to accomplish the work He has given us to do. Christ Our King was started by the Michigan District in 1979. Thirty years of Purpose reminds us and challenges us to continue to be a mission church with a purpose. Each and every day, at every worship service, Bible class, in our witness, and in our work we receive what those who went before us so wanted us to receive, the Good News of our salvation. Our thanks to them and to the church at large can be indicated in no better way than a renewed sense of purpose as we point people to the cross and the empty tomb for the next 30 years of purpose before us.

Faith, Ypsilanti – Pastor Paul Richert continues to serve the congregation in Ypsilanti as Vacancy Pastor.
Baptized membership – 165; Communicant membership – 150; Average Worship Attendance – 70

Tabernacle of Praise, Romulus – this new mission began with

their first worship service on May 6 2007. Pastor Bertram Lewis was called as a Missionary-at-large to Romulus in January, 2007 and continues to serve the mission today.

Circuit #29 - Ann Arbor Circuit **Rev. Larry G. Courson, Counselor**

Congregations and Pastors: Divine Shepherd, Ann Arbor (Rev. Roger L. Williams); Peace, Ann Arbor (Rev. Larry G. Courson); St. Luke, Ann Arbor and Satellite Sites – Cross & Resurrection, Ypsilanti, University Lutheran Chapel, Ann Arbor and Living Water, Whitmore Lake (Rev. Bryan K. Schindel, Rev. Scott W. Giger, Rev. Daniel J. Flynn); St. Paul, Ann Arbor (Rev. Donald O. Neuendorf, Rev. Michael W. Wentzel); Our Savior, Chelsea (Rev. Dale Grimm); St. Paul, Hamburg (Rev. Evan Gaertner); Trinity, Pinckney

The congregations of the Ann Arbor Circuit continue to strive to be faithful to the Lord's Words and commands, worshipping Him and reaching out to the people in the communities around them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Pastors of the Ann Arbor Circuit continue to meet with the Pastors from the Livonia and Milan Circuits. The Ann Arbor Circuit churches are exploring starting a “Chinese Mission in Ann Arbor” with Rev. Roosevelt Gray from the Michigan District staff.

St. Paul, Ann Arbor celebrated its centennial during this triennium, the culmination of which was a wonderful worship service at the elementary school campus. Not long before the last convention, St. Paul had added a fourth worship service to its regular weekly schedule, this one held in the gymnasium at the school. By the time of the centennial, this service had become the most attended service, serving as a gathering point for many of the school families, new members, and Concordia students. In addition to the thriving pre-school and infant/toddler care that St. Paul has offered at its downtown campus, we began a second pre-school site at the elementary school campus which more than doubled the number of children with whom we are able to share Jesus' love. By the end of 2008, St. Paul is on track to complete a 3-year debt retirement effort with \$1.9 Million pledged. This amount does not fully retire the mortgage for the school addition, but does help position the congregation to pursue opportunities which our Lord may bring to us in our second century of serving him.

Trinity, Pinckney - Developing a more meaningful prayer life and ministry was emphasized during the two and one half year Intentional Interim Ministry of Pastor Bill Gatz, with prayer warriors meeting twice each month as well as emphasis on purposeful daily prayer. Another highlight was the 2008 baptism and continuing Sunday School and worship attendance of four of the 22 non-member children who attended our 2007 VBS. The Rev. Merelyn Snider began his service as vacancy pastor on January 18, 2009.

- Pastor Dale Grimm continues to serve Our Savior Lutheran Church in Chelsea.

St. Paul, Hamburg - Rev. Luke Stephen served as Interim/

Vacancy Pastor for most of the triennium. Rev. Evan Gaertner was installed as Pastor in December, 2008.

St. Luke, Ann Arbor - Rev. Bryan Schindel continues to serve St. Luke as Senior Pastor. Rev. Jack Mackowiak began serving as Intention Interim Pastor in 2008.

During the past three years, the University Lutheran Chapel became a satellite site of St. Luke. The chapel has been remodeled, the "Common Cup" coffee shop was opened and Rev. Scott Giger was called to serve as Campus Pastor. Vicar Dan Flynn was Ordained in November 2008 and continues to serve the satellite site of Living Water in Whitmore Lake.

Pastor George Hamilton retired from active ministry during 2008.

Cross and Resurrection moved to the former Eastern Michigan University campus ministry location in Ypsilanti and became the third satellite site for St. Luke Lutheran Church.

Divine Shepherd, Ann Arbor – Rev. Roger Williams continues to serve as the Pastor of Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor.

Peace, Ann Arbor - Abby Moss was called to Peace as Director of Family Life Ministry in 2006 and has helped to grow the Family Life program at the church. The Tyler Steffey Field will be completed and dedicated this spring that will allow Peace to partner with Dexter Little League and with the Dexter Soccer Club. Larry Courson continues to serve as the Pastor at Peace Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor.

Circuit #30 – Jackson Circuit **Rev. R. William Roper, Counselor**

The Jackson Circuit is made up of seven congregations including Hope, Adrian (Pastor Paul W. Herter); St. John, Adrian (Pastor Joel H. Sarrault); St. Mark, Brooklyn (Pastor Kelly D. Smith); Our Saviour, Hudson (Pastor Troy R. Neujahr); Redeemer, Jackson (Pastor R. William Roper); Trinity, Jackson (Pastor Douglas A. Kregel); and Lutheran Church of the Lakes, Addison.

Lutheran Church of the Lakes, Addison became a member of Synod on June 10, 1990. It is located in the beautiful resort/rural area on the edge of the Irish Hills. This congregation has a strong focus on reaching the lost in the Brooklyn, Addison & Onsted school districts. Besides encouraging members to invite friends 'come and see' each Sunday, the congregation hosts several outreach events throughout the year, beginning with a Valentine Dinner and a Daddy/Daughter Dance in February, VBS and an Annual Fish Fry for Charity in August (all proceeds are matched by Thrivent and given to the local public schools for non-budgeted needs), and ending with Advent By Candlelight in December. Members are strongly encouraged to attend these events and to invite their unchurched friends and neighbors. The Welcome Pads in the church pews have a special space for those attending to record their experiences of sharing Christ throughout the week.

Hope Lutheran Church, Adrian – Pastor Paul Herter

Baptized Membership – 256; Communicant Membership – 215; Average Worship Attendance – 128

St. John's Lutheran Church has been in Adrian for 161 years! Two years ago they relocated from their old downtown location to a new 28,000 square foot worship facility on 16 acres just north of town. Their mission continues to be "Pointing to Jesus!" They live out their mission statement through two styles of worship and an active FaithBuilder Hour on Sunday morning. The Learning Center (infant thro' pre-school) ministers to 60+ children. Last year they added a full-time Family Life/Youth Facilitator to compliment the current three part time staff members. The congregation keeps "Pointing to Jesus" through local, national and worldwide mission support, servant events, community activities and a culture of prayer and devotion.

St. Mark Lutheran Church, Brooklyn – Pastor Kelly Smith
Baptized Membership – 425; Communicant Membership – 300; Average Worship Attendance – 160

Our Saviour, Hudson has spent the past three years in a deliberate process of reflection on its past, present, and future ministry so that we may better understand the challenges we currently face as well as how to ensure a viable and active Christ-centered ministry for years to come. As a result of this process, we have developed and are implementing the first stages of a five-year strategic plan that will, by God's grace, result in increasing our community presence and member invigoration. We remain committed to our mission of bringing our neighbors into Christ's chosen family. In addition, we also maintain strong and active ties with the local Hudson Ministerial Association, and through that help provide emergency financial assistance as well as a much-needed food pantry for those in our community that have been hit hard by the failing economy.

Redeemer, Jackson has experienced some significant changes in the past few years, including the recent efforts to restructure its policy-based governance to include a Leadership Board and beginning the call process to fill the pastoral role with the approaching retirement of its present pastor in 2010. New ministry teams have been formed to effectively support the Leadership Board in communication, worship planning, and worship area planning for the future. With this focus, the church website is in the process of being restructured as well. Redeemer's ministry focus is based on Christian Education and Prayer. Its outreach focus supports the surrounding community, and in this time of economic challenges, partners with the Backpack food program through the Public School System and Together, We Can Make A Difference House in Jackson. These mission fields allow congregational members to reach out to the community and experience the joy of mission work first hand. By so doing, Redeemer hopes to have a more significant impact in the Jackson area and more fully practice its new mission statement of Loving People to Christ. The congregation continues to offer two distinct styles of worship on Sunday mornings through its traditional and praise services. A new Children's Ministry began for PS through grade 5. KidsVenture focuses on teaching children

God's Word and its application to daily life. The weekly lessons include various upbeat learning experiences and hands-on application of the Bible stories. Along with the current pastor, Rev. R. William Roper, the staff includes a Director of Ministries, Director of Worship, and an Administrative Assistant/Office Manager.

Trinity, Jackson - Through Jesus Christ our mission is to transform and nurture fallen children of men into faithful children of God. In order to achieve this mission, Trinity coordinated with the Michigan District's 125th Thank Offering and the Synod's Ablaze movement to call a Mission Pastor to start a new church in Grass Lake. Since celebrating the 50 Days of Ablaze during the fall of 2007, Trinity has made hundreds of Contacts for Christ. Trinity cooperated with Redeemer to sponsor one stop on the Coast to Coast Ablaze tour during the summer of 2008. The Lutheran Layman League's Hospitality Training was presented in worship in the spring of that same year. Trinity continues to actively participate in Mission Outreach Short Term (M.O.S.T.) trips - including recent mission ventures in Guatemala and Mexico. In addition, Trinity continues to support Rev. Dr. David Erber as he serves as the LCMS World Mission Area Facilitator for Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone. In service to downtown Jackson, Trinity helped incorporate the Partnership Park Downtown Neighborhood Association. In cooperation with the PPDNA, Trinity supports an afterschool program for inner-city children and helped build a Thrivent-Build home. The Michigan Housing and Transportation Authority (MICHITA) selected the PPDNA as a "best practice" example in response to the \$12 million worth of new homes recently built in Partnership Park. In service to the families of Jackson, Trinity added infant and toddler care services to its Early Childhood Development Center programs. Trinity is looking forward to celebrating the 50th anniversary of its school in two years (1961-2011). In coordination with Concordia University, Ann Arbor, college level classes are now being offered at Trinity Lutheran School. Towards its goal of being a "family friendly" church, Trinity completed three years of training as part of the initial Family Friendly Partnership Network program. As Saint Paul wrote, "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15)!

Circuit #31 - Petoskey Circuit
Rev. Ted Turanski, Counselor

Congregations included in Circuit #31 are:
Zion, Petoskey - Rev. Douglas Kenny
Bethany, Charlevoix - Rev. Michael Teuscher
Christ, Boyne City - Rev. Kenneth Bernthal
Trinity, Gaylord - Rev. Todd Brunworth
Hope, Bellaire - Rev. Raymond Parent
St. Matthew, Mancelona - Rev. Donald Ritter
Mt. Hope, Grayling - Rev. Steven Thiel
St. Paul, Kalkaska - Rev. Chad Hoover

Retired Pastors included in the Circuit: Rev. James Haenftling and Rev. Ted Turanski

In June of 2007, the congregation Shepherd in the Pines

Lutheran Church in Harbor Springs closed. The congregation began in the late 1990's as a mission congregation when it met in the Blackbird Elementary School on Sunday evenings with area pastors preaching on a rotational basis. In time, they were served by Vicar Thom Garrison, who was ordained and installed upon the completion of his vicarage. He continued to serve the congregation until the time of closing. In October of 2007, Don Ritter was ordained and installed at St. Matthew, Mancelona upon completion of his colloquy requirements. In January of 2009, Rev. Chad Hoover was installed as Pastor of St. Paul, Kalkaska, following the retirement of Rev. Ted Turanski at the end of June 2008.

Circuit #32 - Traverse City Circuit
Rev. Larry Matro, Counselor

The Traverse City Circuit stretches across some of the most beautiful scenery in all of Michigan, if not even the USA and the world! The eight congregations that make up Circuit # 32 are located in Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse and Leelanau counties. The beauty of the area is in stark contrast to the spiritual health of the region as 50-70% of the population remains un-churched! But, it is the privilege of the eight congregations of Circuit # 32 to reach out with the beautiful message of God's grace and forgiveness and salvation in Jesus Christ!

Here is a brief summary of what is going on in each of the congregations in the Circuit:

Bethlehem, Glen Arbor - Pastor Dan Krause has served as Bethlehem's pastor since November 2006. Of his ministry here he writes, "The Word has been proclaimed and the Sacraments administered according to Christ's institution. We continue to see the work of the Spirit as we celebrate an Adult Baptism and two Confirmations this year. We have added a monthly fellowship event and continue our weekly Bible Study on Wednesday mornings."

Grace, Elk Rapids - Rev. Walt Teske came out of retirement and is serving as the Interim Pastor at Grace. The congregation has been blessed by Pastor Teske's faithfulness and pastoral presence. Circuit # 32 is also blessed by his zeal, experience and pastoral heart!

Immanuel, Leland - Pastor Larry Matro has served at Immanuel since leaving the mission field (Papua New Guinea) in 1993. In the past few years the congregation has gone through a number of building programs to bring the building up to "code" and for necessary and cost-cutting renovations. A recent challenge it faces is not having a full-time organist. Its strengths are a youth program that reaches many of the local youth (many who are un-churched), a number of Bible studies (including a growing men's study) and traditional worship that includes plenty of singing. In addition, Immanuel has been blessed with both the resources and the desire to be financially generous towards missions. We plan on adding a "mission trip" to our mission efforts in 2009.

Our Savior, Benzonia - Rev. Robert Bennett faithfully served

here until taking a Call to Trinity, Reese, MI in 2009. Soon after his leaving the congregation made steps to apply for a Seminary graduate for their next pastor. During the interim, Rev. C. Jay Koehler is serving as their Vacancy Pastor.

Redeemer, Interlochen – Redeemer was deeply saddened when their pastor, Tim Mowry, died unexpectedly while on vacation in 2008. Pastor Tim Brand was asked by Redeemer to serve them while they recovered from the loss and prepared to call and receive a new pastor. The Call process began in early 2009. In addition to what Pastor Brand is doing, the congregation is served by their DCE and SMP Candidate Jason Bauer.

St. Michael's and All Angels, Traverse City – Pastor Jim Nihiser was installed at St. Michael's in July of 2008. As he summarized what is happening there he mentioned the "1st Annual Men's and Women's Retreat" held on-site with 42 in attendance studying the topic "Faith Under Fire." He also mentioned that a weekly Food Pantry serves 40+ individuals or families. Events in the "planning stages" include an evening Christian Coffee House, a visit from David Paul Britton in June 2009 and a trip to the Creation Museum in Cincinnati, OH.

St. Paul's, Good Harbor (Cedar) – Pastor Robert Wurst, Jr. has been serving at St. Paul's since 2002. About the ministry there he reports, "St. Paul's, Good Harbor, has received the dew of God's grace for 132 years. We pray that the Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless His little rural parish with His Word and Spirit."

Trinity, Traverse City – Pastor Robert Zagore has served Trinity since 2001. He is assisted by Medical Missionary Rev. Dr. Charles Webb, M.D. Pastor Chad Hoover was also an Assistant Pastor there until he accepted the Call to St. Paul, Kalkaska early in 2009. Pastor Zagore writes, "Trinity continues her mission of reaching up to the Lord who first reached to us with salvation and using this as our motivation to reach out in love to our fellow Christians and our neighbors. Trinity has added a Monday Night Service this year and it has been a big success. In addition, the members of our congregation were nationally recognized by "Service Nation" for a project of helping our neighbors with housing needs. The congregation continues reaching out locally, nationally and internationally with mission projects. Our school continues to show an increase in the number of students and is studying adding grades."

In addition to the men listed above, we are privileged to have the pastoral assistance and counsel of three retirees in our circuit. They are Pastor Charles Pool and Pastor Ted Staudacher, members of St. Paul, Good Harbor and Pastor Bernie Filbert, member of St. Michael's, Traverse City.

Circuit #33 – Manistee Circuit Rev. James Schroeder, Counselor

Trinity, Arcadia – Rev. Theodore Beiderwieden
Baptized Membership – 234; Communicant Membership – 185; Average Worship Attendance – 154

Emmanuel, Cadillac – Rev. Bryan Salminen, Rev. Joel Hess
Baptized Membership – 535; Communicant Membership – 400; Average Worship Attendance – 224

Peace, Ludington – Rev. John Kayser
Baptized Membership – 29; Communicant Membership – 27;
Average Worship Attendance – 23

Trinity, Manistee – Rev. Dennis Rahn
Baptized Membership – 816; Communicant Membership – 557; Average Worship Attendance – 166

Faith, Mesick – They are currently served by Vacancy Pastor, Rev. M. Robert Low
Baptized Membership – 50; Communicant Membership – 45;
Average Worship Attendance – 25

Norwalk, Norwalk – They are currently served by Vacancy Pastor, Rev. William Dostert
Baptized Membership – 108; Communicant Membership – 94; Average Worship Attendance – 30

Trinity, Onkama – Rev. Ainslie Wagner
Baptized Membership – 496; Communicant Membership – 355; Average Worship Attendance – 114

Our Savior, Scottville – Rev. James Schroeder
Baptized Membership – 919; Communicant Membership – 670; Average Worship Attendance – 210

Beautiful Savior, Wellston – They are currently served by Vacancy Pastor, Rev. Gerald Schudlich
Baptized Membership – 35; Communicant Membership – 32;
Average Worship Attendance – 18

St. John, Ludington – Rev. Thomas Boehne
Baptized Membership – 310; Communicant Membership – 278; Average Worship Attendance – 160

Lighthouse, Pentwater – Rev. John Kayser
Baptized Membership – 43; Communicant Membership – 43;
Average Worship Attendance – 32

Circuit #34 – Big Rapids Circuit Rev. Robert Baerwolf, Counselor

Our Circuit consists of six congregations. They are: Grace, Baldwin (Rev. Stephen King); St. Peter's, Big Rapids (Rev. John Bookshaw and Rev. Daniel Lochner); Redeemer, Fremont (Rev. James Schouweiler); Chapel of the Lakes, Mecosta (Rev. Paul Schneider); Trinity, Reed City (Rev. Dean Davenport); Christ, White Cloud (Rev. Richard Hoogerhyde).

Grace, Baldwin – The year 2008 was one of transition and downsizing. Pastor King is now our half-time pastor and, in addition, is working outside the congregation in two different teaching positions. The hard work of our new stewardship committee has brought a measure of financial stability to our congregation. The two-fold mission of Grace Lutheran Church is 1) to provide the community members of Baldwin with

traditional Lutheran worship and congregational opportunities, and 2) to offer a traditional Lutheran worship haven for vacationers and tourists as they spend time in the area. Our new evangelism focus, which calls upon the efforts of all of our congregation members, has moved in the direction of the second part of our mission. As people have retired and relocated to Baldwin, our congregation's evangelism efforts while they were visitors has borne fruit. Eight out of twelve of our planning council members were brought into membership under these circumstances, resulting in a "renewal of our roles."

St. Peter's, Big Rapids – St. Peter's, Big Rapids has developed and implemented some exciting new ministries in the last three years. In September 2007, we began to offer a new worship service called Video Café. This service runs at the same time as our 11:00 a.m. sanctuary service. The sermon is televised live on a big screen to Video Café from the sanctuary. This service was designed to offer a new worship experience for the students at Ferris State University. Many of the younger members of St. Peter's have also grown an adult Bible study ministry. Currently, there are over two hundred members in one of the weekly Bible studies. These studies are having a powerful impact on the ministry of St. Peter's. St. Peter's rejoices in celebrating its history. In September 2006, the congregation began hosting Germanfest. It is the celebration of the German heritage of the congregation. The night is filled with German food, German music and a fun night for all. The community is encouraged to come and last September, over 600 attended. Many in the community look forward to Germanfest. In the past three years, Two full-time staff positions, an Associate Pastor of Family Life, Youth and Chaplain at Ferris State University along with the Director of Worship and Technology, were added to the staff. The preschool and elementary school are doing extremely well. The teaching staff is excellent and they provide all students with a great education and a powerful witness of Jesus Christ in the classrooms. The school and its ministry are very strong. The school adds a tremendous amount to the ministry of the congregation. The congregation, the leadership and the staff look forward to many exciting years of ministry.

Redeemer, Fremont – In the last three years, God has performed wonders in our congregation. By His grace, we have completed construction on our church which expanded the Narthex, added classrooms, created an elevator which runs from basement to the sanctuary level, and created a great deal of storage. Although this was an expensive project, God has provided the money to accomplish this task and by His blessing, we have come close to paying it all off! Since that project, we have taken on the task of creating walking trails and gardens in the tract of land behind our church building. Our hope is to retain the ownership of this land while connecting it to the city park system. In this way, we can provide a spiritual influence for those who enjoy walking the nature trails around our small lake. To God be the Glory for these great blessings.

Chapel of the Lakes, Mecosta – As God continues to grow the congregation at Chapel of the Lakes, members have sought to keep pace with the growth by taking the following steps: the addition of a third weekend service (one on Saturday

evening and two on Sunday morning), the addition of two more children's Sunday School classes, and the addition of two more home Bible Study groups. Participation in the Ablaze! Program and the designation of Thursday night as a weekly Bible Study evening at church along with various Bible Studies in six-week sessions throughout the year have begun. The congregation also purchased a 26-passenger bus for transporting children to Sunday School/VBS and for youth activities. Several maintenance items have taken place including landscaping the grounds, expansion of the parking lot and playground and upgrading equipment. Updating of technology in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and classrooms along with the installation of automated calling program for contacting members has also been a blessing.

Trinity, Reed City – Much has gone on in Reed City in three short years! Under God's leading and direction, our congregation underwent the relocation of our sanctuary to a new site located on US 10, just east of Reed City. We have been worshipping in our new facility since June 11, 2006. It is our prayer that in the not too distant future, we will be able to unite the ministries of our church and school together on our new site. Until then, our school continues to operate, by God's grace, at our current facility in town. We continue to grow in our faith through relevant worship opportunities, Bible studies and by meeting God's people wherever they are. We continue to be a friendly and loving congregation – serving others with the love of Christ! To God alone be the glory!

Christ, White Cloud – The past few years here at Christ Lutheran have been one of blessing after blessing. Our congregation continues to grow in Christ and His mission. A few of the highlights would include our 75th Anniversary as a congregation in 2006, the purchase and installation of a new organ in 2006, the resurfacing of our parking lot in 2006, and the purchase and implementation of the Lutheran Service Book in 2007. In 2008, a new roof was installed on the sanctuary, three new Bible Studies began in 2008 and our Ladies Fellowship refurbished our parish hall kitchen in 2008-2009 (new flooring, gas range, and serving window closure). Our congregation at this time is also debt-free. Our good and gracious God continues to bless this congregation with members who are dedicated to His mission here and beyond. Our preschool continues to operate and our giving to the Circuit Mission Council and Michigan District are very important to us. This year, we added a new mission work – we are sponsoring a monthly food bank through West Michigan Gleaners. On the 1st Friday of each month, our congregation supplies money, leadership and other volunteer help to provide 150 people with 50 pounds of produce. Other churches in White Cloud are asked to supply volunteers to help with the distribution of the food. But the most wonderful of all the blessings we receive and pass on is that of Word and Ministry – proclaiming Christ and His Gospel. Daily, we thank and praise God in Christ for our opportunity to be in service to Him. We also thank and praise God for our Circuit, District and Synod organizations and the ministry they provide.

Circuit #35 – Capitol Circuit
Rev. Richard P. Laeder, Counselor

Circuit 35 - Capitol Circuit is blessed with the following congregations and pastors: St. Luke, Haslett - Rev. David Davis; Ascension, East Lansing - Rev. David Winningham; Our Savior, Lansing - Rev. David Maier and Rev. Roy Olsen; First, Charlotte - Rev. Timothy Olson; St. Matthew, Holt - Rev. Dean Poellet; Messiah, Holt - Rev. Stephen Grafe; Rev. Galen Grulke - Heart of the Shepherd, Howell; Living Word, Lansing; Trinity, Lansing; and Grace, Leslie.

Two circuit pastors have recently entered emeritus status: Rev. James Keat, Grace, Leslie; and Rev. Richard Laeder, Trinity, Lansing. These two pastors have joined four other emeriti included in Circuit 35: Rev. Eldor Bickel; Rev. William Hill; Rev. Dr. Roy Schroeder; and Rev. David Voorhees.

In the triennium since 2006, Circuit 35 has undergone several changes of ministry:

Ascension, East Lansing called Rev. David Winningham as their pastor.

Messiah, Holt called Rev. Stephen Grafe as their pastor.

St Luke, Haslett dedicated a new worship center on their property.

Our Savior, Lansing relocated to a new campus.

First, Charlotte completed a major fund drive and have expanded their facilities and ministry to include preschool and a new mission start in Eaton Rapids.

Trinity, Lansing, hosted three new mission starts at their downtown facilities - Living Word Lutheran Church, Trinity Sudanese Lutheran Ministry, and Rehoboth Evangelical Lutheran

Rev. Travis Downs serves in the position of Outreach Director for Trinity, Lansing

Rev. Martin Schroeder is serving as Vacancy Pastor for Grace, Leslie on a part-time basis

The next triennium is expected to bring more opportunities to serve as God's people faithfully gather around Word and Sacrament in our churches. They will continue to devote their energy, resources, and time to keep Circuit 35 focused toward the cross of Christ and His never-failing love and support for all people.

God has been very gracious with us. Though difficulties arise, God is good and the message of the cross of Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament ministry has been upheld faithfully. God be praised!

Circuit #36 – St. Johns Circuit
Rev. Jeffrey Heimsoth, Counselor

The congregations of the St. Johns Circuit give thanks to God for his many blessings.

Calvary, Carson City – Pastor Kenneth Williamson
Calvary continues to develop its sense of identity in the community and have used their fairly new facilities to become

more accessible to the community. God is blessing those efforts.

Good Shepherd, Lansing – Pastor Roger Straub
As Good Shepherd continues to minister to the northwestern edge of Lansing they have recently completed a building project which improved their narthex and office area.

Hope, DeWitt – Pastor E. Anthony Sikora
The members of Hope have welcomed Pastor Sikora as pastor and have been blessed by God in strengthening Word and Sacrament ministry. God has blessed them with a strong music ministry and with the opportunity to plan for future building expansion.

St. Paul, Fowler – Pastor Paul Clark
The past years have seen more emphasis and much blessing thru involvement in Right to Life issues. God has blessed the congregation with several new families and growth in the Sunday School.

St. Andrew, Portland – Pastor Edward Filter
St. Andrew celebrated its 25th anniversary of ministry giving thanks for the blessings God has provided. The preschool ministry continues to flourish. The congregation has prepared for providing ministry working together with families.

St. Peter, St. Johns (Riley Township) – Pastor Jeffrey Heimsoth
The past triennium has seen a re-focusing on ministering to families at St. Peter. The Christian Day School enjoys its largest enrollment ever with the addition of a fourth teacher. Current efforts are now to clearly define ministry goals to make the best use of resources to attain them.

St. Johns, St. Johns – Pastor George Brinley
God has blessed St. Johns in the addition of a staff person to oversee the Sunday School/education ministry. They have also established an endowment fund with the designed purpose of helping to fund new ministries.

Circuit #37 – Tri River Circuit
Rev. Fred C. Krause, Counselor

The Tri River Circuit meets together on the second Tuesday of each month beginning with September and ending with June, except during the months of October and February because of the larger pastoral conferences. Our monthly routine includes a worship service in which the Lord's Supper is shared, an hour for bible study, lunch and then time for sharing, questions, etc. We meet at a different congregation each month; the host pastor conducts the service, and the previous month's pastor leads the bible study. One of our regulars is the English District pastor from Holy Trinity in Lakeview. He is also the pastor of Hope of Stanton, one of our Michigan District congregations. Our December meeting is always held at Mt. Calvary of Greenville with lunch at a local restaurant hosted by the District CEF representative. For our bible study material we have recently begun use of the Synod material.

Bethel, Howard City is served by Pastor Alsen Wenzel.
These last three years have been an up and down time for

Bethel Lutheran Church, as have all the churches faced in this troubling economy. Our Precious Gifts Childcare Center continues to be a blessing for Bethel's ministry to the community. We continue to have our laid-back contemporary Saturday evening service and our Sunday morning worship with a variety of worship styles being used. We have a Visioning Committee that has been working hard in setting various goals for the congregation. Bethel has also become a part of the "Family Friendly Partners Network." Our network is made up of six or seven churches in which we are changing the way we are doing and looking at ministry as well as strengthening families. As a part of the network, we participated in a survey conducted by "Family Life" in which the results were quite startling for us. In the months and years to come, we pray to use the information gathered to become a light for Jesus Christ in our community.

Good Shepherd, Lowell is served by Pastor Joe Fremer, who recently marked the 25th anniversary of his ordination in 2007. During the last triennium, net growth has been small, but significant, with nine infant baptisms and three adult baptisms. Good Shepherd has adopted Lutheran Service Book and brands itself as offering "traditional, authentic Lutheran worship and teaching." Since 2008, they have been assisted by licensed Deacon Ed Van Cott, who helps with catechesis, worship and preaching.

Holy Cross, Belding - After serving Holy Cross for over four years, Pastor Jacobson moved out of the area and Pastor Joe Fremer became the vacancy pastor. Pastor Mark Jurgensen was installed as the new pastor in March, 2007. After Pastor Jurgensen resigned from Holy Cross, Pastor Timothy Loewe served as vacancy pastor until October 2008. Currently, Pastor Dean Mues is serving as their vacancy pastor.

Hope, Stanton is being served by Pastor Steven Voelker, English District pastor of Holy Trinity, Lakeview. Both congregations share a dual-parish arrangement. According to Pastor Voelker, Hope runs a food pantry at the worship site. During 2008, they served 243 families from the area. Usage doubled from 2007. As the needs keep increasing, Hope will depend greatly on organizations from the area and various individuals to help support the pantry.

Mt. Calvary, Greenville is served by Pastor Jeff Wilhelm who is also a Lt. Colonel in the Air Force which takes him away from the congregation periodically. After 25 years of service to the community, he reports that the preschool has expanded its service to the community through a year-round Christian Childcare ministry. The congregation is also reaching out to the community through its relatively new Fellowship Hall. Many congregational and community events are being held at Mt. Calvary, including a "Trunk or Treat," winter clothing giveaway, Youth and Family nights, Lions Club dinner meetings, Girl Scouts, Habitat for Humanity/Thrivent outreach, Walk For Warmth, and a number of concerts, including the West Michigan Lutheran Chorale. He indicates that most importantly, Sunday School, Bible Study and Small Group involvement reflects a growing commitment to study God's Word together.

Resurrection, Sand Lake is a very small refocusing congregation served by Pastor Fred Krause. They have consistently conducted a successful Preschool and summer Vacation Bible School. Recently, they began to conduct a Tuesday morning Bible Class. Sunday morning worship is at 10:00 a.m. during the fall, winter and spring. During the summer, the time is changed to begin at 9:15 a.m. Attendance has consistently been around 25 people each Sunday.

St. John, Ionia is currently being served by Pastor David Bogda. The congregation is still experiencing new life and hope in mission and ministry. Worship is traditional. Besides the Sunday service, they conduct a Wednesday evening service. Pastor Bogda reports that since the last convention, they have started a Preschool. It began in 2008 with nine children (4 three-year olds and 5 four-year olds). The year, there are 5 three-year olds and 10 four-year olds. The congregation is beginning to think about starting a Kindergarten.

Circuit # 38 – Muskegon Circuit **Rev. Dennis Lassanske, Counselor**

The 38th circuit is made up of the congregations on the western side of the state near the shores of Lake Michigan from Conklin, Nunica and Muskegon north to Whitehall, Montague and Shelby. We have been blessed with faithful pastors and congregational leaders during the past triennium. The following is a summary of God's work among His people in our area.

Faith Lutheran - Whitehall - The Lord has truly blessed us over the past triennium. He has enabled us to work together to reach into the community with His message of saving love. In the last year, we have started an annual car rally/pig roast for the community, coupled with our already established "Steak and Blues Night." These events continue to bring in members of the community who wouldn't normally think of attending here. Our Youth and Family Life ministry received a substantial boost with the calling of a Lay Minister for this ministry from Mequon. He has now also entered the S.M.P. program. We have also started a Wednesday Night fellowship/education time followed by a Wednesday night worship service.

Our Redeemer - Muskegon - Our Redeemer licensed Deacon Alexander J. Koppel to work in the areas of Worship, Visitation and Evangelism. Redeemer completed a new kitchen and fellowship room and Sunday school-Bible class addition. They continue to reach out with the Gospel through evening VBS and adult ministries. They have been active in community projects including "monthly food ingathering" for food pantries; LFL "Diaper Shower"; "Christmas Angel Tree" supplying gifts for Rescue Mission; "Mitten Tree" collection for those in need; and well as "Food and Folly" fellowship events for the membership and a traditional Passover Seder meal and hosting various dinners. The congregation successfully participated in the "Unity – A Ministry of Meditation". The church has added a web site and formed a task force to set long term goals for the congregation.

St. James - Montague - The people of God at St. James Lutheran Church, Montague, have undergone some growth transitions during these last three years. Our Director of Christian Education accepted a call leaving us with a ministry staff position to fill. After much prayerful research and consideration, we have decided to pursue a Deaconess Intern from Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne in the near future. We are excited about the ministry potential a Deaconess can fulfill. We have sent a mission team to Guatemala, began using the new Lutheran Service Book hymnal, and have had continued growth in our Men's Outdoor Ministry with annual Men's Generational Canoe Trips to the wilderness of the Boundary Waters of Minnesota. We have also continued to refine and improve our media ministry within worship and to highlight other church activities and ministries. We are thankful that God continues to bless us as we serve Him and His people in the White Lake area.

St. Luke – Nunica - St. Luke congregation has ministered to this community and surrounding area for 107 years. Located in a small community with members in seven different school districts has presented many challenges to the ministry. A plan of action has been established with focuses on the theme, "Guided by God, Hand in Hand, We Can" to help redirect us in keeping our focus on Christ. Under this plan, St. Luke is undergoing a major refurbishing and additional building project during these difficult times of recession. For 107 years we have been trusting in God to guide us into the work that He will have us to do and we will continue into the future to bring glory to His name.

St. Mark – Muskegon - St. Mark has continued to experience the blessings of God in its programs and ministries over the past triennium. The congregation has been blessed with a full staff of dedicated and committed servants that use their many skills and talents. The Stephen Ministry program gives added spiritual and emotional support to members and friends of the congregation. The newly renovated office space, library and lounge, as well as newly renovated Activity Center and newly constructed Fellowship Hall provides much needed space for effective outreach ministries, congregational events and variety of ways to reach into the community. Spiritual growth opportunities through Bible study and children midweek program WOW (Witness on Wednesday) continues to flourish. The congregation continues to be blessed with numerical growth and has finished the budget year with a surplus. They look forward to God's continual blessing, protection and guidance as He has in the past.

St. Stephens – Shelby - St Stephens continue to serve faithfully to the Shelby area. They completed in 2008 an intentional ministry site analysis under the leadership Rev. Robert Bearwolf. This process provided stability, insight and guidance for their ministry development following the loss of a full time pastor. The Intentional Ministry program also helped to clarify the goals and objects of the congregation ministry. Under an agreement with Faith, Whitehall, they continue to be served and their programs are supported through SMP Vicar Blaine Jorg under the supervision of Rev. Michael Kroll. St. Stephens congregation continues to serve depending

of the Lord's guidance as they continue to witness to their community.

Trinity – Conklin - Missions, Christian education, and families have been important areas of focus for Trinity, Conklin, over the past three years. In addition to our regular mission offerings to District and Synod, each year we establish a special mission project for the year. The most recent of those have been Family of Christ Lutheran Church, Alpine Township; Bethania Kids in India; and the International Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids. Our Youth Group also was involved in outreach and took a mission trip to the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Christian education has always been a vital part of Trinity's ministry and this year we celebrated the 140th anniversary of our Day School, which now offers a strong academic and spiritual education beginning with preschool and going through fifth grade. We have also begun sponsorship of a MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) group which meets once a month in our facilities. Family ministry remains a key aspect of Trinity and we were part of the District's initial "Family Friendly Partners Network," in an attempt to continue to develop more and better ways to reach our families with the saving Gospel message and help families to be teachers of the faith in their homes.

Trinity – Muskegon - Trinity continues to prioritize our ministry around our five core values: Worship, Discipleship, Fellowship, Outreach and Service. Our ministry over the past triennium continues to partner with West Shore Lutheran School and have coordinated our programs with an emphasis on the "Family Friendly Partners Network". The position of Youth and Family Life has been expanded with addition of an Associate Pastor. The congregation has expanded styles of worship on Sunday morning to include both liturgical and blended worship and an alternate worship beginning on Monday evenings in the summer. Bible Study on Sunday morning and small groups during the week continue to a source of spiritual growth. Various fellowship leagues and congregational gatherings provide great opportunities for fellowship and outreach. The re-start of the Stephen ministry program has added an excellent caring program to our ministry. Hands On Mission Teams have served in Guatemala and Biloxi, MS transforming individual members and our congregation into a mission minded congregation that is focused on outreach and service. Many have been blessed through service at the MAP Supper House and involvement with many community projects of God's love in action. The congregation looks forward to God's continual blessing and guidance as they activate the next five year plan "Lift Our Vision".

Circuit #39 - Holland Circuit Rev. John Westra, Counselor

As Paul writes to the Thessalonians: "We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3.

The work of the District is truly a blessing to many and we of the 39th Circuit from Holland north along the coast to Ferrysburg, are blessed to be a part of it. Paul is right when he says work by faith, labor in love, enduring through hope, for our Lord Jesus has blessed us these last three years.

For Christ Our Savior (under the leadership of Pastor John Schleicher) on the north side of Holland, they continue to minister using Matthew 11:28 as their purpose statement - "Sharing the love of Christ in word and deed with open arms for all people." They have experienced a growth in adult Christian Education attendance, more volunteer groups serving in the worship arts, Care Closet outreach, mission awareness and F.A.C.E. to face with Christ program. (F.A.C.E. is an acronym for "Faith and Celebration Expressions.")

Grace, Coopersville (with Pastor Joel Hoyer leading) continues to grow as it is maturing as an independent congregation. They were blessed with a D.C.E. intern, Mr. Andy Audette, from Concordia - St. Paul, MN. He has helped them grow in their youth ministry both Junior and Senior, developed a small group Bible Study on the Grand Valley State University campus, along with a midweek program for K through 5 called "Grace Camp." Grace is responding to the growing "evangelistic atheism" by providing classes for its members using the Focus on the Family's "Truth Project" materials. They want to prepare their members to be better disciples of our Lord Jesus and to be able to give answers "as to the reason for the hope that they have ..."

Lakeshore Fellowship, Ferrysburg experienced its first vacancy in the pastoral office as its founding pastor, Rev. Glenn Shelton, took a call to California after 19 years of ministry. They are now served by Pastor Mark Pflug, an Intentional Interim Pastor who is helping them to work through the transition as they prepare to call a new Pastor. They have been very busy these last three years, reaching out beyond their walls in many mission projects from student ministry in the local schools to foreign orphans in Honduras, and continuing to make mission trips to serve people in need wherever the Lord leads. Not only have they gone beyond their walls but also rebuilding and expanding their walls, they have added a new Worship Center and improved facilities. To help them to be more efficient in their administration, they have adopted a policy based governance polity which increases their effectiveness in serving new opportunities for mission.

St. John, Grand Haven (with Pastor Dieter Haupt as Senior Pastor) experienced a transition when Associate Pastor, Rev. Phillip Baerwolf, accepted a call to Dundee, IL in December 2006. A call was sent to the Seminary for a candidate and the Rev. Philip DeVries was ordained and installed at St. John on July 8, 2007. St. John continues to forge ahead in its mission to see its children's, children's, children in eternity together with them through its family-friendly ministry. With the help of Rev. Galan Walther and Professor Ben Freudenburg as a part of the District Pilot Project, they are fulfilling the directive of Martin Luther who said "As the head of the family should teach it (Christian doctrine) in a simple way to his household." Also, they continue to promote and encourage

mission outreach with special speakers and trips, and growing in their giving to be a tithing congregation to District and Synod. This has been a fifteen-year goal now finally accomplished. The challenge they are facing for the future is a declining enrollment in their day school.

St. Matthew, Spring Lake (under the leadership of its new Pastor since summer of 2006, Pastor Michael Goers) has moved ahead in its mission of sharing their blessing in Christ's love by serving others, bringing glory to God. They have established a relationship with a congregation in Novokuznetsk, Siberia providing support as needed. Their preschool, St. Matthew Footsteps has grown to 90 children. Now the challenge is to involve the many non-member families in St. Matthew's ministry. The congregation is growing and now looks to add future staff in the area of music.

The members of United, West Olive, in the area south of Grand Haven and north of Holland, continue to receive pastoral services from many retired pastors. The congregation has become very self-sufficient in supplying its care for members and continuing to reach to its neighbors. They continue to celebrate their mission to "Bring, Develop and Share" increasing their attendance, improving their facility and praying for a Pastor someday when the Lord blesses.

Finishing the congregations in the Holland Circuit, we come to Zion, Holland which continues to be the place "Where God Meets You." Being guided by Pastor Westra, it continues to challenge each member to grow in discipleship and to reach to their neighbors as God leads. The members continue to be very generous in supporting many missions locally, domestically and throughout the world. Mr. Joseph Byrd, Director of Celebration Ministries continues to share an exciting, historically Lutheran and truly uplifting worship experience which has attracted many from the community to seek his skill and expertise. Zion, as it looks to the future, is extending a call to the Seminary for an Associate Pastor to focus on Youth and Education Ministry to help it grow in family life and discipleship.

The congregations of the 39th Circuit continue to work by faith, labor in love, and endure in the ministry of our Lord with the hope He provides. I pray His continued blessings on each of you as you continue to do the same.

Circuit #40 - Grand Rapids North Central Circuit Rev. Mark W. Love, Counselor

Circuit Congregations: Immanuel, Grand Rapids - Rev. Craig Bickel; Messiah, Grand Rapids - Rev. Terry E. Hoes; Mt. Olive, Grand Rapids - Rev. Ken Bomberger, Our Savior, Grand Rapids - Rev. David Fleming and Rev. North Sherrill; Redeemer, Grand Rapids - Rev. Rodney Otto, Vacancy pastor; St. Peter, Rockford - Rev. Mark Love; St. James, Grand Rapids - Rev. James Blain; St. Matthew, Grand Rapids - Rev. Robert Appold; Family of Christ, Alpine Township - Rev. Mark Bowditch and Rev. Glenn Worcester.

Since the last District Convention, three pastoral vacancies

were filled: Rev. Kenneth Bomberger to Mt. Olive, Grand Rapids; Rev. Craig Bickel to Immanuel, Grand Rapids, and Rev. North Sherrill to Our Savior, Grand Rapids.

All Nations, served by Rev. Afzal Masih, is an ethnic mission serving the Middle Eastern community in the Grand Rapids area. This mission is currently located at Redeemer, Grand Rapids as they seek to reach out to the various Middle Eastern ethnic communities of Grand Rapids through English classes and other means.

Currently, in Grand Rapids North Circuit, there are two Lutheran elementary schools. One is operated jointly by Immanuel and St. James Lutheran Churches and is currently housed solely at St. James. The other is operated independently by Our Savior Lutheran Church. The same congregations are also part of the West Michigan Lutheran High School Association. Preschools are operated at Immanuel, Messiah, Our Savior, St. James, St. Matthew, and St. Peter congregations. A number of parishes without Lutheran Day Schools offer weekday religious instruction. Several of the congregations of the circuit are getting involved with the development and work of the Koina Center whose purpose is to assist all the preschools and schools in working together jointly on outreach, spiritual growth, funding, and much more.

The circuit rejoiced with Mr. Barry Blomquist, principal of Our Savior Lutheran School as he was named "Principal of the Year" in the state of Michigan.

The circuit was saddened at the passing of a dear sister, Mrs. Lou Garchow, wife of the late Rev. Alvin Garchow. She was a great blessing to her home congregation of Messiah, Grand Rapids, the circuit, LWML, and other mission work. We rejoice that the Lord blessed us with her and that our gracious Lord has called Lou to her eternal rest this past year.

The pastors of the circuit meet regularly with the Grand Rapids South Circuit for worship and study. This joint meeting and joint leadership of Rev. Tom Meyer, Circuit Counselor of the Grand Rapids South Circuit, is a great blessing to the Grand Rapids North Circuit as we walk together in the mission and ministry of our congregations. During this past triennium, we have jointly studied Walther's Law and Gospel, and have just begun a study of Walther's Church and Ministry. The brothers take turns leading Bible study during each of our meetings. During our meetings we attempt to study and speak to the current cultural issues with God's Word that speaks the saving Gospel to all time and in cultures. Both circuits sponsored a joint retreat with Dr. Charles Arand from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO. In addition, a number of circuit pastors meet weekly for an exegetical study of one of the texts for the coming Sunday.

Circuit #41 – Grand Rapids SW Circuit **Rev. Thomas Meyer, Counselor**

St. Paul, Caledonia – Rev. Robert Gerke
Baptized Membership – 860; Communicant Membership –

614; Average Worship Attendance – 227

Bethel, Grandville – Rev. Glenn Kopper
Baptized Membership – 208; Communicant Membership – 186; Average Worship Attendance – 80

New Hope, Hudsonville –
Baptized Membership – 318; Communicant Membership – 222; Average Worship Attendance – 110

Holy Cross, Jenison – Rev. Scott Sommerfeld, Rev. William Wangelin
Baptized Membership – 1475; Communicant Membership – 1089; Average Worship Attendance – 462

St. John, Jenison – Rev. James Metcalf
Baptized Membership – 256; Communicant Membership – 188; Average Worship Attendance – 108

St. Mark, Kentwood – Rev. Thomas Meyer
Baptized Membership – 871; Communicant Membership – 620; Average Worship Attendance – 345

Good Shepherd, Middleville – Rev. James Roemke
Baptized Membership – 94; Communicant Membership – 80; Average Worship Attendance – 44

Journey of Faith, Byron Center – Rev. Robert Barber
Journey of Faith became a member congregation in 2008. They are averaging 84 in worship each week.

Circuit #42 – Battle Creek Circuit **Rev. Dr. Paul R. Naumann, Counselor**

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Albion – Rev. Gary Nehring, pastor
St. Paul Lutheran in Albion benefited from the intentional interim ministry of Rev. Dan Seng, but is now moving forward under a new pastor, Gary Nehring (formerly of St. John Lutheran in Au Gres, MI). They also continue to enjoy their vicarage program, which they have maintained for many years. The congregation is blessed with wonderful facilities set on a hill in a lovely residential neighborhood. The community is certainly struggling economically, but the congregation is well endowed, and Albion College continues to keep the city on the map.

Christ Lutheran Church, Marshall – Rev. David Boedecker, pastor
Christ Lutheran, located on the northwest end of Marshall, maintains a lively ministry and an active daycare/pre-school that fills their building daily. Prior to Pastor Nehring's arrival at St. Paul, Albion, Pastor Boedecker graciously served as their vicarage supervisor. With the support and encouragement of his congregation, Pastor Boedecker also serves as volunteer chaplain to the local police department and hospital as well serving on a variety of community social service agencies and as a member of the Calhoun County Critical Incident Management Team.

Zion Lutheran Church, Marshall – Rev. Roger James, pastor

Zion Lutheran Church is a historic downtown church in Marshall that continues its grand traditions of fine worship, a Germanfest, and more recently has hosted some local youth events. Their average worship attendance between their two Sunday morning services remains healthy with about 240 while at the same time they are addressing some concerns about diminishing attendance in Sunday School. While the congregation dates back to 1848, their website is state of the art, complete with sermon podcasts.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Battle Creek – Rev. Gary Siefert, pastor

St. Paul recently completed construction of a small but much needed addition to their building that includes an elevator and additional restrooms on the same floor as the sanctuary. They are benefiting from their new found mission to internationals, including ESL and Bible classes, as well as regular international worship service, thanks to their POBLO missionary, Vincent Iqbal. Vincent has recently completed his academic requirements and colloquy such that he will be on the LC-MS pastoral roster as soon as he receives a call from the congregation.

St. Mark Lutheran Church, Battle Creek – Rev. Carl Schneider, senior pastor

Located in suburban west side of Battle Creek, remains one of the most visionary churches in our Circuit. About a year ago Rev. Rob Nelson took a call to St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Walled Lake. Their pre-school/day care, “Our World for Children,” continues a vital ministry to unchurched families (including some Japanese auto workers). Their “Cross Creek Christian School” continues to provide Lutheran education through the 4th grade for 2006-2007 but they have yet to begun construction on their Beckley Road property. They have four worship services on Sunday morning, two of which are a very contemporary format known as “Higher Ground.”

Redemption Lutheran Church, Battle Creek – Rev. Karl Strenge, pastor

Redemption Lutheran is located on the far northwest side of Battle Creek in an old suburban part of town. Commendably, Pastor Strenge will celebrate this summer the sixth anniversary of both his ordination and his installation as pastor at Redemption. In this time the congregation has greatly enhanced their visibility on M-89 with the addition of a much needed new sign, put a new roof on the building, and got new carpeting, all within a balanced budget.

Zion Lutheran Church, Kalamazoo – Rev. Tim Seeber, senior pastor; Rev. Mark Couch, WMU

Zion has recently undergone an extensive renovation of their beautiful facilities on a wooded hill near downtown Kalamazoo that included a vastly expanded narthex and air conditioning in the sanctuary. Their music minister, Pete Prochnow, recently took a call to be on the faculty at Concordia University Nebraska in Seward. Pastor Seeber, who in 2008 celebrated 20 years at Zion, enjoys the longest tenure of any of the active pastors in our circuit. He also has the benefit of a number of retired pastors in his congregation, including Larry Brelje, Paul Maier, and Louis Grother

(the latter two respectfully celebrating their 50th and 70th ordination anniversaries). Pastor Couch is deployed full time with Zion's thriving campus ministry at Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kalamazoo – Rev. David Sidwell, pastor

Immanuel has experienced a “face lift” in a number of ways, including new sanctuary lighting, a new sound system, a new sacristy, and two huge banners in the chancel that beautifully reflect the cover of their new LSB hymnals. Immanuel has also experienced some traumatic losses of key members due to death in this past year, but they continue to bring in new members, are very supportive of St. Michael Lutheran School in Portage, and maintain their outreach to the deaf community in Kalamazoo.

St. Michael Lutheran Church, Portage – Rev. Dr. Paul Naumann, senior pastor; Jon Forster, DCE

Next year, St. Michael will celebrate 50 years of ministry in the greater Kalamazoo area. Saint Michael Lutheran School, with its 223 students, will also have its first 8th grade class in the 2009-2010 school year. Last fall, a capital campaign entitled “Mission Forward” raised nearly \$700,000 in pledges, 10% of which has been pledged to the Michigan District's 125th anniversary thank offering, “The Future Is Now.” The congregation has recently authorized exploration into adding an infant/toddler program to go with their existing senior day program, Covenant, which also now has a new administrator and vision for inclusion into St. Michael's “cradle to grave” ministry.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Paw Paw – Rev. Mark Whittaker, senior pastor; Kevin Otrhalik, DCE

Trinity is the only LC-MS church in Van Buren County and maintains the oldest Lutheran Day School in our Circuit. Unfortunately, Pastor Whittaker has been very busy with funerals in the past year but continues to serve faithfully and tirelessly at Trinity, even in the context of serious illness in his family. Trinity has been blessed by some significant financial contributions in the last year and was able to sell their Mattawan property that they had been intended for the former mission congregation Family of Christ. They plan to raise funds for renovating their parking lot, and to make a sizeable contribution to “The Future Is Now/Fan Into Flame.”

St. Peter Lutheran Church, Three Rivers – Rev. Alan Stadelman

St. Peter remains a visible source of Christ's love in Three Rivers. In 2008, St. Peter's celebrated its 50th year in their current church building on a highway 131 just north of town. Since accepting the Call in 2006, Rev. Alan R. Stadelman has provided Confessional and compassionate leadership. As regional Pastoral Counselor for the Gateway Zone of the Michigan LWML, Pastor Stadelman has seen the ladies of St. Peter's produce hundreds of quilts, health kits and school kits for Lutheran World Relief. Pastor Stadelman has also enjoyed developing considerable expertise on Bible geography and culture, having recently taken two trips to the Holy Land. Members of the congregation volunteer at the Community Soup Pot as well as the Local Food Bank and the Free Store. God willing, the future holds for St. Peter's the establishment of

an Endowment Fund and the creation of a Memorial Garden.”

Circuit #43 – St. Joseph Circuit

Rev. David Weiss, Counselor

Trinity, Berrien Springs – Rev. Gary Miller
Baptized Membership – 775; Communicant Membership – 580; Average Worship Attendance – 242
Immanuel, Bridgman – Rev. Jon Bendewald
Baptized Membership – 737; Communicant Membership – 592; Average Worship Attendance – 215

St. Paul, Buchanan – They are currently served by Vacancy Pastor, Rev. Daniel Streufert
Baptized Membership – 168; Communicant Membership – 140; Average Worship Attendance – 56

St. Paul, Cassopolis – Rev. David Weiss
Baptized Membership – 133; Communicant Membership – 104; Average Worship Attendance – 70

Salem, Coloma – Rev. Andrew Menz
Baptized Membership – 379; Communicant Membership – 301; Average Worship Attendance – 100

Trinity, Buchanan – Rev. Thomas Brazinsky
Baptized Membership – 530; Communicant Membership – 392; Average Worship Attendance – 150

St. Paul, Niles – Rev. Carl Bassett
Baptized Membership – 567; Communicant Membership – 385; Average Worship Attendance – 250

Trinity, St. Joseph – Rev. Michael Roth, Rev. Thomas Batsky
Baptized Membership – 1900; Communicant Membership – 1516; Average Worship Attendance – 550

Trinity, Sawyer – Rev. Kendall Schaeffer
Baptized Membership – 640; Communicant Membership – 435; Average Worship Attendance – 200

Christ, Stevensville – Rev. Philip Quardokus
Baptized Membership – 1325; Communicant Membership – 1157; Average Worship Attendance – 400

Circuit #44 - South Central Circuit

Rev. L. Daniel Johnson, Counselor

St. John's Lutheran Church – Burr Oak
St. John's Lutheran Church and its members have faithfully served God in Burr Oak for nearly 150 years. As the town of Burr Oak celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2009, St. John's is taking a lead role in promoting the joys and challenges of small town living. St. John's recently established a Cub Scout group with 18 boys taking an active part in scouting. The Outreach Committee hosts several events each year to encourage people to come to St. John's. St. John's is the only church in Burr Oak with an active Sunday School and Youth Group. We also have the only daytime Vacation Bible School in town and Pastor Kuhlmann is the only full-time

pastor in the community. The recently added Fellowship Hall has increased activities in the church and community, hosting fund raisers for the church and it's organizations as well as people in need with the help of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. A second service was added to the Worship and Bible Study schedule last year. While St. John's is definitely an aging congregation, it is truly a blessing to see a number of young families return to their roots at St. John's. God is blessing the ministry at St. John's. Pastor Kurt Kuhlmann

St. Paul Lutheran Church – Centreville
St. Paul is currently being served by Pastor David A. Grimm with an average worship attendance of 69 each week.

St. Paul Lutheran Church – Colon
St. Paul is currently being served by Pastor David A. Grimm with an average worship attendance of 61 each week.

St. Paul Lutheran Church – Coldwater
St. Paul welcomed Vicar Curt Adams to the congregation in July, 2008. Vicar Adams is a convertible vicar, meaning that the intent is for him to become the full-time pastor at St. Paul following his ordination there this summer. St. Paul offers three services, one on Saturday evening and two on Sunday morning. The late service on Sunday is interpreted for the deaf. The congregation had great reason to celebrate in December as seven individuals, three adults and four children were baptized, and a total of nineteen people were received into membership. Christian education is offered for children from 3 years of age through the 5th grade at St. Paul Lutheran School and the Son-Shine Kids Preschool. The congregation also provides an enthusiastic Vacation Bible School program each summer. Community involvement includes participation in a cooperative effort among Coldwater churches to assist the homeless, as well as efforts to support the local food pantry and pregnancy crisis center.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church – Hillsdale
St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hillsdale provides weekly Word and Sacrament ministry to the Hillsdale community using the Lutheran Service Book and the Divine Service each week. From the strength provided by God's gifts, the congregation is moving forward in ministries of mercy through SPARC (St. Paul's Ability Resource Center). Through this facility located in the downtown area of the community, a ministry of caring will be provided for various needs. One of the first needs that will be addressed is space of HOPE ministry, a ministry for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. The second initiative will be the development of a free dental clinic to serve those who are suffering because of lack of funds or dental coverage. The congregation has added a part time parish nurse, education director, nursery director and ministry of mercy director. Through these and other opportunities to share God's love the congregation is reaching out with the Gospel of Jesus to those in need. Pastor L. Daniel Johnson

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church – Quincy
Prince of Peace, Quincy has been very blessed by our Lord during this past triennium. We have been blessed through the Word and Sacrament Ministry of Vicar Joshua Cook, Rev. Bob

Smith and presently Rev. Robert Eickmann. Prince of Peace has also been blessed with the service of many fine dedicated lay men and women during the past thirty years. During this past triennium, we have added a fellowship hall and kitchen to our facility. Presently, we have started a Women's Fellowship. Several women are meeting together on a weekly basis involved in making banners and other projects at the church. Attendance in worship, Bible Study and fellowship continues to grow. The Lord continues to bless us and we are excited about what He will do through us in the years ahead.

Salem Lutheran Church – Sturgis

Salem Lutheran Church is currently being served part-time by Pastor Jim Balzer as a Vacancy Pastor.

Trinity Lutheran Church – Sturgis

In the past three years, Trinity has had some major improvements. Thanks to many generous donations, we have air-conditioned the sanctuary, as well as the entire school! A security system has been added to the school and two of our parking lots were repaved. A new classroom was added in the church basement to accommodate a large class in our school. We continue to offer three adult classes on Sunday morning as well as five other Bible Classes during the week. A contemporary service was added to our “Sunday Morning Line up” with a total of four services on the weekend now. Adult membership classes are offered three or four times a year. The demographics of Sturgis are changing rapidly and that presents long term challenges. We thank and praise God for His presence along the way. Pastor Michael Klafehn/Pastor Calvin Kolzow, Jr.

Our Savior Lutheran Church – Union City

Established in 1953, Our Savior Lutheran Church is located in rural southwest Michigan between Battle Creek and Coldwater. The congregation of 175 souls spiritually nourishes its members and guests through traditional Lutheran worship and Bible study while being active in the community through the hosting of annual dinners, outreach events, and the housing of the local Food Pantry. All of this is done under the focus of “Keeping Christ First in Everything” (Col. 1:18). Pastor David Dodge

Ministry Core Value #1

Intentional Mission Development

Under the Gospel Imperative of the Great Commission, the Michigan District values the planting and development of new congregations and mission societies which result in the generation of a new audience for the Gospel by bringing the message of Jesus Christ to the unchurched and dechurched populations within the State of Michigan.

This core value will summon the District to give priority to such activities as:

- A. Planting new mission congregations
- B. Partnering with mission societies and RSOs
- C. Assisting local congregations and RSOs to call missionary personnel
- D. Calling and deploying missionary personnel to specific mission fields
- E. Multiplying, equipping (through appropriate agencies), certifying and placing lay missionary personnel
- F. Providing support for existing urban, ethnic and transcultural ministries, and church planting
- G. Continual environmental scanning (demographics) and interpretation of the Michigan mission harvest field
- H. Encouraging every district congregation to be mission minded and culturally relevant so as to honor Christ and reach the lost.
- I. Encouraging and assisting congregations to support and be involved in the world mission efforts of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Mission Services Department

The Mission Services Department is primarily responsible for the first of the Four Major Outcomes of the Michigan District. Outcome 1 is “Outreach Mindset”. To accomplish this outcome, the Mission Services Department is focused on several key areas:

- New Mission Starts
- Specialized Ministries
- Evangelism/Apologetics
- Alternate Paths to Ordination
- World Missions



The Michigan District wants all congregations to be sensitive to those without Christ, within their communities and beyond, and actively share Christ’s love with them.

The Mission Services Department takes this seriously as it works to equip and enable people to give a clear forthright witness of their faith, and establish new missions where believers can plant their feet while they reach out with Christ’s love to non-believers in their communities.

New Missions

Under the Gospel Imperative of the Great Commission, a focus of the Mission Services Department has been on Intentional Mission Development, and exciting things are happening.

A new congregation, referred to as a New Church Start or Mission, is: 1) an intentionally organized gathering which; 2) comes together on a regular basis for worship and/or Bible study, and; 3) is intended to grow into a member LCMS congregation.

The following are steps taken to develop a new mission:

1. Identify cities and communities where a new mission would bring new people into the kingdom.
2. Contact Circuit(s) and discuss the need for a mission in those communities.
3. Receive Circuit approval for the formation of a mission.
4. Identify the appropriate method for starting a mission:
 - a.) District calls and deploys a Missionary-at-large

- b.) Local congregation starts a daughter congregation
- c.) District partners with a Mission Society such as POBLO, Lutheran City Ministries, Ephphatha, LATINO, etc.

Every year the goal is to establish at least two new mission starts in the Michigan District, and God has been faithful. Since the 2006 Convention, seven new mission endeavors have celebrated their first worship service, and twelve others are in the process of being established.

New Missions Established

- Byron Center, Journey of Faith* – Rev. Robert Barber (2006)
- New Baltimore, Living Hope of the Bay* – Rev. Paul Werner (2006)
- Lansing, Trinity Sudanese – Missionary Jacob Okwir/Rev. Richard Laeder (2007)
- Marine City, Living Faith – Rev. Scott Roberts (2007)
- Romulus, Tabernacle of Praise – Rev. Bertram Lewis (2007)
- Eaton Rapids, Open Arms – Deacon Gordon Phillips/Rev. Timothy Olson (2008)
- Lansing, Rehoboth – Rev. Mitiku Zeleke/Rev. Richard Laeder (2008)

*denotes they have become a Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

New Missions in Process

- Detroit (2008)
- Dundee (2008)
- Harper Woods (2008)
- Pontiac, St. Paul Community – Missionary Dietrick Gladden (2008)
- Capitol, Okemos/Mason (2009)
- Detroit, Family of God – Rev. James Hill (2009)
- Flint/Holly (2009)
- Grass Lake (2009)
- New Buffalo (2009)
- Novi (2009)
- Trenton (2009)
- Ypsilanti Township (2009)



Since the 2006 Convention, the Michigan District has called Rev. Bertram Lewis as a Missionary Pastor to be instrumental in the development of our new mission in Romulus. Calls were also extended to two men to lead the mission endeavor in Detroit, but both calls were declined. The District is still seeking a Mission Planter for this site.

The District continues to study every circuit in the State of Michigan for emerging opportunities in mission planting. Within the next three years, the Michigan District looks to call or partner with congregations to plant six or more new missions in specific communities in the state. We seek your help and partnership in this endeavor in identifying possible sites for new mission starts.

Conversion and new member statistics still show that starting new mission congregations is one of the most effective methods for accomplishing the work of the Lord’s Great Commission. As America grows numerically, may our passion and desire grow as well for those who do not know Christ as Savior, for it is our God’s desire that all may be saved and come to the knowledge of His Son, the Savior of the world.

District Subsidy

The Michigan District is pleased to be able to financially assist new missions and specialized ministries, that they may have the means to accomplish the work of reaching out to the unchurched, building relationships in their communities, and more. Subsidies are made possible through the generous offerings of the congregations of the Michigan District who support the work of the District and the church-at-large.

In this 2009 year, through the budget of the Mission Services Department, the Michigan District will subsidize our existing missions financially with \$672,800.00. The Department has also allocated nearly \$500,000 towards new mission planting. The total 2009 mission budget to assist and facilitate the work of the Great Commission in mission planting is over \$1,000,000. Thanks and praise to God for the congregations of the Michigan District and their gifts of prayer and financial support for the Lord's work in His harvest field; Matthew 9:25-28.

The following have benefitted from District Subsidy in the past three years.

New Missions/Congregations:

Alpine Township, Family of Christ
Belleville, Open Arms
Byron Center, Journey of Faith
Dearborn Heights, First Arabic
Detroit, Family of God
Eastpointe, St. Thomas (Harper Woods Mission)
Eaton Rapids, Open Arms
Harbor Springs, Shepherd in the Pines
Howell, Heart of Shepherd
Imlay City, Family of Christ
Lansing, Living Word
Lansing, Rehoboth
Lansing, Trinity Sudanese
Marine City, Living Faith
New Baltimore, Living Hope of the Bay
Newberry, Trinity
Pentwater, Lighthouse
Pontiac, St. Paul Community
Romulus, Tabernacle of Praise
Troy, All Nations
Troy, Faith Tamil
Whitmore Lake, Living Water



Ministries:

Battle Creek, St. Paul (Battle Creek Mission)
Detroit, West Bethlehem/Bread of Life
Grand Rapids, International Lutheran Church
Kentwood, St. Mark Sudanese Ministry
Lansing, Our Savior Hmong Ministry
Richville, St. Michael Hmong Ministry
Stevensville, Christ (Benton Harbor Lutheran Outreach Ministry)
Michigan District Deaf Ministry

Mission Organizations:

Great Lakes Urban Ministry (a ministry of LCMS World Mission)
LATINO Mission Society
Lutheran City Ministries

Urban & Ethnic Ministries

Ethnic Ministry:

Detroit, Bread of Life (Hispanic)
Farmington Hills, Prince of Peace (ESL)
Lansing, Our Savior (Hmong)
Richville, St. Michael (Hmong)
Walled Lake, St. Matthew (ESL/Japanese)

The Michigan District is thankful to the Lord of the Church for the opportunity to “disciple the nations” among a variety of ethnic groups in the state of Michigan. Many of our congregations are blessed with people from different ethnic groups worshipping as baptized members of the Kingdom. The District is intentionally serving many ethnic groups as part of our mission endeavor to disciple the nations. There are over eight specific ethnic groups served and supported by the District and our mission societies in becoming member congregations of the LCMS. The District is seeking partnerships with local congregations and mission societies to reach and disciple new ethnic immigrants. One such group is 20,000 plus Bengalis living in the Hamtramck and Detroit communities.

Urban Ministry:

Battle Creek, St. Paul – Battle Creek Mission
Stevensville, Christ – Benton Harbor Lutheran Outreach Ministry

As ministry continues to develop in challenging and changing urban/metro communities, the District seeks to support our urban ministries through resources and development to help them meet the needs of the people to whom they minister. One way of accomplishing this is through a partnership with the Joint Urban Ministry Project (formerly the Great Lakes Urban Ministry), an Ablaze! effort developed by LCMS World Mission. The goal of the Joint Urban Ministry Project is to revitalize existing urban ministries, start new missions in urban areas, and to provide assistance to those who work in the urban mission field.

What a great joy it is for the Michigan District and its congregations to serve our Lord in such a variety of ways. Surely God’s call is for us to serve all people, wherever and whatever area of life we find them. Jesus served people from all walks of life and we seek to follow in His example. Praise and thanks to God for congregations and their desire to fulfill the great commission in loving and serving others through Specialized Ministries.

World Missions

Though not as easy to see and be a part of, work to advance the Kingdom of God continues to go on beyond our shores. Primarily through the use of *Michigan in Touch* and the District’s website, the Mission Services Department shares with constituents the work done overseas by missionaries from our District. The work is varied, from being a West Africa Area Facilitator for LCMS World Mission to a Communication Specialist in Panama, yet each missionary has been placed by God to reach out those who don’t know Him. The Mission Services Department holds all missionaries in prayer that God would provide for and encourage them as they go about the important task of sharing the Gospel.

Rev. David and Joyce Erber – Nigeria
West Africa Area Facilitator for LCMS World Mission
Home Congregation: Trinity, Jackson

Rev. Matthew Heise – Russia
Theological Educator
Home Congregation: Guardian, Dearborn

Paul and Rosangela Lantz – Brazil
Seminary Student at Seminario Concordia in Porto Alegre, Brazil
Home Congregation: Faith, Troy

Nora Léon – Haiti
President, Caribbean Children’s Foundation
Home Congregation: Holy Cross, Jenison

James and Christel Neuendorf – Panama
Communication Specialists for Latin America
Home Congregation: St. Paul, Ann Arbor



Amanda Runey – Southeast Asia
Volunteer English Teacher
Home Congregation: St. John, Rochester

James Rush – Southeast Asia
Volunteer English Teacher
Home Congregation: Peace, Flint

Rev. Wade and Lynn Seaver – Germany
Assistant Pastor for Missionary Service
Home Congregation: Grace, Auburn

Ministry Core Value #2

Networking Congregations

The Michigan District values collaborative, interdependent and coaching relationships. Such networking provides a positive pathway to expansion of congregational mission and ministry. To this end, vital linkages between congregations shall be established, providing a forum for such mutually beneficial functions as:

- A. Effective community outreach
- B. Diffusion of innovation
- C. Access to resources
- D. Process consulting, planning and decision making
- E. Healthy congregational systems
- F. Congregational self-study, evaluation and planning
- G. Affirmation of congregational uniqueness
- H. Pastoral, staff and lay leadership development

Ablaze! Report

During the last triennium the Michigan District has continued its involvement in the Synodical *Ablaze!* movement. The goals of *Ablaze!* are that by 2017, the 500th Anniversary of the 95 Theses, our church body will have

- Shared the Gospel with 100,000,000 people
- Started 2,000 new congregations
- Revitalized 2,000 existing congregations.



A total of 102 congregations from the Michigan District have registered as *Ablaze!* partners and reported 11,914 Gospel contacts as of February, 2009. Five new congregations have been planted. Four congregations have gotten involved in revitalization .

Numerous workshops and presentations have been conducted to stimulate involvement in the *Ablaze!* movement. The workshops have accented how congregations can organize to count/report Gospel contacts and how individuals can get more “fired-up” through spiritual disciplines. Specifically people have been encouraged to:

- Read through the Bible annually
- Spend half an hour a day in prayer
- Commit to tithing
- Intentionally build relationships with at least four unbelievers
- Find six others to make the same commitment

Congregations throughout the District have also been involved with *Ablaze!* by taking advantage of programmatic materials available through the LCMS *Ablaze!* web site.

Two *Ablaze!* Torch Relays have been held. The Relays included 19 evangelism rallies, over 150 runners and a total of 2,500 participants. In 2007 the *Ablaze!* Torch Relay traveled from Hell to Paradise. The 2008 event traveled from Coast to Coast, the Detroit River to Lake Michigan. The Relays provided multiple opportunities for the sharing of the Gospel. Over \$70,000 was raised to support the event, church planting and church worker training in coordination with the 125th District thank offering, The Future is Now.

The 2009 *Ablaze!* Torch Relay: For the Heart of Michigan is planned to conclude at the District Convention and have over 3,000 people involved.

Rev. David Davis, Pastor of St. Luke, Haslett, serves as the *Ablaze!* Coordinator. Rev. Roosevelt Gray coordinates church planting, and Rev. Galan Walther coordinates the revitalization of congregations.

Committee on Mental Illness

The mission of the Michigan District Continuing Committee on Mental Illness is to support pastors and congregations in ministering to members who have mental illness and their families, involving them as much as possible in the life and work of the congregation. The Committee has operated since 1992 and is the only District sponsored group in Synod dealing with the needs of members who are mentally ill and their families. Synod's Human Care Department looks to this committee for leadership in this area. The Committee meets twice a year at the Michigan District Office for planning, budget review and reports from members of the committee as well as communication and updates from the Lutheran Network on Mental Illness/Brain Disorders. The Committee has collected, authored and distributed information on serious mental illness at District Conventions, Pastors Conferences and Synodical Conventions. The Rev. Barton Gray is currently serving as Chairperson and Laura, his wife, as corresponding secretary and Linda LaTulip as recording secretary.



At the 2006 District Convention a manual for pastors and congregations in working with people who are mentally ill was made available. It was also placed on the Convention CD which went to all congregations. Currently being revised and updated it will continue to be available for ministering to the mentally ill. A Recognized Service Organization in another District has requested permission to use it. Copies are available at the Committee booth during the convention or through Christian Care at the District Office.

During the past triennium the October/November issue of Michigan In Touch issue was devoted to the subject of ministering to those who are mentally ill. Articles were chiefly written by members of the committee. It proved to be a popular issue and the articles are still available on the District website www.michigandistrict.org/m3d.html.

Several regional workshops were held to aid the committee in fulfilling its mission of supporting pastors and congregations in this ministry. The DVD based workshop "You Are Not Alone" is especially helpful in providing accurate information about mental illness and connecting people to help. Referrals for information for sponsoring workshops can be obtained through contacting Rev. Barton Gray, 989.356.6920 or bcargray@charter.net or

Rev. Warren Paulson, District staff person responsible for Christian Care, 888.225.2111, extension 204 or warren.paulson@michigandistrict.org.

People from outside our church have consulted with Rev. Paulson based on mental illness information on the District web page and other publicity. Family members who have phoned seeking help have been referred to local agencies which could assist them.

The Committee encourages Pastors to:

- Pray for all people affected by mental illness during October (Mental Illness Awareness Month)
- Become familiar with the resources of Pathways to Promise, (www.pathways2promise.org) and support its outreach to clergy.
- Acknowledge as a treatable brain disorder and give people permission to seek appropriate medical help.
- Refer people to NAMI (www.NAMI.org) and competent medical care.

As Lutherans, our Faith in our Savior Jesus Christ

- Does not depend on how we feel, but on what the Word of God says and the Means of Grace do (forgive and save us).
- Helps us to understand that mental illness is not divine punishment for sin or a lack of faith or the result of poor parenting.
- Empowers us to reach out to people who need our help. Our God promises us he will bless that work. In fact He has already prepared it for us to do (Ephesians 2:10).

Communications



The Communications Office of the District continues to provide information to all of our congregations, professional church workers, and laity. The weekly E-bulletin is emailed to all of our congregations, 1,660 professional church workers, and over 100 laity. It contains timely announcements of prayer concerns, District/RSO/Congregational ministries, and News and Events. A bi-monthly magazine, Michigan In Touch, is the official publication of the Michigan District and works to network congregational ministry. The magazine's feature articles focus on ministry within congregations, District, and Synod. An extensive website links professional church workers and congregations to resources, events, ministries, and directories of the Michigan District and beyond.

The Communications Office continues to assist other departments of the District as well as committees and task forces with their publicity strategies, design, printing, and distribution needs for events, seminars, workshops, and conferences.

Because of the rapid pace of technology innovation and emerging ministry challenges, the District's Communications has undergone an extensive evaluation of its procedures and policies as it continues to seek out the best ways of sharing information with congregations and professional church workers. Changes have taken and will take place with prayerful consideration and with the aid of reports, surveys, and expert advice from those in the communications and public relations field. The Communication Office's foundational efforts are towards the ultimate goal of extending the Kingdom of God through its congregations and church workers and sharing the Good News of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord.

District Departments

The District staff works together as a team to address District ministries and achieve the Board of Directors' Outcomes. The team structure is divided into three departments in addition to the Office of the President.

By definition, the President is responsible for all activities of the staff, but certain things are appropriately handled only by the President. The Office of the President holds primary responsibility for items including:

- Ecclesiastical Supervision
- Synod Roster Processing - Ordained Workers
- Synod Relations

District Staff assigned to the Office of the President are:

- C. William Hoesman, President
- Harry Henneman, Assistant to the President
- Peter Larsen, Assistant to the President
- Julie Strobl, Executive Assistant
- Dawn Marone, Administrative Assistant

The Mission Services Department is primarily responsible for the first of the Four Major Outcomes of the Michigan District. Outcome #1 is *Outreach Mindset*. In accomplishing this outcome, the focus is:

- New Mission Starts
- Specialized Ministries
- Evangelism and Apologetics
- Alternate Paths to Ordination
- World Missions

District Staff assigned to the Mission Services Department are:

- Roosevelt Gray, Director of Mission Services
- Allison Wolf, Administrative Assistant



Thomas Dunseth, Missionary-at-Large - Deaf
Teresita Rodriguez, Missionary-at-Large – Hispanic
Bertram Lewis, Missionary-at-Large - Romulus
David Davis, District *Ablaze!* Coordinator

The Member Services Department is responsible for coordinating services to the members of the District which includes congregations and professional church workers. They are primarily responsible for the other three outcomes. Included in its focus are:

- Outcome 2 – *Professional Church Workers*
 - Training and Recruitment – Student Aid
 - Synod Roster processing – Commissioned Workers
 - District database (DERIC)
 - Continuing Education and Church Worker Conferences
 - Worker Care – Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support
- Outcome 3 - *Relationship Building*
 - General Relationship Building
 - Congregation and PCW Ethics
- Outcome 4 - *Resourced Congregations*
 - Call Lists – Commissioned Workers
 - Congregation Ministry Facilitators
 - Family Life
 - School Ministry – Superintendent of Schools
 - Stewardship
 - Standing Committee on Mental Illness
 - Parish Nurse Council
 - Intentional Interim Ministry
 - District Library
 - Christian Care – Chaplaincy, Disaster Response

District Staff assigned to the Member Services Department are:

Richard Wolfram – Director of Member Services / Congregation Ministry Facilitator / Stewardship
Jennifer Rumberger – Assistant to Member Services / Student Aid
Galan Walther – Congregation Ministry Facilitator / Family Life
Gary Bender – Congregation Ministry Facilitator
Allison Wolf – Administrative Assistant / District Library
Bruce Braun – Superintendent of Schools
Mark Thompson-Kolar – Administrative Assistant
Mary Wagoner – Administrative Assistant
Warren Paulson – Executive Chaplain / Intentional Interim Ministry / Deacons
Julie Nielsen – Chaplain – U of M

The General Services Department, while not primarily responsible for any of the outcomes, supports the outcomes and the other Departments through:

Convention Administration
Fiscal Office and Human Resources
Communications and Public Relations
Information Systems
Risk Management and Legal
Development
Property Management
District Archives

District Staff assigned to the General Services Department are:

Chad Woltemath, Vice-President of Finance / Director of General Services

Donna Conrad, Assistant to the Vice-President of Finance
Ray Zavada, Vice-President of Development
Jenna Szpara, Administrative Assistant to the Vice-President of Development
Wendy Eason, Events Coordinator
Debby Fall, Communications Director
Linda Ekong, Art Director / Webmaster
Chad Moyer, Facilities

The District Ministry Cabinet, composed of the President and the Director of each department, meets monthly to coordinate the mission and ministry of the District. The departments meet as needed, while the District and Church Extension Fund Executive Staff meet monthly for staff in-service and Bible study. In addition, the entire District Staff meets quarterly for updates and department reports.

Lending Library

The 4th Outcome of the Michigan District states that “congregations recognize, use and share innovative, effective resources the Spirit grants to His church for service to Christ and to people.”

One such resource is the Michigan District Lending Library including religious books and videos on a wide range of topics such as: Assimilation, Church Health, Witnessing, Stewardship, Interim Ministry, and Community Outreach to name a few. The library also has Bible study and youth materials, resources on marriage, parenting, careers, and more.

Since the start of 2009, the District’s library has been undergoing reorganization. New cataloging software allows the library to be searchable through the District website. Now, anyone can browse what is in the library inventory, and easily email a request to check out materials.

The library is constantly changing as new materials are acquired and older resources are being updated. What will not change is the District’s desire to provide congregations with the best resources to help them do ministry. The Michigan District looks forward to resourcing congregations through the Lending Library for years to come.

Lutheran Witness

The Lutheran Witness is the official periodical of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Published 11 times a year, it provides Missouri Synod church workers and laypeople with stories and information that complement congregational life, foster personal growth in faith, and help interpret the contemporary world from a Lutheran Christian perspective.

The Lutheran Witness is an important tool for congregations and their members and supports the Michigan District's fourth desired outcome; Resourced Congregations. The District recognizes the wonderful publication The Lutheran Witness is and encourages all congregations to offer subscriptions to their members.

Features of The Lutheran Witness include:

- Stories on current events or society trends and how they affect the church.
- Doctrinal, theological, and confessional stories.
- "How-to" stories on ways Christians can serve Christ or articles highlighting the Christian's walk with God.
- Bible studies involving reader participation...and so much more!

Unfortunately, in recent years, it seems fewer people are requesting subscriptions to this publication. Subscriptions have steadily declined at an average of 230 subscriptions each year. Coming into 2009, however, the most dramatic change was seen. As of February 2009, our District's order was down almost 1,400 subscriptions over the previous year. The reasons for this are unknown, though the current economic situation is certainly playing a factor. Fewer churches are ordering bulk subscriptions for their members. The age of our District's membership also plays a part. Younger members are less likely to order a subscription to something they can read online, and The Lutheran Witness is available online at www.lcms.org/pages/witness.asp.

The Lutheran Witness is a wonderful resource and a voice for the Gospel in each home. The District's prayer is that congregations can continue to recognize the value of this publication, and share it with their members for years to come.

Note: We thank God for Mrs. Barbara Prough who was coordinator of The Lutheran Witness subscriptions for the Michigan District for nearly 30 years. After retiring in October 2008, Barbara looked forward to spending more time with her children and grandchildren. But, unexpectedly, God called Barbara home on January 29, 2009. Though we mourn her passing, we rejoice with the fellowship of believers that she has been made new in Christ. And together we say, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Michigan District Archive

Barbara Laughlin Adler, LTD, PhD
LCMS Michigan District Archivist

Kathleen Anne Graham, BS-Library Science
LCMS Michigan District Assistant Archivist

Archival Mission Statement

Our archival mission is to collect, preserve, and make available institutional records about the history, administration, congregations and people of the Michigan District, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. 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 & Michigan in Touch, photographs, and files on significant events in Michigan congregations.

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. In 2006, the district 125th anniversary committee found material in the archive useful in planning the festivities for the 125th Anniversary Convention.

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 <http://chi.lcms.org>.
- 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 and encouraged. Access is possible by contacting the district archivist, Barbara Laughlin Adler; she can assist congregations in preparing to celebrate a major anniversary, or in finding information on Michigan district history.

A booklet of guidelines for congregational archivists is available on request; we ask that each congregation designate an archivist/historian who will be responsible for maintaining the proper environment for congregational records. See the return form at the end of this report.

Report on Improvements

Below are some of the goals for 2007-2009, and their current status:

1. Congregational records processed in order to transfer them to The Concordia Historical Institute in St. Louis, where they can be preserved in an ideal environment. The official acts books from St. Johannes Lutheran, now disbanded, were transferred in 2007. CHI's website allows access to Michigan records in their holdings. Go to chi.lcms.org for the website.
2. We continue to make progress creating a more "user-friendly" space for researchers who might visit the archive. During the past two years, additional shelving and cabinet space was cleared.
3. Weekly phone or email inquiries are handled. Most are interested in obtaining baptismal or graduation information.
4. A major goal was the re-organization of district records and the "winnowing" of unnecessary collections; great progress has been made.
5. Since the 2006 report, assistant archivist Mrs. Graham, has continued to improve the look and orderliness of the archive room and its collections. She has organized, labeled, and cleaned out many files and boxes of previously unidentified and un-cataloged materials. She has secured a longer life for many documents by replacing old folders and boxes with acid-free containers. Listed here are a few of the more significant improvements:
 - Books and periodical collections have been sorted and indexed
 - Files and periodicals have been inventoried, labeled more clearly, and transferred to acid-free folders and boxes

- Excel spreadsheets have been created to catalog and manage the inventories of our archival materials.
- Duplicate materials have been discarded, creating much needed space.
- Michigan records included in a collection from Pastor Alfred J. Freitaq (California), were acquired from a Southwest District transferal in 2008.
- Michigan's "Deaf Lutheran" periodicals were inventoried and organized on shelf space.
- Staff development has centered on participation in archive workshops and conferences. Barbara Adler attended the CHI Archival Conference in St. Louis, October 2007. Both staff members plan to attend the Midwest Archive Conference in St. Louis in May 2009.

Affiliations

The district archive is affiliated with The Concordia Historical Institute, which holds a biennial Conference on Archive and History. This conference is designed especially for district and LWML archivists, but congregational archivists and historians would certainly benefit from attending. Individuals and congregations are encouraged to become supporting members of CHI. They may subscribe to CHI Quarterly which publishes a broad assortment of articles dealing with Lutheranism in America.

We are also affiliated with and maintain files for each congregation of the district. A brochure titled A Handbook for Church Archivists is available to congregations. The brochure offers helpful tips to congregational archivists who are charged with collecting and maintaining church records. A copy of the brochure may be obtained by sending an email to adlerb@cuaa.edu and asking for the handbook.

Congregations are strongly encouraged to submit to the district archive the following types of materials: congregational histories, special installations, dedications, anniversary booklets, worship folders, 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 in care of the archive, to the district office.

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.
Your Congregational Archive

- We strongly 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 resources.

Please complete and submit contact information (either by post or email) to help us establish this listing:

Name and Community of your Congregation:

Your Congregational Archivist/Historian:

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Email address:

Return to: Barbara Laughlin Adler, Archivist
Michigan District-LCMS
4090 Geddes Road
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105
734.995.7402

Or email: adlerb@cuaa.edu

Parish Nursing/Health Ministry

Parish Nursing/Health Ministry is committed to promoting and supporting physical, emotional, and mental health and well-being, 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 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, WI
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: Mary Ann Stockwell
Faith Community Nurse Coordinator
Email: stockwem@trinity-health.org
Phone 586.263.2117
- Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, MI
Contact: Carol Vos
Faith Community Nursing Program Coordinator
Email: cmvos@svsu.edu
Phone 989.964.2759
Website svsu.edu/nursing/parishnursing
- Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI
Contact: Bethany Gordon
Instructor
Email: bg22@calvin.edu
Phone 616.633.5006



Resources:

- Parish Nurse Newsletter
This is a quarterly publication created by LCMS World Relief and Human Care. To receive the e-newsletter visit www.lcms.org/enews. Enter your address, password, and then select “caring for others” folder to find the Parish Nurse Newsletter.

- Websites:
 - International Parish nurse Resource Center, St. Louis, MO www.parishnurses.org
 - LCMS Congregational Health Ministry/Parish Nursing www.lcms.org tab to World Relief and Human Care

- Resource books:
 - Faith Community Nursing, Scope and Standards of Practice
American Nurses Association, 800.274.4262
 - “The Essential Parish Nurse” by Deborah Patterson. ISBN 0-8298-1571-6. Excellent for beginning parish nurse.
 - “Nursing in the church” Judith Shelly. ISBN 0-9723123-0-7.
 - Meetings:
 - LCMS Thumb Region Parish Nurse Group-Meets fall and spring. Speak and time for sharing. For more information contact Judy Eick at eick@stpaul-lapeer.org or Connie Reinert at creinert@chartermi.net.
 - Yearly December Gathering of Parish Nurses and Chaplains with professional presentation. Information in District E-bulletin.

- District Contacts:
 - Catherine Lick, Parish Nurse
Michigan District Synodical Parish Nurse Representative
Faith Lutheran Church, Troy, MI
click@faithtroy.org or 248.689.4713 ext 217

 - Mary Lou Temple, Parish Nurse
Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Bloomfield Hills, MI
MItemple7@yahoo.com or 248.626.4076

 - Amy Poindexter, Parish Nurse
Zion Lutheran Church, Holland, MI
nurseamyp@juno.com

 - Judy Eick, Parish Nurse
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lapeer, MI
eick@stpaul-lapeer.org or 810.664.6653

Unity Ministry

In 2007, the District launched a new ministry entitled UNITY: A Ministry of Mediation. Its purpose was to aid congregations and church workers in dispute who have been unable to reach solutions on their own.



Mediation employs one of two processes depending on the need.

One process deals with dispute involving two or three clearly defined disputants. These might be two workers, a worker and a board, two boards, or the like. The other process is employed when the dispute is congregation wide and involves many issues. The goals of both processes are to come to an Agreement that defines how ministry will be conducted in the future and to heal relationships as much as possible. The emphasis is strongly on the future and is action oriented.

Unity employs co-mediators. Dr. Peter Larsen is the Director and is involved in all mediations. His partner is Brian Young, retired Lutheran principal from Immanuel, Bay City if the dispute involves a church with a school and Bill Young, a retired Lutheran banker if the congregation does not have a school.

As of the spring of 2009, six mediations have involved two party mediation and five have been all congregation mediations.

For more information, a brochure is available on the District website under "Ministries". You can also contact Pastor Larsen directly at 734.660.3595.

Ministry Core Value #3

Providing and Supporting Professional Church Workers

The Michigan District values assisting congregations and professional church workers and to this end will provide quality staff support services such as:

- A. Coaching for staff configuration and/or expansion
- B. Development of relevant and appropriate ministry descriptions
- C. Assisting congregations to identify staff candidates
- D. Church worker support, health and encouragement
- E. Assisting in the management of conflict

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 serving as Director of Pastoral Care at the institutions where they are serving, with endorsement and ecclesiastical supervision through the District.

We have a goal of one new chaplaincy each triennium. Although during the past three years we lost one chaplaincy we gained three new ones surpassing our goal. The new ones are John Schinkel at Monroe Lutheran Home, Jeffrey Wollberg at the VA Medical Center in Battle Creek, and David McNeil, Oncology Chaplain at St. Joseph Medical Center in Ypsilanti. He is at one of only four centers in the United States with oncology chaplain programs. As such he ministers to both in and out patients, their families and staff. This chaplaincy initially was made possible through a special grant from the Leona M. Geyer Trust and Christ Our King congregation of Saline, and this year a domestic grant of Synod's Human Care Department.

A grant through the 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. Interested persons should contact Executive Chaplain Warren Paulson.

Chaplains currently serving are:

- Gerald Grimm, Project Compassion Ministries, Detroit and other areas
 - Joel Kaiser, Lutheran Home, Frankenmuth
 - Michael Martin, moved to overseeing chaplaincy in the Michigan Department of Corrections, Lansing
 - 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 Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids to area medical and correctional facilities.

Providing disaster, Civil Air Patrol, FBI, police or fire chaplaincies are Roger Stauffer, Steve Eggers, Carl Bassett, Pete Nichol, Paul Theiss, Michael Wentzel and Deacon Bill Storm. In addition individuals from other congregations are providing volunteer jail and prison ministries.

Emeriti chaplains, are Edward Einem, Dwain Gade, Carl DeMeritt, Donald Neiswender, Ray Thomas, and David Voorhees.

Warren Paulson, Emeritus, serves part time as District Executive Chaplain with Christian Care responsibilities, as well as Deacon and Intentional Interim Ministries.

Commission on Deacon Qualification

The Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ) functions under the direct supervision of the District President. The mission of the CDQ is to “recommend candidates for the Office of the Ministry to the District President, who then issues a license so that those candidates might serve a congregation.” To fulfill this mission, the CDQ conducts the following activities.

For a man to become a candidate for the Office of Deacon, he must be appropriately equipped. To this end, the CDQ established the Deacon Training and Paraprofessional Program. The program is designed to offer thirteen seminars (courses), each requiring a minimum of 24 contact hours with the instructor as well as homework and/or fieldwork, and when the candidate completes all the work required, he receives a “pass.” These seminars are presented at two levels. The first level is for “deacon students,” and they study Old Testament, New Testament, Doctrine I, Doctrine II, and Office of the Deacon. The second level is for “deacon interns,” and because of seminar requirement of practical experience, are often mentored. These seminars are: Care-giving, Leadership Skills, Lutheran History and Polity, Marketing, Teaching the Faith, Worship, Greek, and Homiletics. The main instructors are: the Rev. Dr. Robert J. Schultz, Dr. Ron Jahnke, and Dr. Jim Boldt. Presently about 75 men are in the training program.

Note that seven of the courses may be used to prepare for the Pastor Specific Ministry Program.

It should be further noted that this program will also train those who want serve in the church as paraprofessionals but not as deacons. The courses are open to everyone who desires to take them.

When a man has completed his education toward becoming a deacon he presents his “ministry description” and the CDQ interviews him. The CDQ then recommends him for the Office of Deacon. Unless unusual circumstances apply, the District President grants him the license after his commencement from the program. He must have a situation in which to serve and a supervising pastor to provide oversight and guidance. The 26 deacons of the district are presently serving in small rural churches, as church planters, in ethnic ministries, as assistants to pastors, and in inner city ministries.

To support deacons in their ministry, the CDQ offers a yearly conference for encouragement and spiritual growth. Supervising pastors and deacons further have a yearly conference to strengthen their team ministry. The CDQ members - Rev. Dr. Robert J. Schultz, Dr. Ron Jahnke, Dr. Jim Boldt, Rev. Ted Beiderwieden, Deacon Bill Storm, Ms. Chris Brown, Rev. Warren Paulson and liaison district secretary Dawn Marone - are honored to serve God in this way.

Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support

The mission of the Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support is to enrich the whole person health (emotional, spiritual, physical, financial and relational) of Professional Church Workers through promotion, education, referral assistance and advocacy. Our on-going efforts include sponsoring of Health Advocates and conducting pre-seminary interviews. New and current projects of the Commission include:

- Conducting a Family Life Survey of all Professional Church Workers and their spouses in an effort to make future plans for the Commission based on their needs.
- Hosting Retirement planning workshops for both Commissioned and Ordained workers.
- Continuing work on a program to help with the needs of Veterans of the Cross.
- Collaborating with Grace Place Lutheran Retreats to help raise funds to support wholistic health retreats in Michigan as well as encouraging our workers to participate in the retreats.
- Providing counselor resources and counseling for Professional Church Workers through the District website.
- Working with District staff to produce Sabbatical Guidelines that are posted on the District website.
- Securing a grant to fund a program “First Manage Yourself Well” - a wellness conference series for church workers and spouses to implement good spiritual and physical health for all workers in their ministry.

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 good-bye to a pastor who no longer serves the congregation, leaving 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 counselor coordinates ministry, the congregational ministry 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.

Forty five 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. 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 in St. Louis 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 University, Ann Arbor. 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. Warren Paulson, Michigan District Director of Intentional Interim Ministry, is recognized in our Synod and beyond for his experience and special training in this area. Retired pastors and principals, or 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. Paulson at the District Office. Congregations which 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 or warren.paulson@michigandistrict.org.

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),
- 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 Member Services 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 www.michigandistrict.org under Resources.

Thanks to the 125th Anniversary Thank Offering, The Future is Now, the amount of aid distributed to all students has dramatically increased. The amount of aid approximately doubled from the 2007-2008 school year to the 2008-2009 school year.

Student Aid Distribution

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Seminary Students	\$1,025	\$1,100	\$2,100
CUAA	\$750	\$800	\$1,680
9 CUS Schools	\$550	\$600	\$1,260

Students Receiving Aid

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Seminary Students	77	69	60
CUAA	58	60	48
9 CUS Schools	70	53	31
Total Students	205	182	139

Ministry Core Value #4

Support for Families

The Michigan District values ministry to Christian and non-Christian families, recognizing that the family is the central unit of Christian nurture. The District will provide resources to congregations designed to establish, support and strengthen the family in Christ and will facilitate events to complement the role of families.

Family Life

Most would say that ministry to families is important. It's hard not to say that about something so fundamental. And, when you consider the current statistics, demographics, trends and circumstances, it becomes abundantly clear that families – husbands and wives, parents and children, younger and older, single and divorced, widow and widower – need ministry more than ever. Strengthening the Christian family according to God's design in Holy Scripture continues to be a significant challenge in ministry. Gathering Christian 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 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 Ministry Facilitators as they have worked with their assigned congregations. In addition, several task forces, standing committees and volunteers at events, involving over 100 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 family ministry 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 initial *Family Friendly Partners Network* process was completed and the second training is currently underway. The *Special Friends Camp* was offered annually for mentally impaired youth and adults, as well as the first *Special Friends Winter Weekend*. 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.

In the area of **Children's Ministry**, print and web-based *resources*, as well as *workshops*, for those involved in children's ministry were provided to the congregations of the District. In addition, five trained *Children's Ministry Consultants* are 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. The triennial *Senior High Youth Gathering* at Mackinac Island provided the opportunity for youth in grades 9-12 to grow in and live their faith. A *workshop* for youth workers was held at Loon Lake Lutheran Retreat Center in Hale, and training opportunities were included at the Junior and Senior High Gatherings. Coordinated and encouraged Michigan District congregations participating in "C+H+O+S+E+N," the *LCMS National Youth Gathering* in Orlando, Florida. Four youth and adults received peer ministry training at the annual Council of Lutheran Youth Fellowship Representatives, and they in turn



trained the District *Lutheran Youth Fellowship* board, who are available to lead peer ministry youth events in congregations or circuits.

In the area of **Adult Ministry**, the triennial *Lutheran Adult Gathering* on Mackinac Island provided opportunities for fellowship and growth.

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 and opportunities for celebrating support for families, through...

- ... The on-going service of Congregation Ministry Facilitators.
- ... Print and audio-visual resources available through the Michigan District library.
- ... Resources and links on the Michigan District web site.
- ... 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.
- ... "We Believe" LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- ... "Serving in His Presence" Lutheran Adult Gathering, on Mackinac Island.
- ... District Junior High and Senior High Youth Gatherings.

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. 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 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 saints, to grasp how wide 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)

Ministry Core Value #5

Lutheran Schools, Preschools, and Child Care Centers

The Michigan District values the discipling of children through Lutheran schools and preschool/child care centers in the spiritual formation and local mission outreach. To this end, such educational agencies will be supported through quality support services which include such activities as:

- A. Professional growth through in-service workshops and conferences
- B. Accreditation and State certification
- C. Encouragement and on-site support visits
- D. Conflict intervention
- E. Liaison with State and/or private educational agencies

Lutheran Schools. Preschools and Child Care Centers

“And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?”
Esther 4:14

Lutheran Education in the Michigan District is often centered on answering critical questions. The question posed in Esther came at a critical time in the life of the God’s chosen people. Esther was chosen by God to lead during this critical time. Michigan is currently facing challenging times that refocus us on the need for Christian Education. An education that teaches about grace, forgiveness and hope on certain things not rooted in the economy but instead in fulfilled lives as God’s people. An education that desires us to teach and practice scriptural stewardship that differentiates between the “abundant life” and living excessively in 2009. Our schools are ministries of congregations that focus on daily sharing Christ with children from a variety of faith backgrounds. (51% non-Lutheran, 17% unchurched.) This congregational ministry was blessed by the Holy Spirit to include 351 new members baptized or confirmed in 2007/08 and 233 school children baptized during the same period.



Lutheran Schools in Service

The girls from Lutheran Westland captured second place in the Class “D” 2008 MHSAA State Tournament. More importantly these girls, and students in other Lutheran Schools, impacted their community through acts of Christian service. Saginaw Valley Lutheran students and students from the surrounding Lutheran Community packed rice bags for world relief. Students from LHNW in Rochester loaded box cars for Lutheran World Relief. Lutheran grade schools support food banks, crisis pregnancy centers and raised over \$56,000 for an orphanage in Manila.

Lutheran Schools of Excellence

Lutheran Schools have a two-fold mission to educate not only the heart but also the head. Many Lutheran schools are well known for promoting and nurturing students who desire to reach their God-given potential. St. John’s Lutheran School in Rochester won the State of Michigan 2008 “Future City Competition” under coach Jon Pfund. Christ Stevensville sent 7th grader Lauren LaBaumbard to Washington D.C. to compete in the national Spelling Bee. St. Michael in Wayne has maintained an amazing string of victories in their local “Bible Quiz League” competition. Lutheran educators like Mark Koschmann, St. John Midland, have been recognized for excellence in teaching science. Bev Feldkamp (pictured to the right) was chosen for the National Council of Geographic Education’s annual High School Distinguished Teacher award. Dr. John Brandt, Executive Director of Valley Lutheran, was awarded the Christus Magister Award, LEA’S highest recognition, in 2008.





Lutheran Schools Support Families

Judy Williams, Director of Children's Ministry at Trinity Lutheran in Clinton Township, is the Chairperson of the Early Childhood Cabinet. The cabinet tries to emphasize the mission of the congregation in assisting parents in the spiritual development of young children. The cabinet believes our purpose is explained in the following section from a book by George Barna. Barna states: "A series of studies we conducted regarding the age at which people accept Christ as their Savior highlights the importance of having people invite Jesus into their hearts as their Savior when they are young. We discovered the probability of someone embracing Jesus as his or her Savior was 32% for those between the ages of 5-12; 4% for those between 13-18 and 6% for people 19 or older." Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions by George Barna, Published by Regal Books, page 34.

Statistics

Currently there are 19,163 students in Lutheran classrooms in Michigan. 1,718 students are in eight Lutheran high schools in Michigan communities. 10,013 students attend K-8 classes in 87 schools in the Lower Peninsula and 7432 students are in day care or early childhood facilities operated in 155 different congregations in Michigan. Over 1,311 adults assist families through Lutheran Schools. Lutheran High School North with 628 students is the largest school ministry in Michigan, and Immanuel Bridgman is the most family-like, with 18 students.



Summary

Our Lutheran Schools face many challenges like all educational institutions in our state. In these times we continue to thank God for the people and congregations who daily pray for and financially support the different levels of Lutheran Education in Michigan. In 2006 a task force from Notre Dame University was studying the future of Catholic Education and posed this question: "Will it be said of our generation that we presided over the demise of Catholic schools?" As we focus on answering that question from a Lutheran perspective your prayers are coveted and your support encouraged. The opportunity to market Lutheran Education is no longer just the principals job. Every member has the wonderful opportunity to share the importance of this ministry with those we contact daily. Your prayers and encouragement for more voices telling families about Lutheran Schools "Sharing Christ" are invited.

Ministry Core Value #6

Locally Supported Ministry to Special Fields

The Michigan District values ministry into special mission fields through congregational and cluster-based outreach. In addition to calling and deploying mission developers for specific and appropriate mission fields, the Michigan District will provide appropriate resources and funding support as local congregations and ministry agencies sponsor such ministries and call ministry staff.

Christian Care

There are many facets to Christian Care as shown in reports on Parish Nurses/Health Ministers and Mental Illness. In addition Synod's Lutheran World Relief and Human Care Department makes available to congregations and groups Domestic Grants for serving communities in their area. Information on Domestic Grants and application forms may be obtained on Synod's web site under Human Care/Ministry Areas/Grants. A number of ministries within the Michigan District have obtained beneficial grants through this program during this triennium and previous ones.

Christian Care Sunday

The Ministries of Recognized Service Organizations of Synod in the Michigan District who are providing compassionate physical and spiritual care to people with special needs will be appropriately celebrated as Christian Care Sunday on or around October 18, St. Luke Sunday.

Please set aside the date for celebration in your congregation. Pastors will be available to preach or teach, as well as others to speak on special topics to Bible classes or particular groups within the congregation, or to give minute man talks at the beginning or end of the services. These service organizations will freely provide the service to heighten awareness of the many and new facets of their ministries, encourage volunteer involvement and seek prayer support.

Brochures and special prayers will be made available on the Michigan District web site, as well as by mail.



The Service Organizations involved in Michigan are Lutheran Child and Family Service (LCFS), Lutheran Homes of Michigan (LHM), Project Compassion Ministries (PCM) and Project Compassion Inc (PCI). A key verse for the celebration is "My children, let us not love with word or tongue, but in deed and truth," I John 3:18

District Disaster Response

One of the outcomes of our District Katrina response effort was the development of a District Disaster Response Team. This team is responsible for establishing a general District Disaster Response plan and also to resource congregations / schools as they establish their own plans. Over the last year, this team has worked on the general guidelines and will present them to the Convention Floor. The guidelines will be available on the District website and will be updated as needed.

Specialized Ministries

Many congregations throughout the Michigan District have ongoing specialized outreach efforts. Some of those efforts are directed toward individuals with specific needs, toward college campuses, or toward various ethnic groups. In addition to the formation of a New Mission, existing congregations may expand their mission outreach by establishing a Satellite Worship Site; a place where worship is held other than the main campus of the congregation.



The Mission Services Department has established six categories for the Specialized Ministries within the District: Blind, Campus, Deaf, Ethnic, Urban, and Satellite Site ministries.

The following are the locations where these various ministries are happening, and a note about the importance of each one in advancing the Kingdom of God.

Congregation Satellite Sites:

Ann Arbor, St. Paul Lutheran School (Satellite of St. Paul, Ann Arbor)
Whitmore Lake, Living Water (Satellite of St. Luke, Ann Arbor)
Wixom, St. Matthew (Satellite of St. Matthew, Walled Lake)
Ypsilanti, Cross and Resurrection (Satellite of St. Luke, Ann Arbor)

Though established and supported by the local congregation, Satellite Sites can and have received subsidy from the District to help with staffing, salary, or operating expenses.

Blind Ministry:

Detroit, Berea – Christian Visually Impaired Outreach Center
Flint, Our Savior – Show Me the Way Outreach Ministry
Grand Rapids, Redeemer – Kent County Lutheran Center for the Blind
Lansing, Good Shepherd – Good Shepherd Lutheran Outreach Center for the Blind
Midland, Our Savior – Our Savior Lutheran Church Blind and Low-Vision Outreach

In partnership with Lutheran Blind Ministry, the District supports the ministry among the blind and visually impaired through prayer and financial support for the local congregations. Bob Mates is the contact person in the Michigan District for the work among the blind and visually impaired.

Campus Ministry:

Ann Arbor, St. Luke - University Lutheran Chapel, University of Michigan
Big Rapids, St. Peter - Video Café, Ferris State University
Kalamazoo, Zion - Solid Ground Student Ministries, Western Michigan University
Mount Pleasant, Zion - Christ the King Lutheran Chapel, Central Michigan University

Campus Ministry in the Michigan District is facilitated in partnership with local District congregations where campus ministry is taking place. The District supports campus ministry through prayer, financial assistance, and by maintaining our campus facilities in partnership with the ministry site and partner congregations.

Deaf Ministry:

Birmingham, Our Savior	Marshall, Zion
Birmingham, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	Paw Paw, Trinity
Coldwater, St. Paul	Rochester Hills, Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word
Detroit, Resurrection	Royal Oak, St. Paul
East Lansing, Ascension	Saginaw, Peace
Flint, Christ the King	Traverse City, Trinity
Flint, St. Paul	Utica, Trinity

Deaf Ministry in the Michigan District is served by the District's called Missionary-at-Large, Pastor Thomas Dunseth. Pastor Dunseth serves as pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf and also as the deaf ministry facilitator for congregations and circuits. He is available for consultation, leadership development and assisting district congregations to launch local ministries to the deaf. The District is also blessed to be able to partner with Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society to reach out to the deaf and hearing impaired within our state.

Ministry Core Value #7

Financial Development for Congregations, District, and Synodical Ministries

Recognizing that congregational, District, and Synodical ministries will benefit from all legitimate sources of funding support, the Michigan District values financial development through such God-honoring strategies as:

- A. Utilizing the Michigan District development officer(s)
- B. Establishing ministry endowments/foundations
- C. Maintaining fiscal Integrity
- D. Maximizing the use of resources
- E. Determining the spending plan of the District based on Board of Directors' Outcomes

Board of Directors

May the Lord be praised for the blessings poured out upon the Michigan District during these past three years. The Board is thankful for the opportunity to serve the District and convey our appreciation through this report to the 99th Convention of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. The Policy Based System of Governance has served the District very well. Working with the servant leadership of our District President and the excellent staff has been a joy. Even during these challenging times in Michigan, the work of our Lord continues to be evident in the congregations of the District.

The Board met faithfully five times each calendar year in the past triennium. The Board at each meeting: 1) Heard a report on the state of the District and Synod from the President; 2) Took care of the routine matters of the District in its Consent Agenda; 3) Worked on establishing, reviewing, and interpreting the plans of our District in its Governance Agenda; 4) Monitored the work of the District staff including reviewing all of the policy manual components; 5) Annually reviewed all parts of the Policies on Self Governance; 6) Accepted reports from the Treasurer, Vice President of Development, Secretary, Circuit Counselor Chairman, Church Extension Fund Board, and other active committees of the Board; 7) Heard a major presentation at each meeting on a “Big Issue” affecting our District; 8) Received monthly financial reports and yearly audit reports; 9) Planned for the 2009 District Convention and; 10) Worked on any other business brought before the Board.

Here are a few of the general topics the Board has been involved with during the past triennium:

1. We rejoice in the addition of Mr. Ray Zavada to the Michigan District staff in 2007. He serves as Vice President of Development and works closely with the 125th Anniversary Thank Offering *The Future is Now*, which is currently in its congregational phase in partnership with Synod's National Campaign, *Fan into Flame*.
2. The Board established the minimum base salary for new educators graduating in 2009 to be set at \$26,500 plus benefits. The beginning pastoral candidate salary to be set at \$37,000 plus benefits and an adequate automobile allowance.
3. Approval was given to the new “Welcome to the Michigan District” booklet to be shared with new workers to the District. It was also suggested and approved to expand the use of the booklet for use at conferences, workshops, etc. to introduce District services.
4. Three new District Reconcilers, Pastor Terry Hoese, Mr. Duane Nagel, and Mr. Duane Renken, were appointed.
5. Rev. Robert Greene, member of the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synodical Structure and Governance made a presentation to the Board in October 2008.
6. Five Overtures were prepared for presentation to the 2009 District Convention:
 - a. To Implement Changes to Future Michigan District Conventions
 - b. To Revise District Convention Nomination and Election Procedures
 - c. To use “Partners in Ministry: Ethical Conduct for Congregations and Professional Church Workers”
 - d. To Encourage Participation in National Lutheran School Accreditation
 - e. To Affirm Mission through Lutheran Schools

The Board of Directors continues to operate under four Major Outcomes. Listed here are key items of interest under each area:

I. OUTREACH MINDSET

- A. Two new mission starts, Living Faith, Marine City and Tabernacle of Praise, Romulus, began holding weekly services.
- B. Four new mission sites have been targeted. They are Detroit, Dundee, Trenton, and Grass Lake.
- C. A grant was provided to LATINO Mission Society to purchase the Bethlehem (West), Detroit building to expand ministry to the Detroit Hispanic population.
- D. The University Lutheran Chapel in Ann Arbor was refurbished and a new coffee house (The Common Cup) established for ministry.
- E. St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Big Rapids received funding to provide a video café worship setting as an outreach to Ferris State University.
- F. The number of children baptized after contact with Lutheran Schools increased from 141 in the 2005/06 school year to 193 in the 2006/07 school year.
- G. Witnessing workshops were held at five congregations across Michigan in conjunction with Lutheran Hour Ministries in 2007.
- H. The Board of Directors called Rev. Bertram Lewis to serve as Missionary-at-Large in the Romulus area.

II. PROFESSIONAL CHURCH WORKERS

- A. Church Worker Recruitment Sunday resources shared with congregations.
- B. 125th Anniversary Thank Offering has allowed financial support for future Professional Church Workers to double through the Student Aid.
- C. A new District Ministry, Unity in Mediation, has been developed to provide mediation counsel and support to church workers and congregations struggling through conflict.
- D. Partners in Ministry: Ethical Conduct for Congregations and Professional Church Workers has been reviewed and will be presented to the 2009 District Convention for approval.
- E. The District Salary Guidelines have been posted on the Michigan District website for congregations to use and study.
- F. Congregations were encouraged to recognize and express appreciation for the ministries of pastors and other professional church workers.
- G. The All Professional Church Worker's Conference was held in Grand Rapids, Michigan in September of 2007 and attended by over 1,100 Professional Church Workers.
- H. A directory of counselors available to Professional Church Workers is listed on the District website.

III. RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

- A. Two *Ablaze!* Torch Relays have been held across Michigan with over 1,000 people participating each year. A third *Ablaze!* Torch Relay will be held June 2009 ending on the first day of the 2009 District Convention.
- B. In support of national church ministry, a larger percentage (50.5%) of congregation remittances were sent to the National Synod beginning in 2008.
- C. The District provides opportunities for District and Synod ministries to interact with the constituency of the District through exhibition space at conferences and conventions.
- D. The District has also created a more intentional presence at area conferences by setting up a booth to relate the ministry of the District.

IV. RESOURCED CONGREGATIONS

- A. Six congregations attended Board Training Workshops in 2008.
- B. Cooperative Purchasing Agreements have been developed to save congregation's financial resources.
- C. Quarterly gatherings for strengthening/equipping/resourcing those serving in family ministry positions have been held in partnership with Concordia University, Family Connections.
- D. The Stewardship program "Faith Aflame 360 Degrees" has been presented to many congregations through workshops.

- E. Congregation Ministry Facilitators send quarterly emails to congregations with suggested ministry resources.
- F. Support and resources are provided to pastors to help in ministering to the mentally ill by the Committee on Mental Health.
- G. A resource entitled Call Committee Helps was distributed to congregations and call committees as needed.
- H. A District sponsored workshop for those congregations using policy-based governance was presented.
- I. Four Children's Ministry consultants were identified, recruited, and trained in June 2007.
- J. At the Snowtire Conference in 2007, prayer partners were developed between Michigan Lutheran Schools to connect principals to each other and focus prayers for success in ministry.
- K. The Lutheran School Portal is regularly updated by the District.
- L. A unified Michigan Lutheran School Curriculum in core subjects was developed and distributed at the Annual Principals' Conference in 2007.

Church Extension Fund

The Church Extension Fund in the Michigan District continues its 109 year tradition of supporting congregations as they build and expand facilities, hence, enlarging ministry. The downturn in the Michigan economy has impacted the demand for (multi) million dollar loans. New loan disbursements have declined over the past three years:

2006 = \$22.1 (million) 2007 = \$16.5 2008 = \$13.3

However, churches still have a need to borrow funds for the maintenance of their facilities, i.e. boilers, parking lots, roofs, etc. And, there are new missions to start and fund!

While the national markets experienced unprecedented financial turmoil in 2008, and continue to do so in 2009, the Church Extension Fund in the Michigan District finished the fiscal year on a solid financial footing. We continue to be well positioned to serve the future needs of borrowers, and measured by a strong capital ratio and reserve ratio thereby also assuring investors of CEF's stability.



Capital Ratio: Financial institutions, such as banks and credit unions, operate with capital ratios in a 8 – 10% range, widely accepted by industry standards. CEF net assets (or equity) at year end stood at \$40.8 million, divided by total assets of \$260.2 million, reveals a healthy capital ratio of 15.68%.

Reserve Ratio: Cash reserves on 12/31/08 were at \$58 million, representing 22% of \$260.2 million in total assets. Such reserve levels are more than adequate to fund future borrower requirements and can handle any unusual investor activity for the redemption of their investment(s).

Decrease in Net Assets: For the year ending 2008, CEF posted a net asset decrease of \$123,651 as compared to an increase in net assets in prior years. Although we would have preferred to show a gain, we are satisfied with our bottom line results considering the rocky times nearly every organization experienced in 2008. The decrease in net assets was the result of an unrealized loss on investments of \$2.7 million for the year. However, the unrealized loss on investments measured against the total investment portfolio represented less than a 5% reduction in value. CEF, by policy, invests the general portion of reserves in only fixed securities which did, indeed, protect the Fund from what could have been significant losses in value in the last quarter of 2008.

Total Assets: Year end 2008 total assets stood at \$260.2 million versus \$260.7 million at year end 2007. Given the current economic climate, we are pleased to report that while CEF did not grow in terms of total assets in 2008, we did not lose any ground either and are thankful to God for His continued blessing!

The financial strength and stability of the Fund gives evidence of (i) our ability to serve the borrowing needs of the congregations and (ii) promotes confidence for the investor who partners by pooling a portion of their invested dollars for the growth of congregations all across the Michigan District.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Total Deposits & Investments	\$ 58,057,844	\$ 57,550,076	\$ 55,589,801
Net Loans Receivable	\$193,938,211	\$195,913,745	\$193,493,905
Advance Mission Sites Owned	\$ 6,206,228	\$ 5,601,228	\$ 6,046,531
Total Assets	\$260,155,917	\$260,740,015	\$256,836,126
Total (Investor) Notes Payable	\$219,258,793	\$219,652,039	\$217,457,784
Debt	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Net Assets (Equity)	\$ 40,796,355	\$ 40,920,006	\$ 39,191,305

Development

Since the announcement of the 125th Anniversary Thank Offering *The Future is Now* at the 2006 Michigan District Convention, significant progress has been made towards accomplishing campaign objectives. Many individuals and congregations have accepted the challenge placed before them and have contributed faithfully and generously to help advance the campaign toward its desired outcomes.

With 1 Timothy 6:19 establishing the scriptural foundation of *The Future is Now*, numerous volunteers have accepted the invitation to help share the purposes of the campaign with individual members and entire congregations. In the campaign theme verse, we read, "In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life." These campaign volunteers, both pastors and lay leaders, have given greatly of their time, talents, and resources. They have helped countless others understand that the future of our Church rests with our ability today to build upon the foundation of our Church that was built by those who came before us.

To help strengthen the foundation of our Church for future generations, two objectives of the campaign were initially established. The first objective is to raise \$5 million for the purpose of planting new mission congregations within the Michigan District. The second objective, also with a goal of \$5 million, is to increase scholarship support for Michigan District students who are studying to be professional church workers through the Concordia University System or our two Seminaries. These two objectives remained the focus of the campaign through its initial stages.

In January 2009, a third campaign objective was added. After several months of planning, *The Future is Now* entered into a partnership with *Fan into Flame*, and in doing so, added international ministries as a third campaign objective. We recognize that our responsibility to share the Gospel does not stop at the borders of the Michigan District. A financial goal of \$3 million has been set for the international ministries objective, which raises the total campaign goal to \$13 million.



The campaign progressed through a "quiet phase" in last half of 2007 and in 2008. In 2009 the campaign entered its congregational phase with the initial months of 2009 being utilized as preparation months to train and equip circuit coordinators, pastors, and lay leaders to communicate the processes of the congregational phase to the congregations of the Michigan District. It is our hope and prayer that each congregation of the Michigan District will participate by setting a financial goal and accomplishing it within a five year period. Congregations are asked to determine their goal during the 2009 calendar year (preferably by Advent) and then meet their commitment over the next five years, reaching goal achievement by the conclusion of 2014.

As *The Future is Now* campaign enters your congregation, the Michigan District respectfully asks for your faithful and generous participation by being an encouragement to the campaign through your prayer, by being a positive voice for the campaign through your communications with others, and by being a supporter of the campaign through your personal and congregational financial gifts.

We ask these things in grateful thanksgiving for the blessings our merciful and loving God has given to each of us. Our responsibility to the Great Commission is a GREAT responsibility. Through our partnership much can be accomplished for the sake of the Kingdom as we collectively work to build upon the foundation of our Church that was built by our forefathers. May God grant this for His sake.

The following provides a summary of the objectives of *The Future is Now*:

I. Intentional Mission Development - \$5,000,000 Goal

- Two to three New Mission Starts will be planted each year over the next five years, including one Urban Mission Start. Future plants being considered are Detroit, Eaton Rapids, Grass Lake,

Dundee, Fowlerville/Webberville, Holly, Madison Heights, Marysville, Novi, Okemos/Mason, Ypsilanti Township, and others.

- Target Communities with 60% or higher unchurched populations. Approximately six million people are unchurched in Michigan. Some counties are over 70% unchurched, and one is over 80%.
- The District supports new missions for 5-7 years with financial support totaling \$250,000 to \$500,000 or more for each mission start.
- \$1 million will be endowed for future years.
- Today, about 45 congregations exist that were planted since 1985.

II. Professional Church Work Students - \$5,000,000 Goal

- The goal of this initiative of the Thank Offering is to increase the level of scholarships given to Michigan District students studying at a Concordia University System (CUS) school or one of our two Seminaries to become church workers.
- We have an “aging workforce” in the District. We need to encourage more young men and women to consider a career in church work. Increasing aid will open doors for more students to consider this path.

The following chart shows the percentage of active ordained and commissioned workers per age bracket:

	< 30 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-65 years
Ordained	5%	9%	21%	56%
Commissioned	10%	15%	27%	46%

(We do not have on record the birth year of the other 9% of our ordained workers. The other 2% of commissioned workers are over the age of 65.)

The following is a breakdown of student aid distributed over the past 3 years. The Thank Offering will allow these amounts to continue to increase.

Seminary Students:	\$1,025	\$1,100	\$2,100
Concordia University Ann Arbor Students	\$750	\$800	\$1,680
Other CUS School Students	\$550	\$600	\$1,260

- A successful Thank Offering will allow the awards to average \$3,500 by 2015.
- \$2 million will be endowed for future PCW scholarships.

III. International Ministries - \$3,000,000 Goal

- 4.5 billion people in the world are unchurched (out of 6.5 billion)
- 66 out of 237 nations place significant restrictions on religious practice
- 1.2 billion Christians (60%) are nominal or non-practicing
- 72 million person population increase in the U.S. between 1970 and 2000.
- During the same time, LCMS membership decreased by 350,000.

Last year, in partnership with Concordia University Ann Arbor, we hosted An Evening of Laughter with Ken Davis, a fundraising event for the campaign. This year, we are hosting LOL - Laughing Out Loud with Taylor Mason. Funds raised from both events will be credited towards the mission planting and student scholarship initiatives of the campaign. As mentioned in the Ablaze report, funds raised through the past two torch relays and this year’s torch relay will also go towards *The Future is Now*. Through these events, and the generosity of church groups, VBS children, congregations, RSOs, and many individuals a firm foundation has been laid for a successful campaign.

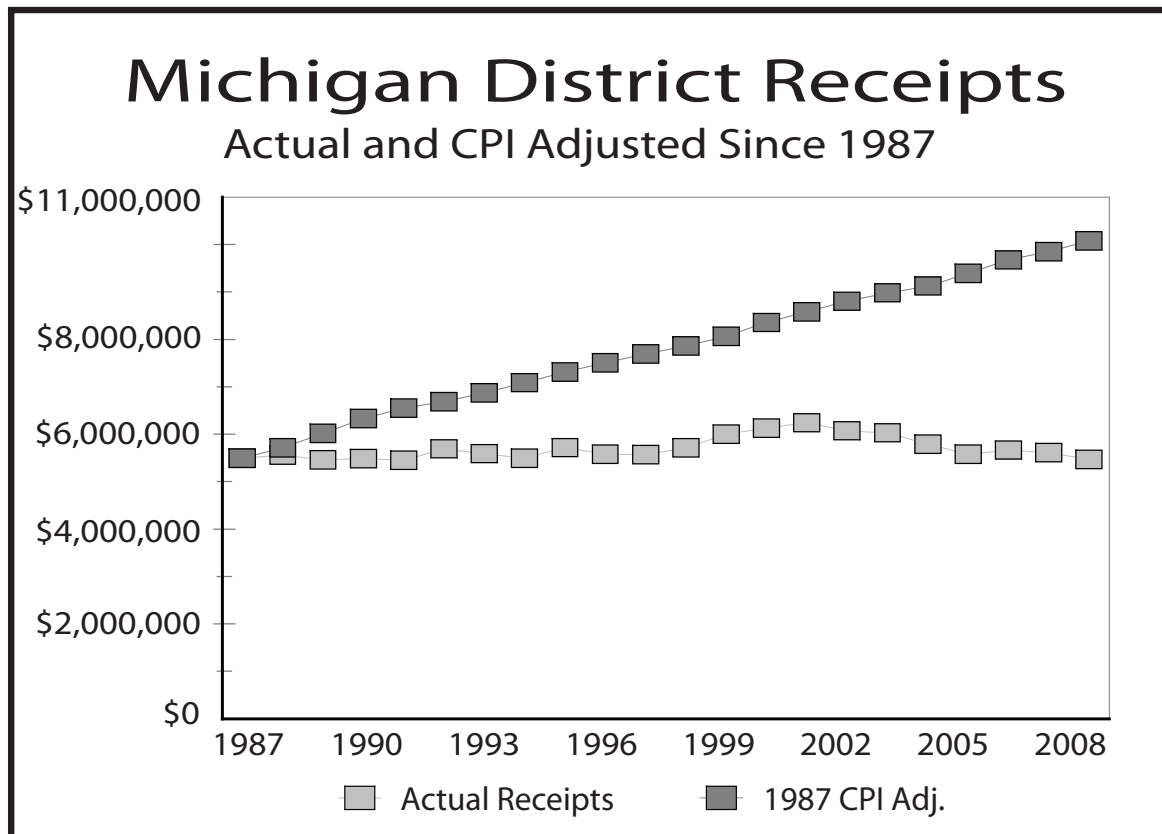
Financial/Congregation Contributions

Regular congregation unrestricted remittances to the Michigan District (including those designated for District use only) were \$5,673,211 in 2008 (fiscal year ending 1/31/09), \$171,264 down from the prior year. Congregation unrestricted remittances peaked at \$6.4 million in 2001. Congregation intentions for 2009 remain quite strong despite the current economic conditions in Michigan. Congregations also provide various other restricted support to the District, such as support for specific new church plants and contributions to the District's 125th Anniversary Thank Offering.

The Michigan District remitted 50% of the regular contributions from congregations (excluding those designated for District use only) to national Synod since 1999. In 2008, it increased that percentage to 50.5% in response to the decreasing national Synod budget.

From a historical perspective, congregation remittances have returned to the levels of giving in the late 1980s. Since 1987, the Consumer Price Index has risen 83%, cutting the purchasing power of the dollars remitted nearly in half. That equates to a shortfall of approximately \$4,600,000 in today's dollars which is not available from Michigan District congregations for Synodical and District Mission and Ministry. The accompanying chart compares the actual congregational remittances for national and District ministries compared to the 1987 receipts adjusted by the Consumer Price Index.

The District recognizes that congregations fund a number of mission and ministry opportunities in their own communities and worldwide, including direct funding of various Synodical ministries such as the seminaries, Concordia Universities, and World Missions. The District is thankful for the continued ministry it is able to do on behalf of the congregations of the District with the funds that are provided through the unrestricted District/Synod gift.



Michigan District LCMS
Unrestricted Cash Received From Congregations

ID	City, Congregation	2007 Confirmed Membership*	Unrestricted Cash Contributions*			2008 Giving Per Confirmed
			2006	2007	2008	
Circuit 1 - Mackinaw Straits						
500101	Cheboygan, St. John	247	600.00	267.00	735.00	2.98
500102	DeTour Village, Redeemer	18	0.00	1,250.00	0.00	0.00
500103	Drummond Island, Drummond Island	98	2,500.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	30.61
500104	Engadine, Bethlehem	135	3,879.60	4,773.91	6,060.60	44.89
500105	Germfask, Grace	89	4,043.22	4,449.08	4,211.76	47.32
500106	Hawks, Faith	143	2,213.00	5,445.00	5,040.00	35.24
500107	Kincheloe, St. Paul	34	1,300.00	1,200.00	1,300.00	38.24
500108	Rogers City, Immanuel	197	9,738.00	8,504.00	8,333.00	42.30
500109	Newberry, Trinity	51	560.00	550.00	600.00	11.76
500110	Onaway, Holy Cross	171	1,020.00	1,035.00	1,225.00	7.16
500111	Rogers City, Peace	343	7,736.85	7,516.23	7,370.68	21.49
500112	Rogers City, St. John	542	10,784.50	9,368.00	10,013.50	18.48
500113	Rogers City, St. Michael	268	5,725.00	5,394.19	5,739.45	21.42
500114	Sault Ste. Marie, Saint Barnabas	43	4,432.00	2,814.00	4,357.00	101.33
500115	Paradise, Paradise	16	764.00	883.00	794.00	49.63
500116	Trout Lake, Trout Lake	Mission	0.00	0.00	746.50	
Circuit 2 - Alpena						
500201	Alpena, Immanuel	1281	30,333.00	25,667.00	28,000.00	21.86
500202	Harrisville, Faith	26	1,369.02	1,582.17	730.99	28.12
500203	Hubbard Lake, St. Paul	291	14,600.00	14,520.00	15,675.00	53.87
500204	Hillman, St. John	400	12,000.00	12,000.00	11,000.00	27.50
500205	Lewiston, Bethlehem	335	16,442.00	15,072.00	15,698.58	46.86
500206	Ossineke, Good Shepherd	85	4,103.00	3,983.00	3,607.00	42.44
500207	Posen, St. Paul	29	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	41.38
500209	Mio, Living Water	48	682.65	449.00	588.50	12.26
Circuit 3 - Timberline						
500301	Au Gres, St. John	233	458.52	8,938.15	7,147.02	30.67
500302	Glennie, Our Savior	26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
500303	Hale, St. Paul	346	9,700.00	7,200.00	7,200.00	20.81
500304	Oscoda, Trinity	338	17,666.00	13,475.60	17,460.80	51.66
500305	Prescott, Faith	347	7,500.00	15,000.00	18,750.00	54.03
500306	Standish, Bethlehem	236	5,441.00	2,698.00	3,841.00	16.28
500307	Tawas City, Zion	387	5,600.00	5,900.00	5,500.00	14.21
500308	Whittemore, Good News Ministries	136	3,977.63	3,087.30	2,875.55	21.14
Circuit 4 - Gladwin						
500401	Clare, Prince Of Peace	187	3,667.00	120.00	0.00	0.00
500402	Gladwin, Our Savior	528	17,391.99	19,313.32	14,981.39	28.37
500403	Harrison, St. Luke	230	5,275.00	5,600.00	5,200.00	22.61
500404	Houghton Lake, St. John	467	7,200.00	7,200.00	7,900.00	16.92
500405	St. Helen, Hope	157	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,100.00	7.01
500406	West Branch, St. John	224	5,000.04	5,000.00	2,166.68	9.67
Circuit 5 - Midland						
500501	Alma, Peace	137	900.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
500502	Auburn, Grace	493	36,668.56	29,943.76	36,128.88	73.28
500503	Auburn, Zion	1144	58,027.27	66,567.28	65,729.67	57.46
500504	Midland, Messiah	1337	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	7.48
500505	Midland, Our Savior	129	5,040.00	4,720.00	5,643.00	43.74
500506	Midland, St. John's	1270	42,856.00	68,864.49	61,917.59	48.75
500507	Mount Pleasant, Zion	430	4,999.92	4,999.92	4,999.92	11.63
500509	Sanford, St. Paul	421	500.00	800.00	1,300.00	3.09
500510	Wheeler, Immanuel	440	14,106.86	11,817.89	13,470.39	30.61
500511	Midland, Lord Of New Life	52	900.00	800.00	800.00	15.38
Circuit 6 - Bay City						
500601	Bay City, Faith	1000	52,930.00	52,763.00	42,990.00	42.99
500602	Bay City, Immanuel	1767	0.00	10,000.30	10,000.00	5.66
500603	Bay City, St. John	691	14,705.10	16,672.50	9,000.00	13.02
500604	Bay City, Trinity	658	15,505.00	21,105.50	19,846.20	30.16
500605	Bay City, Zion	1520	57,016.45	52,490.67	56,020.44	36.86
500606	Essexville, Pilgrim	512	6,500.00	5,700.00	2,400.00	4.69
500607	Bay City, St. Paul	822	52,341.51	43,290.81	43,199.93	52.55
500608	Pinconning, St. John	378	21,800.00	21,070.00	15,000.00	39.68
Circuit 7 - Thumb East						
500701	Bad Axe, Our Savior	620	13,000.00	1,700.00	7,334.00	11.83
500702	Kinde, St. Peter	139	6,572.43	6,715.85	6,461.19	46.48
500703	Minden City, Trinity	234	5,368.00	4,001.00	4,587.50	19.60
500704	Harbor Beach, Zion	411	18,386.12	13,530.40	12,330.00	30.00
500705	Palms, St. John	173	3,560.00	3,900.00	1,410.00	8.15
500706	Port Hope, St. John	611	6,838.02	8,204.00	10,713.00	17.53
500707	Port Sanilac, St. John	172	6,007.55	2,728.00	3,775.00	21.95
500708	Sandusky, Peace	260	500.00	500.00	500.00	1.92
500709	Marlette, Our Savior	326	12,700.00	12,141.68	5,500.00	16.87

Michigan District LCMS
Unrestricted Cash Received From Congregations

ID	City, Congregation	2007 Confirmed Membership*	Unrestricted Cash Contributions*			2008 Giving Per Confirmed
			2006	2007	2008	
Circuit 8 - Thumb West						
500801	Sebewaing, St. Peter	122	6,603.00	6,163.00	6,182.87	50.68
500802	Caseville, Good Shepherd	155	3,030.00	3,000.00	2,750.00	17.74
500803	Cass City, Good Shepherd	397	18,075.00	18,063.44	19,215.00	48.40
500805	Sebewaing, St. John	240	5,277.25	2,872.00	3,193.00	13.30
500806	Pigeon, St. Paul	360	4,949.00	4,577.00	5,169.00	14.36
500807	Sebewaing, Immanuel	936	65,571.68	66,420.14	63,457.46	67.80
500808	Unionville, St. Paul	482	34,478.72	24,982.62	19,298.68	40.04
500809	Fairgrove, Grace	267	7,890.47	7,723.80	4,800.00	17.98
Circuit 9 - Frankenmuth						
500901	Caro, St. Paul	628	34,092.62	25,096.79	39,566.05	63.00
500903	Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz	3809	408,083.32	451,096.05	376,731.83	98.91
500904	Millington, St. Paul	1459	36,438.85	32,931.54	34,647.88	23.75
500905	Munger, Trinity-St. James	539	5,021.00	5,632.74	5,000.00	9.28
500906	Reese, Trinity	873	26,533.12	26,740.50	23,184.00	26.56
500907	Richville, St. Michael's	1276	72,299.24	74,437.68	68,110.38	53.38
500908	Saginaw, Immanuel	566	27,115.89	23,126.64	21,739.55	38.41
Circuit 10 - Saginaw						
501001	Bridgeport, Faith	558	33,872.01	33,970.04	25,032.76	44.86
501002	Hemlock, St. Peter	1151	32,398.87	25,585.13	38,680.48	33.61
501003	Hemlock, Zion	417	27,990.95	22,199.83	23,563.31	56.51
501004	Owosso, St. Philip	114	1,400.00	1,403.33	1,445.00	12.68
501005	Saginaw, Bethlehem	1245	44,819.96	45,514.24	45,612.72	36.64
501006	Saginaw, Good Shepherd	810	12,000.00	12,000.00	14,400.00	17.78
501007	Saginaw, Messiah	175	500.00	500.00	500.00	2.86
501008	Saginaw, Peace	1614	107,601.00	123,143.48	139,303.21	86.31
501009	Saginaw, Holy Cross	563	22,306.42	6,760.16	1,851.54	3.29
501010	Saginaw, Redeemer	163	7,661.77	6,068.68	1,726.16	10.59
501011	Saint Charles, Nativity	70	6,435.00	7,607.16	7,017.42	100.25
501012	Saginaw, St. Mark	378	16,333.27	12,999.96	18,000.00	47.62
Circuit 11 - Flint North						
501101	Birch Run, Christ	373	12,591.37	12,703.67	9,611.98	25.77
501102	Birch Run, St. Martin	554	34,435.21	29,812.13	7,065.02	12.75
501103	Clio, Messiah	1280	60,100.00	30,900.00	23,700.00	18.52
501104	Flint, Christ The King	13	100.00	1,525.00	1,335.00	102.69
501105	Flint, United in Christ	202	6,270.79	6,500.01	6,499.93	32.18
501106	Flint, Our Savior	189	6,750.00	5,250.00	6,000.00	31.75
501108	Flint, St. Paul	958	24,400.00	37,400.00	20,400.00	21.29
501109	Flushing, Holy Cross	466	3,895.80	13,223.13	1,000.00	2.15
Circuit 12 - Flint South						
501201	Burton, Pilgrim	183	1,640.00	880.00	1,391.00	7.60
501202	Fenton, Trinity	630	21,015.37	14,751.87	15,429.00	24.49
501203	Flint, Peace	188	13,516.38	13,059.99	8,486.00	45.14
501204	Flint, Redeemer	160	4,950.00	5,400.00	5,400.00	33.75
501205	Goodrich, Christ	238	10,266.65	8,949.94	5,326.39	22.38
501206	Grand Blanc, Faith	1512	83,124.96	83,124.96	83,125.00	54.98
501208	Linden, Hope	399	2,100.00	9,736.00	6,791.00	17.02
501209	Ortonville, Prince Of Peace	78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
501210	Swartz Creek, Newlife Community	313	15,910.82	10,183.81	7,662.12	24.48
Circuit 13 - Lapeer						
501301	Davison, Trinity	834	11,851.55	5,000.00	5,661.43	6.79
501302	Dryden, Holy Redeemer	385	15,373.80	15,250.35	14,384.34	37.36
501303	Flint, Calvary	108	3,705.52	2,779.37	2,615.29	24.22
501304	Flint, St. Mark	733	20,817.00	29,183.00	20,477.00	27.94
501305	Lapeer, St. Paul	1156	30,000.00	24,500.00	20,500.00	17.73
501307	North Branch, New Life In Christ	76	2,440.00	1,270.00	455.00	5.99
501308	Otisville, St. Timothy	287	26,452.00	24,118.50	20,915.00	72.87
Circuit 14 - Port Huron						
501401	Algonac, First Evangelical	101	4,400.00	4,400.00	3,700.00	36.63
501402	Armada, Our Saviour	287	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
501403	Fair Haven, St. Peter	144	415.00	320.00	1,400.62	9.73
501404	Goodells, Hope	21	900.00	0.00	450.00	21.43
501405	Lexington, St. Matthew	524	2,791.66	999.97	1,500.00	2.86
501406	Port Huron, Faith	522	28,395.00	23,199.69	23,255.62	44.55
501407	Port Huron, Trinity	919	20,000.00	20,207.00	20,300.00	22.09
501408	Richmond, St. Peter's	1111	10,363.75	20,161.64	21,293.52	19.17
501409	St. Clair, Immanuel	1113	33,657.80	29,348.96	28,407.39	25.52
501410	Memphis, St. Andrew	157	9,163.56	4,471.31	1,142.51	7.28
511411	Marine City, Living Faith	Mission	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	
501412	Chesterfield, Living Hope of the Bay		0.00	5,990.00	4,875.00	
Circuit 15 - Macomb North						
501501	Clinton Township, St. Luke	1039	2,175.90	3,493.91	3,586.74	3.45
501502	Clinton Township, Trinity	2067	60,500.00	60,000.00	67,384.12	32.60
501503	Macomb, Immanuel	2517	24,000.00	10,000.00	31,388.00	12.47
501504	Macomb, St. Peter	2439	43,334.00	39,999.00	40,000.00	16.40
501505	New Baltimore, Good Shepherd	107	300.00	300.00	300.00	2.80
501506	New Baltimore, Christ	143	900.00	900.00	500.00	3.50
501507	Ray Township, St. John	233	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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ID	City, Congregation	2007 Confirmed Membership*	Unrestricted Cash Contributions*			2008 Giving Per Confirmed
			2006	2007	2008	
Circuit 16 - Macomb Northwest						
501601	Romeo, Grace Lutheran Fellowship	491	32,405.81	37,244.25	36,210.42	73.75
501602	Shelby Township, Peace	563	3,400.00	7,400.00	12,500.00	22.20
501603	Sterling Heights, Redemption	275	6,000.00	6,000.00	1,100.00	4.00
501604	Sterling Heights, St. Paul	266	700.00	700.00	700.00	2.63
501605	Troy, Faith	3102	20,000.00	12,500.00	15,000.00	4.84
501606	Utica, Trinity	3237	71,540.00	73,600.00	74,900.00	23.14
501607	Washington, Our Redeemer	451	12,000.00	12,000.00	2,400.00	5.32
501608	Shelby Township, Shepherd's Gate	950	45,250.00	48,000.00	44,000.00	46.32
501609	Troy, All Nations	118	0.00	200.00	200.00	1.69
501610	Imlay City, Family of Christ	87	1,392.01	1,190.59	2,432.16	27.96
501611	Troy, Tamil		100.00	350.00	600.00	
Circuit 17 - Oakland North						
501701	Clarkston, St. Trinity	558	25,195.45	27,933.87	24,809.83	44.46
501702	Lake Orion, Good Shepherd	583	27,613.51	27,618.43	27,636.04	47.40
501703	Oxford, Holy Cross	225	8,160.00	8,325.00	8,325.00	37.00
501705	Rochester Hills, Crown Of Life	253	0.00	0.00	18,000.00	71.15
501706	Rochester Hills, Gethsemane	158	7,800.00	7,200.00	7,300.00	46.20
501707	Rochester, Living Word	343	13,023.43	8,338.08	8,750.00	25.51
501708	Rochester, St. John	1775	102,498.26	100,763.37	95,382.37	53.74
501709	Waterford, St. Stephen	687	545.00	0.00	500.00	0.73
501710	Rochester Hills, Incarnate Word		0.00	0.00	0.00	
Circuit 18 - Birmingham						
501801	Berkley, Trinity	65	2,000.00	1,162.00	2,838.00	43.66
501802	Birmingham, Our Shepherd	1359	29,377.66	42,965.64	42,846.52	31.53
501803	Birmingham, Redeemer	1048	58,877.79	62,858.77	68,833.71	65.68
501804	Bloomfield Hills, Cross Of Christ	559	67,500.00	75,000.00	80,835.00	144.61
501805	Hazel Park, Hazel Park	144	4,300.00	1,422.92	2,000.00	13.89
501806	Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods	325	11,189.00	10,811.00	11,502.00	35.39
501808	Royal Oak, St. Paul	735	36,683.91	39,092.30	39,511.49	53.76
501809	Troy, St. Augustine	142	6,300.00	8,800.00	6,600.00	46.48
501810	Warren, Holy Cross	483	21,687.00	13,336.00	13,534.00	28.02
Circuit 19 - Macomb South						
501901	Eastpointe, St. Peter's	978	1,979.80	1,436.00	1,834.50	1.88
501902	Eastpointe, St. Thomas	951	28,321.60	0.00	25,647.69	26.97
501903	Fraser, St. John	1129	85,254.57	70,819.49	88,782.89	78.64
501904	Roseville, Bethlehem	266	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	22.56
501906	Warren, Hope	740	43,200.00	46,800.00	39,600.00	53.51
501907	Warren, Peace	238	18,221.46	3,350.00	4,200.00	17.65
501908	Warren, Trinity	320	600.00	0.00	200.00	0.63
Circuit 20 - Detroit East						
502001	Detroit, Bethany	255	5,158.00	8,481.00	7,680.00	30.12
502002	Detroit, East Bethlehem	78	1,429.00	898.66	0.00	0.00
502003	Detroit, Charity	71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
502004	Detroit, Epiphany	67	5,257.00	3,565.00	2,000.00	29.85
502005	Detroit, Mount Calvary	110	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	0.00
502007	Detroit, Peace	175	924.25	569.00	610.00	3.49
502008	Detroit, Redemption	46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
502009	Detroit, Resurrection	122	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Circuit 21 - Detroit Central						
502101	Detroit, St. Philip	130	4,005.00	2,218.00	759.00	5.84
502102	Detroit, Historic Trinity	939	5,012.00	3,891.00	6,767.11	7.21
502103	Detroit, Berea	172	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	5.81
502104	Detroit, Bethlehem	11	3,392.00	3,002.00	312.00	28.36
502105	Detroit, Nazareth	50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
502106	Detroit, St. John	97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
502107	Detroit, St. Stephen	113	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,000.00	17.70
Circuit 22 - Detroit West						
502201	Detroit, Evergreen	147	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
502202	Detroit, Greenfield Peace	210	7,379.00	8,970.00	7,635.00	36.36
502203	Detroit, Holy Cross	212	400.00	800.00	0.00	0.00
502204	Detroit, Outer Drive Faith	477	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
502205	Detroit, St. Timothy	73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
502207	Detroit, Redford	187	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	21.39
Circuit 23 - Down River						
502302	Flat Rock, Community	453	100.00	500.00	1,100.00	2.43
502303	Southgate, Christ The King	1329	180,000.00	189,000.00	173,250.00	130.36
502304	Taylor, Our Redeemer	126	2,600.00	2,200.00	2,375.00	18.85
502305	Taylor, St. John's	388	2,855.75	3,000.00	2,725.00	7.02
502306	Trenton, St. Paul	1384	71,775.65	80,358.97	70,357.63	50.84
502307	Wyandotte, Trinity	424	10,783.00	28,903.62	12,760.60	30.10
502308	Allen Park, Mount Hope	218	6,042.00	6,285.00	4,940.00	22.66
502309	Lincoln Park, Calvary	309	19,975.00	15,186.00	7,795.00	25.23
502310	River Rouge, Christ	50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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ID	City, Congregation	2007 Confirmed Membership*	Unrestricted Cash Contributions*			2008 Giving Per Confirmed
			2006	2007	2008	
Circuit 24 - Monroe						
502401	New Boston, St. John	779	57,121.00	58,896.03	65,599.98	84.21
502402	Newport, Christ Our Shepherd	46	5,579.00	5,405.00	5,549.00	120.63
502403	Monroe, Grace	660	34,248.69	39,751.38	38,333.22	58.08
502404	Monroe, Holy Ghost	505	20,658.91	7,283.33	14,077.82	27.88
502405	Monroe, Immanuel	371	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	26.95
502406	Monroe, Trinity	1890	93,451.28	113,856.27	100,357.42	53.10
502407	Lambertville, Christ The King	150	925.00	2,655.00	2,800.00	18.67
502408	Petersburg, St. Peter	370	3,566.00	2,060.00	1,905.00	5.15
Circuit 25 - Dearborn						
502501	Dearborn, Atonement	224	700.00	2,125.00	2,500.00	11.16
502502	Dearborn, Emmanuel	896	620.00	370.00	750.00	0.84
502503	Dearborn, Guardian	880	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
502504	Dearborn, Our Redeemer	162	6,628.59	4,294.00	5,797.00	35.78
502505	Inkster, Our Master	83	1,800.00	2,125.00	2,075.00	25.00
502506	Wayne, St. Michael	481	0.00	2,573.74	2,368.96	4.93
502507	Canton, Christ The Good Shepherd	112	2,000.00	12,220.00	4,740.00	42.32
502508	Westland, Our Saviour	35	1,800.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00
502509	Westland, St. Matthew	802	1,250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
502510	Plymouth Twp., Living Word	266	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Circuit 26 - Kensington						
502601	Brighton, Shepherd Of The Lakes	1316	63,794.50	64,786.00	61,931.00	47.06
502602	Highland, Faith	411	19,833.33	18,000.00	18,000.00	43.80
502603	Milford, Christ	390	13,767.08	12,982.88	11,040.64	28.31
502604	South Lyon, Cross Of Christ	285	10,083.33	12,000.00	0.00	0.00
502605	White Lake, Cedar Crest	99	1,725.00	1,514.00	1,384.00	13.98
502606	West Bloomfield, St. Mark's	218	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	4.59
502607	Walled Lake, St. Matthew	1181	150,122.90	146,513.08	159,265.71	151.58
522609	Walled Lake, St. Matthew (Wixom Site)	Multi-Site	23,883.34	16,682.50	19,748.90	Incl Above
502608	Waterford, Peace	461	443.42	0.00	0.00	0.00
Circuit 27 - Livonia						
502701	Westland, Salem National	166	1,100.00	1,100.00	0.00	0.00
502702	Farmington Hills, St. Paul's	417	3,685.40	3,472.00	2,765.61	6.63
502703	Farmington Hills, Prince Of Peace	307	34,163.02	40,735.00	32,902.89	107.18
502704	Northville, St. Paul	481	9,700.00	9,091.72	39,810.00	82.77
502705	Livonia, Christ Our Savior	1193	13,750.00	15,000.00	16,750.00	14.04
502706	Redford, Hosanna-Tabor	390	0.00	1,300.00	0.00	0.00
502707	Dearborn Heights, Immanuel	252	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
502708	Farmington Hills, Our Savior Deaf	53	0.00	0.00	1,700.00	32.08
502709	Canton, Grace	73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Circuit 28 - Milan						
502801	Britton, Emmanuel	355	16,667.23	13,260.44	10,859.23	30.59
502802	Saline, Christ Our King	608	47,387.66	50,951.25	51,602.06	84.87
502804	Ypsilanti, Faith	150	4,200.00	4,200.00	4,900.00	32.67
502805	Milan, St. Paul	246	0.00	7,500.00	5,000.00	20.33
502806	New Boston, St. Paul's	429	17,000.00	12,475.54	13,189.13	30.74
502807	Ann Arbor, St. Thomas	87	925.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	13.79
502808	Belleville, Open Arms	170	17,863.74	21,305.28	15,786.88	92.86
512809	Romulus, Tabernacle of Praise	Mission	0.00	0.00	115.00	
Circuit 29 - Ann Arbor						
502901	Ann Arbor, Divine Shepherd	117	4,711.08	4,812.00	4,933.80	42.17
502902	Ann Arbor, St. Luke	1358	82,646.99	83,100.00	40,000.00	29.46
522905	Ann Arbor, University Lutheran Chapel	Multi-Site	800.00	0.00	0.00	
522911	Ann Arbor, Cross & Resurrection	Multi-Site	3,445.00	795.00	0.00	
502903	Ann Arbor, Peace	165	11,881.00	26,678.00	25,815.00	156.45
502904	Ann Arbor, St. Paul	804	30,000.00	30,000.00	33,000.00	41.04
502906	Chelsea, Our Savior	224	18,569.25	18,491.31	15,676.67	69.99
502907	Hamburg, St. Paul	518	30,996.00	31,080.00	31,604.00	61.01
502908	Pinckney, Trinity	94	3,250.00	3,000.00	2,750.00	29.26
Circuit 30 - Jackson						
503001	Adrian, Hope	217	18,225.00	19,586.35	5,509.84	25.39
503002	Adrian, St. John	474	29,799.00	27,500.00	27,500.00	58.02
503003	Brooklyn, St. Mark	300	4,000.00	2,500.00	2,916.36	9.72
503004	Hudson, Our Saviour	165	9,874.79	10,409.41	11,002.98	66.68
503005	Jackson, Redeemer	468	35,986.13	28,221.75	25,977.43	55.51
503006	Jackson, Trinity	1210	9,450.00	61,323.40	58,112.34	48.03
503007	Addison, Lutheran Church Of The Lakes	285	20,303.45	11,234.89	9,165.00	32.16
Circuit 31 - Petoskey						
503101	Bellaire, Hope	103	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
503102	Boyne City, Christ	406	18,051.00	24,303.50	18,512.00	45.60
503103	Charlevoix, Bethany	172	7,099.00	6,853.00	6,945.00	40.38
503104	Gaylord, Trinity	244	19,847.56	17,966.28	19,830.62	81.27
503105	Grayling, Mount Hope	276	15,932.70	13,453.00	8,075.00	29.26
503106	Kalkaska, St. Paul	249	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	20.08
503107	Mancelona, St. Matthew	54	626.25	1,318.00	1,125.50	20.84
503108	Petoskey, Zion	380	20,000.00	22,300.00	22,000.00	57.89
803109	Harbor Springs, Shepherd in the Pines	Closed	3,000.00	2,750.00	0.00	

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Circuit 32 - Traverse City						
503201	Benzonia, Our Savior	143	582.00	600.00	232.00	1.62
503202	Elk Rapids, Grace	111	1,200.00	1,600.00	1,371.00	12.35
503203	Cedar, St. Pauls	100	412.00	4,277.00	1,540.00	15.40
503204	Glen Arbor, Bethlehem	59	6,000.00	6,000.00	3,000.00	50.85
503205	Interlochen, Redeemer	345	4,800.00	2,340.00	2,400.00	6.96
503206	Leland, Immanuel	230	9,999.96	10,999.92	11,000.00	47.83
503207	Traverse City, St. Michael's & All Angels	213	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	9.39
503208	Traverse City, Trinity	1133	31,351.51	33,017.32	29,243.92	25.81
Circuit 33 - Manistee						
503301	Arcadia, Trinity	200	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	24.00
503302	Cadillac, Emmanuel	345	16,940.00	10,833.29	9,166.67	26.57
503304	Ludington, Peace	27	1,200.00	1,500.00	1,800.00	66.67
503305	Manistee, Trinity	570	12,500.00	12,500.00	3,125.00	5.48
503306	Mesick, Faith	45	1,530.00	1,530.00	1,530.00	34.00
503307	Manistee, Norwalk	94	200.00	200.00	200.00	2.13
503308	Onokama, Trinity	357	6,366.00	3,969.82	4,164.97	11.67
503309	Scottville, Our Savior	670	12,000.00	8,000.00	16,000.00	23.88
503310	Wellston, Beautiful Savior	28	544.50	596.00	784.00	28.00
503311	Ludington, St. John's	278	5,393.09	5,177.40	4,946.87	17.79
503312	Pentwater, Lighthouse	43	2,000.00	4,240.00	4,300.00	100.00
Circuit 34 - Big Rapids						
503401	Baldwin, Grace	100	2,400.00	2,200.00	213.00	2.13
503402	Big Rapids, St. Peter	686	4,078.06	4,400.63	6,495.99	9.47
503404	Fremont, Redeemer	149	16,532.87	8,718.69	22,103.66	148.35
503405	Mecosta, Chapel Of The Lakes	304	6,100.00	5,300.00	7,500.00	24.67
503406	Reed City, Trinity	455	13,416.65	15,472.20	16,107.47	35.40
503407	White Cloud, Christ	165	4,331.25	5,118.75	4,725.00	28.64
803408	Fremont, Living Hope	Closed	2,200.00	0.00	0.00	
Circuit 35 - Capitol						
503501	Charlotte, First	350	3,884.41	10,435.21	9,765.50	27.90
503502	East Lansing, Ascension	222	1,926.00	3,345.50	3,275.50	14.75
503504	Haslett, St. Luke	537	38,300.00	36,300.00	46,115.00	85.88
503505	Holt, Messiah	346	11,701.27	11,226.58	10,963.80	31.69
503506	Holt, St. Matthew	272	8,309.07	8,499.96	7,789.65	28.64
503507	Lansing, Our Savior	953	19,217.58	16,391.51	8,268.27	8.68
503508	Lansing, Trinity	146	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
503509	Leslie, Grace	87	7,738.08	6,836.56	4,814.26	55.34
503511	Lansing, Living Word		0.00	50.00	0.00	
503512	Howell, Heart of the Shepherd	294	21,847.00	20,049.00	20,146.00	68.52
513513	Lansing, Rehoboth	Mission	0.00	0.00	1,322.81	
513514	Lansing, Trinity Sudanese	Mission	0.00	0.00	141.00	
513515	Eaton Rapids, Open Arms	Mission	0.00	0.00	200.00	
Circuit 36 - St Johns						
503601	Carson City, Calvary	89	600.00	1,200.00	1,700.00	19.10
503602	Dewitt, Hope	226	1,333.34	900.00	1,200.00	5.31
503603	Fowler, St. Paul	132	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
503604	Portland, St. Andrew	193	12,571.80	11,194.49	10,507.65	54.44
503605	St. Johns, St. John	268	19,600.00	17,000.00	18,000.00	67.16
503606	St. Johns, St. Peter	508	28,736.29	15,926.73	22,608.52	44.50
503607	Lansing, Good Shepherd	274	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	43.80
Circuit 37 - Tri-River						
503701	Belding, Holy Cross	140	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,175.00	8.39
503702	Greenville, Mount Calvary	214	11,040.67	11,000.13	11,161.70	52.16
503703	Howard City, Bethel	237	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	16.88
503704	Ionia, St. John	127	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	37.80
503705	Lowell, Good Shepherd	157	7,600.00	7,500.00	2,500.00	15.92
503706	Sand Lake, Resurrection	77	750.00	400.00	650.00	8.44
503707	Stanton, Hope	120	850.00	955.00	500.00	4.17
Circuit 38 - Muskegon						
503801	Conklin, Trinity	494	19,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00	36.44
503802	Montague, St. James	568	9,035.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	15.85
503803	Muskegon, Our Redeemer	396	7,520.81	7,758.27	6,958.28	17.57
503804	Muskegon, St. Mark	648	11,471.35	11,808.00	12,095.00	18.67
503805	Muskegon, Trinity	531	15,000.00	20,000.00	15,500.00	29.19
503806	Nunica, St. Luke	230	16,591.00	12,551.50	11,983.00	52.10
503807	Shelby, St. Stephen's	180	6,582.00	5,636.00	5,404.00	30.02
503808	Whitehall, Faith	264	15,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	49.24
Circuit 39 - Holland						
503901	Coopersville, Grace	287	11,500.00	18,500.00	16,000.00	55.75
503902	Spring Lake, Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship	350	56,897.55	53,464.72	34,793.51	99.41
503903	Grand Haven, St. John	812	53,137.23	56,766.50	64,355.38	79.26
503904	Holland, Christ Our Savior	281	14,197.46	13,183.68	14,036.45	49.95
503905	Holland, Zion	398	40,902.00	39,826.00	37,702.00	94.73
503907	Spring Lake, St. Matthew	178	10,692.28	6,922.20	5,500.00	30.90
503909	West Olive, United	198	821.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	5.05

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Circuit 40 - Grand Rapids North-Central						
504001	Grand Rapids, St. Matthew	300	33,980.60	28,885.80	30,000.00	100.00
504002	Grand Rapids, Immanuel	535	22,917.00	15,000.00	38,999.96	72.90
504003	Grand Rapids, Messiah	299	20,796.75	17,390.77	19,967.33	66.78
504004	Grand Rapids, Mount Olive	222	1,000.00	0.00	5,977.12	26.92
504005	Grand Rapids, Our Savior	372	11,498.00	9,195.05	4,166.65	11.20
504006	Grand Rapids, Redeemer	140	5,000.00	5,894.48	6,219.19	44.42
504007	Grand Rapids, St. James	369	2,204.00	0.00	1,519.00	4.12
504008	Rockford, St. Peter	314	23,818.62	22,558.05	28,581.51	91.02
504009	Grand Rapids, Family of Christ	84	3,600.00	7,600.00	7,000.00	83.33
Circuit 41 - Grand Rapids Southwest						
504101	Caledonia, St. Paul	598	28,902.88	30,948.50	32,281.44	53.98
504102	Grandville, Bethel	186	1,833.26	2,166.74	1,999.92	10.75
504103	Hudsonville, New Hope	221	1,045.14	2,940.59	4,894.13	22.15
504104	Jenison, Holy Cross	1089	8,097.00	33,670.00	48,600.00	44.63
504105	Jenison, St. John	206	3,462.00	2,533.00	2,225.00	10.80
504106	Kentwood, St. Mark	634	37,055.44	1,500.00	3,000.00	4.73
504107	Middleville, Good Shepherd	90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
504108	Byron Center, Journey of Faith		0.00	0.00	0.00	
824109	Kentwood, St. Mark Sudanese	Closed	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	
Circuit 42 - Battle Creek						
504201	Albion, St. Paul	359	16,072.78	13,106.00	15,232.00	42.43
504202	Battle Creek, St. Mark	582	20,000.00	16,252.20	18,654.00	32.05
504203	Battle Creek, Redemption	182	0.00	1,665.00	0.00	0.00
504204	Battle Creek, St. Paul	578	17,500.00	7,500.00	0.00	0.00
504205	Kalamazoo, Immanuel	184	8,917.20	9,415.00	9,472.00	51.48
504206	Kalamazoo, Zion	885	15,399.24	15,990.10	16,351.38	18.48
504208	Marshall, Christ	234	12,293.46	9,117.42	11,415.00	48.78
504209	Marshall, Zion	439	11,102.25	10,801.23	8,735.05	19.90
504211	Paw Paw, Trinity	1221	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	24.57
504212	Portage, St. Michael	683	23,000.00	23,000.00	23,000.00	33.67
504213	Three Rivers, St. Peter	281	2,520.00	2,520.00	2,510.00	8.93
Circuit 43 - St Joseph						
504301	Berrien Springs, Trinity	580	7,500.00	3,000.00	17,500.00	30.17
504302	Bridgman, Immanuel	586	27,321.65	28,015.00	17,050.00	29.10
504303	Buchanan, St. Paul	140	1,490.00	429.00	0.00	0.00
504304	Cassopolis, St. Paul	104	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	28.85
504305	Coloma, Salem	292	1,459.00	921.25	567.00	1.94
504306	Buchanan, Trinity	398	10,627.50	11,666.00	9,587.25	24.09
504308	Niles, St. Paul	385	9,166.67	10,000.00	10,000.00	25.97
504309	St. Joseph, Trinity	1516	89,372.00	57,758.50	96,000.00	63.32
504310	Sawyer, Trinity	435	6,641.94	3,112.50	5,584.80	12.84
504311	Stevensville, Christ	1135	26,215.49	27,636.94	17,916.69	15.79
Circuit 44 - South Central						
504401	Burr Oak, St. John	140	5,320.00	6,170.00	4,580.00	32.71
504402	Centreville, St. Paul's	189	7,553.29	7,660.25	7,301.10	38.63
504403	Sturgis, Salem	16	120.00	60.00	180.00	11.25
504404	Coldwater, St. Paul	340	7,083.35	2,708.29	3,000.00	8.82
504405	Colon, St. Paul's	124	4,800.00	4,800.00	3,200.00	25.81
504406	Hillsdale, St. Paul's	336	2,088.00	4,000.00	0.00	0.00
504407	Quincy, Prince Of Peace	46	525.00	900.00	900.00	19.57
504408	Sturgis, Trinity	541	14,667.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	22.18
504409	Union City, Our Savior	145	2,400.00	1,571.44	2,230.00	15.38

GRAND TOTALS 165,134 5,919,553 5,844,475 5,673,211 34.36

* Notes All member congregations of the District as of March 1, 2009 are included as well as mission congregations that have given contributions. Contribution amounts include gifts given for Synod/District ministries and those given for Michigan District only ministries. Does not include restricted giving in support of a particular program, Thank Offering, or ministry. Confirmed Member numbers compiled from 2007 statistical report filed with Synod, or most recent data available.

Michigan District Endowment

The Michigan District Board of Directors authorized the creation of an Endowment Fund to receive gifts to assist in the fulfillment of the Vision and Mission of the District. The Endowment is designed to support the key ministries of the District through unrestricted and restricted fund gifts. The unrestricted portion is for general projects in the District that align with the core values of the District. Additionally, there are two restricted funds. One is for the support of Intentional Mission Development within the Michigan District. The other is to provide scholarship opportunities for Michigan District students preparing for full time church work.

The Endowment Advisory Council (formerly the President's Advisory Council on Endowments) oversees the Michigan District Endowment. This seven member committee provides consultation in areas of investment, marketing, and distribution of the fund. Current growth of the endowment is primarily through the District's 125th Anniversary Thank Offering, The Future is Now. The council reviews the assets according to an investment policy. A portion of the Endowment is held at Church Extension Fund and the remainder is managed by professional money managers.

As a perpetual endowment of the Michigan District, this fund is prepared to receive gifts during your lifetime or at your death to fulfill the purposes named above. Those gifts may include but are not limited to:

Bequest from Will or Trust	Retirement Plan Gifts
Beneficiary Designations	Insurance Gifts
Charitable Remainder Trusts	Charitable Lead Trusts
Gift Annuities	Stock Gifts
Real Estate Gifts	Cash Gifts

If you wish to provide a gift to the Endowment, please contact Ray Zavada, VP of Development, at the District office at 888.225.2111.

Stewardship

Mission Statement

The purpose of the District Stewardship Committee is to serve the Church by promoting Stewardship resources. It will articulate Biblical Stewardship Principles and review and recommend resources to the congregations for their Stewardship programming.

Committee Members

Rick Wolfram - District Rep.

Larry Rockensuess - JH Award (9/30/10)

Ron Chewning - (9/30/09)

Steve Schilke - (9/30/11)

John Duerr- Chair (9/30/10)

Bill Roper- (9/30/09)

Mary Smith - (9/30/10)

(Vacant) - (9/30/11)

District Stewardship Leaders Conference - The Michigan District participates in the annual District Stewardship Leaders Conference held in Tempe, Arizona 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. Two representatives of our Committee attend each year. Rick Wolfram, the Michigan District's Stewardship Executive, serves on the steering committee for the DSLC, and has helped bring many biblically and doctrinally sound stewardship materials to our Michigan District.



Faith Aflame - Resolution 4-01 of the 2004 Synodical Convention instructed the LCMS to "...promote a unified stewardship education initiative entitled "Stewardship Ablaze" in 2006 to raise the awareness of faithful stewardship in all of the congregations..." The past three years has seen the DSLC, and our own Michigan District Stewardship Committee, make impressive strides in the work of reaching this goal. A five year stewardship initiative called "Faith Aflame" began in 2007, and was presented to our District through a series of eight regional training events in 2007 and 2008. Approximately 60 Michigan District congregations have participated in "Faith Aflame Year One". The "Year One" training events will continue in 2009, and "Year Two" training events are planned for 2010. The District Stewardship Committee encourages each congregation of the Michigan District to take advantage of this doctrinally sound, Lutheran approach to Christian Stewardship.

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 nomination forms to submit for consideration any individual or group that has exemplified daily stewardship living in their 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 \$1000 gift to be used in furthering the congregation's stewardship goals. Everyone is thanked and acknowledged by the Committee. The past triennium's winners and runner-ups are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Runner-up</u>
2007	Joan Walz - Immanuel, Sebewaing	Mr. Albert Moll - St. Philip, Owosso
2008	William Neddemeyer - St. Paul, Herron	Dave and Sue Johnson - Trinity, Onkama
2009	Richard Geiner - St. Matthew, Holt	William and Jacqueline Lack - Messiah, Holt

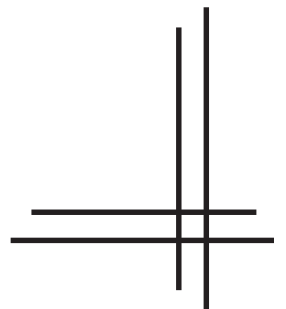
Respectfully submitted,

Rev. John M. Duerr, Chairman - Michigan District Stewardship Committee +SDG+

*Partners in Ministry:
Ethical Conduct for
Congregations*



Michigan District
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
2009





LETTER FROM PRESIDENT HOESMAN

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

It is indeed a great day when we can focus on the blessings that our Lord showers upon us. It is indeed a great day when we can share His Good News through word and action. It is indeed a great day when we reflect on our shortcomings and rejoice in the forgiveness that is ours. We also rejoice in the gift of eternal life which has been assured through the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord! It is indeed a great day to be a child of God!

The congregations of our District have been blessed with the services of many faithful workers, Ministers of Religion—Ordained and Commissioned. They labor daily in our Lord's work in the local setting. Each day the message is proclaimed! Each day a member is supported, students are taught, and individuals are assisted as they deal with the realities of life.

The document that you are about to read has been prepared to assist congregations in examining the way we deal with our workers and with sister congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. It is designed to underscore good practice when securing workers, living with workers, and dealing with workers as they retire or move on to other areas of ministry. This document reminds us of the importance of caring for our workers as well as focusing on how we relate to sister congregations. It will help in developing policies that will assure that all are provided for in a caring and professional way. You are encouraged to compare the issues raised in this document to your current practices. You then can update, or put in place, policies that help you deal with issues before they present a challenge for your congregation in relating to your workers and/or to sister congregations.

Our Lord continues to bless our congregations with faithful workers. It is our prayer that this document will assist our congregations as they support those that serve us.

Serving our Lord,

C. William Hoesman

C. William Hoesman, President
The Michigan District
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

*Partners in Ministry:
Ethical Conduct for Congregations*

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I. THEOLOGICAL RATIONALE

All baptized Christians are members of “The Body of Christ” and, therefore, also members of one another (Romans 12:5). As we gather in congregations around His Word and Sacraments, God gives each of us particular gifts to benefit all the members of His Body (Romans 12:6-8) and to bring the Gospel to the lost (Matthew 28:19-20).

To carry out this ministry of Word and Sacraments among us, God established the Office of the Holy Ministry. By extension, God also establishes, through the church, other offices as necessary to enable our congregations and schools to further this ministry (Acts 6:1-7). We read in Ephesians 4:11-12, “[God] gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists and some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.” Through congregations, God calls individuals to serve in these various offices (Pastors, Teachers, DCEs, Deaconesses, etc), that people may be strengthened in the faith and equipped to live out that faith in their daily lives. We believe that the Holy Spirit is actively involved in the call process. Therefore, in thankful response to God, and in fulfillment of Christ’s will that we love one another, even as He loved us (John 13:34), members show their support for these church workers through respect, encouragement, gifts, and prayers, recognizing in them God’s blessings to us (Philippians 4:14-19; Hebrews 13:17).

The purpose of this document is to help congregations understand and relate to their professional church workers and other staff and to sister congregations in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod in ways that are healthy, God-pleasing, and beneficial to everyone, so that the work of the church may prosper to the glory of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Conduct and relations within the church reflect the “already-not yet” existence of the church on earth – already justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, but not yet free of the influence of sin and the power of the devil. Under the cross of Christ, both forgiven and forgiving, congregations and their professional church workers are called to live lives controlled by the Spirit (Romans 8:1-17). “Partners in Ministry: Ethical Conduct for Congregations” is written in the present tense, depicting the lives of congregations and professional church workers controlled by the Spirit as sanctified servants of Jesus Christ.

II. SEEKING A CHURCH WORKER

Ethical standards for congregations when calling or hiring a worker.

A. THE POSITION

Congregations prepare and provide a specific position description that fully and completely explains the position, qualifications required, expected results, to whom the worker will report, salary and benefits details, etc. This process assists candidates in considering the position and confirms why the congregation desires to fill the position to enhance its ministry or operations.

B. CANDIDATES

Congregations establish and follow a consistent policy when seeking or soliciting applicants. For ecclesiastical workers, this includes following District guidelines and working with appropriate District representatives when obtaining call lists or submitting names for inclusion on a call list. For all other workers, this includes using consistent procedures when hiring to ensure fairness (e.g., posting of openings, advertising, interview process, criminal background checks, etc.).

C. RECEIPT OF CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Congregations carefully guard all information and materials received from or about an applicant and hold this information in strict confidence. This includes information obtained at any phase of the process (e.g., application, references, criminal background checks, interview notes, performance reviews from prior employers or from District, etc.).

D. INTERVIEW PROCESS

Congregations conduct any interview process consistently and professionally, remembering it is the candidate's discretion to submit to an interview. When interviewing more than one candidate, congregations apply the same guidelines throughout the interview process to promote fairness (e.g., consistent length of interview, same questions, similar settings, etc.). Inquiries and visits outside of the authorized review process do not occur. Congregations establish policies in advance of a vacancy to facilitate consistency and fairness when a vacancy occurs.

E. HONEST AND FORTHRIGHT COMMUNICATION

Congregations provide honest and forthright information and responses about the position and general matters relating to a congregation. This means providing information about the anticipated term of the position, the requirement for additional training, work environment, how the position will enhance the congregation's ministry, impending departures or changes relating to other staff, why the last person in this position left (if applicable), and any other general issues or problems affecting the congregation (membership, personnel, or financial). Congregations fully explain the review process and timetable to be followed in issuing a call or hiring a worker and promptly respond to a candidate's inquiries during his/her deliberations.

F. TIMING AND PROXIMITY CONSIDERATIONS

Congregations are mindful of the effects of calling or hiring a worker from another congregation as it relates to (i) geographical proximity (e.g., a nearby church where members might "follow" a worker because of an established relationship) and (ii) timing (e.g., another congregation that is in a vacancy period that risks the loss of additional staff). Congregations promptly inform a candidate if he/she is no longer being considered.

G. DISCLOSING CANDIDATE INFORMATION

During and after the process, congregations hold all information obtained from or about candidates in strict confidence. Candidate information is not discussed or disclosed to outside entities (e.g., other congregations) or the congregation's membership except in established settings when candidates are being reviewed by committees or voters assemblies. Information is not discussed or disclosed with individual congregation members (i.e., gossip) other than as part of a legitimate review function. When the process is complete, information obtained about all candidates is shredded or disposed of in a manner that ensures this confidentiality.

H. CALL OR OFFER ACCEPTED

Upon acceptance of a call or offer, congregations assist the new worker in all phases of his/her relocation. Congregations consider forming a welcoming committee, covering moving expenses, providing insight and assistance relating to the housing market and schools, assisting with family needs such as employment for a spouse to ensure a smooth transition and make the church worker and his/her family feel welcome.

I. PRAYER

Congregations prayerfully consider applicants and workers during all phases of a call or hiring process.

III. LIFE TOGETHER: PART I - CARE FOR WORKERS

Congregations work to enhance the environment of their professional church workers and all other staff, for this benefits the whole congregation (Hebrews 13:17b).

A. WORK ENVIRONMENT

To promote a healthy and pleasing atmosphere for all workers, the congregation:

1. Treats all staff members equally and fairly, considering their duties, expectations, and responsibilities in recognizing each of them as God's unique creation, with special gifts and needs.
2. Takes timely and appropriate action when necessary to help maintain staff morale.
3. Periodically reviews office environment and equipment to make sure everything is up to date, safe, clean, and operational.
4. Has a workable plan to provide substitutes to assume the duties of any staff member in an emergency without disruption of the congregation's ministry.
5. Analyze the effects of placing spouses of staff members in situations involving a "conflict of interest" through placement in elected/appointed positions of authority within a congregation's structure.

B. PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

To aid the church worker's growth in his/her respective duties, the congregation:

1. Authorizes the appropriate person to evaluate the worker's performance at regular intervals.
2. Conducts these evaluations in an objective and orderly fashion, in order to help the worker understand and fulfill his/her duties.
3. Periodically reviews and/or updates job descriptions for each position to accurately reflect the needs and expectations of the congregation.
4. Invites the current worker's input in any reworking of his/her job description.
5. Reissues the call or contract as the congregation's needs or expectations for the position change from the original call or contract.
6. Allows sufficient budget and in-service days to enable workers to ensure professional growth.
7. Makes use of the latest training tools available.
8. Reviews individual training needs with the worker at least annually.
9. Encourages its professional church workers to regularly meet with their respective peer groups for learning, support, and the exchange of ideas.

C. RESOURCES

To ensure that adequate resources are available to do the work of ministry, the congregation:

1. Is in agreement with the staff on the ministry plan and the resources required, and provides sufficient funds in the budget to support it.
2. Regularly reviews ministry plans and needs, and adequately prepares for future budget requirements.
3. Communicates to its members and staff, in a timely manner, any changes in ministry plans and the impact of those changes.
4. Includes a contingency line item in the budget, allocating a specific amount annually.
5. Provides adequate liability coverage for the church and staff to cover counseling and other activities.
6. Provides resources for workers to stay current with the ever-changing legal aspects of society.

D. COMPENSATION

The congregation has an established Compensation Policy covering all workers by:

1. Following published District compensation guidelines for all professional church workers.
2. Utilizing local pay scales and paying fair wages for all other workers, for “the laborer is worthy of his hire.”
3. Establishing compensation guidelines for work required above and beyond normal duties or job expectations.
4. Budgeting funds to cover counseling or other professional help for the professional church worker.
5. Establishing compensation guidelines for situations in which a worker leaves his/her position.
6. Providing sufficient vacation time and appropriate work schedules for each worker, depending on his/her work status and level of experience.
7. Professional church worker compensation decisions should always include discussions related to retirement planning and pension programs.

IV. LIFE TOGETHER: PART II - SUPPORT FOR WORKERS

A. SPIRITUAL GROWTH

To allow for the spiritual growth of church workers, the congregation:

1. Encourages all workers to take time each day for prayer and devotions.
2. Provides funding to all workers for the purchase of resources to aid in their personal study of God’s Word and growth in their relationship to the Lord.
3. Expects workers to be regularly involved in corporate worship and Bible study.

B. SUPPORT FOR HEALTHY FAMILY LIFE

To help foster positive and healthy family lives among the workers, the congregation:

1. Has a written policy providing adequate vacation time and/or appropriate work schedule for its workers, and encourages the members to respect those times.
2. Provides fair and adequate salaries.
3. Provide funding for workers and spouses to attend conferences that support healthy family life.
4. Prohibits expecting the church worker's spouse or family to be "unpaid employees" of the congregation.
5. Shows care and support for workers during times of illness, tragedy, distress, and dysfunction. When appropriate, encourages the worker to seek professional help, and provides the means to do so.
6. Shows appreciation for workers and has a uniform policy concerning congregation-wide celebrations of significant anniversaries for years of service, etc.
7. Encourages workers to balance their family life with their professional responsibilities.

C. EMPLOYING MORE THAN ONE FAMILY MEMBER ON STAFF

To avoid potential misunderstandings or conflicts, the congregation:

1. Has clear job descriptions and lines of accountability in place for each worker.
2. Is above board in the calling or hiring process to avoid the appearance of manipulation by the worker to get a family member on staff.
3. Pays the same wage and benefit package to the spouse or family member that it would anyone else in that same position.
4. Uses caution in placing family members in staff positions which give the appearance of nepotism or monopolizing control of the ministry.

D. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

When disputes involving staff members arise, the congregation:

1. Follows our Lord's direction in Matthew 18 in a spirit of love and humility, with individuals first speaking with the church worker directly rather than complaining to other members of the congregation.
2. Involves those overseeing the worker, with the worker present, if the conflict remains unresolved.
3. Seeks, in the case of professional church workers, additional help from the Circuit Counselor, Congregation Ministry Facilitators and, lastly, the District President, to resolve the conflict. With other hired staff, the congregation's constitution or hiring policies manual is followed. The congregation deals fairly and in Christian love with all workers.
4. Absolutely avoids holding secret meetings or telephone or anonymous letter-writing and petition campaigns against the worker in question.
5. Refers, in cases of severe disputes between a professional church worker and the congregation, to the Synod's Handbook (Bylaw 1.10), which provides guidance on the proper procedures for resolving such disputes.

E. CONFIDENTIALITY

Because church workers may deal with information of a confidential nature, the congregation:

1. Avoids divulging confidential or personal information shared by the worker to individuals or boards without the worker's permission.
2. Does not demand that workers divulge information shared with them confidentially.
3. Protects the worker's personnel files and other private information from unauthorized access.

F. COMMUNITY LIFE

The worker's involvement in the larger community can have positive effects for the worker and congregation. Therefore, the congregation:

1. Supports its workers' involvement in the community, as long as it does not compromise God's Word and the work of the church.
2. Addresses negative comments from members who feel that the worker should be involved only in congregational life.
3. Is willing to resolve with the worker any real problems arising from his/her involvement in the community that cause their work or witness in the congregation to suffer.

V. WHEN A CHURCH WORKER LEAVES

Congregations conduct themselves in an ethical manner when a church worker leaves. The congregation:

- A. Publicly announces the departure of a worker in a timely and appropriate manner.
- B. Appropriately recognizes the worker's service and gives proper honor to his/her family.
- C. Keeps confidential any sensitive matters and issues surrounding the worker's departure, disclosing only what is necessary, remembering the Biblical injunction to speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). In obedience to the Eighth Commandment, we do not "slander him or hurt his reputation . . . but put the best construction on everything."
- D. Meets any appropriate obligations to the family of the worker (in cases such as the death of the worker, disability, or divorce).
- E. Gives adequate and proper compensation to the worker who is asked to leave, leaves due to a disabling illness or injury, or leaves as a result of reduction of staff.
- F. Gives adequate advance notice to the worker in cases of reduction of staff to allow him/her sufficient time to seek a position elsewhere. The truthful reasons for the reduction in staff are communicated to the worker.
- G. Creates appropriate procedures to respond to the departure of a worker (such as retirement, removal, accepting a call, disability, or death).

VI. RELATING TO CONGREGATIONS, DISTRICT, AND SYNOD

“Synod” implies a coming together of groups of people. Because the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod has a rich tradition of “walking together,” Michigan District congregations show love, concern, and respect for one another, District, and Synod.

The congregation:

- A. Prays for leaders of Synod, District, and neighboring congregations during worship services.
- B. Follows the Eighth Commandment when talking about church leaders at the local, District, and Synodical level.
- C. Communicates and works with neighboring congregational leaders about opportunities and challenges to Kingdom growth in the circuit.
- D. Celebrates in prayer, word, and actions the successes of neighboring congregations and their leaders.
- E. Provides financial support for the mission and ministry of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, channeling gifts for the mission and ministry of Synod through the District Office.
- F. Avoids calling workers from neighboring congregations.
- G. Considers the impact and uses caution before calling more than one professional worker from any one congregation.
- H. Does not pursue members from neighboring sister congregations, and considers the impact and uses caution before granting or accepting transfers.
- I. Honors the church discipline exercised by sister congregations.
- J. Seeks assistance from District officials with expertise in areas of congregational interest.

VII. RESOURCES

From the Michigan District Web Site: www.michigandistrict.org

Business Resources for your congregation
Compilation of Employment Posters
LCMS Congregational Treasurer's Manual
Michigan Supplement
Michigan District Compensation Guide
Call Documents – Commissioned
Call Documents – Ordained

From the LCMS Web Site: www.lcms.org

Resources – Congregations
Personnel Manual Prototype
Employment Resource Manual
Taxes and Ministers Brochure
LCMS Congregational Treasurer's Manual
Performance Appraisal
Job Descriptions
Concordia Plans Services

Rubrics Governing Call and Placement Procedures

VIII. LISTING OF COMMITTEE

Rev. Gary Beck

Mr. Bruce Braun

Dr. Perry Bresemann

Mr. William Kaiser

Rev. Ken Lueke

Mr. James Saalfeld

President C. William Hoesman



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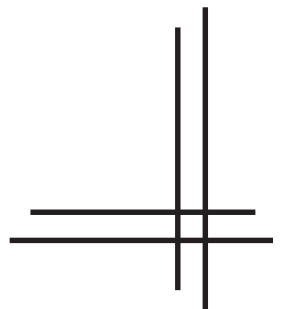
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*Partners in Ministry:
Ethical Conduct for
Professional Church Workers*



Michigan District
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
2009





LETTER FROM PRESIDENT HOESMAN

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

It is indeed a great day when we can focus on the blessings that our Lord showers upon us. It is indeed a great day when we can share His Good News through word and action. It is indeed a great day when we reflect on our shortcomings and rejoice in the forgiveness that is ours and the gift of eternal life which has been assured through the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord! It is indeed a great day to be a child of God!

As professional church workers of our District, Ordained and Commissioned Ministers of Religion, we have a high calling. We are blessed to be in our Lord's service in a full time capacity. We know and recognize the importance of our role and the privilege we have to serve God's people in so many ways. While our tasks differ, our ministry is the same – to proclaim the Good News of Salvation and to reach out to His people in Christian love.

The document that you are about to read has been prepared to assist us in examining our ministry and to help us remain focused on the work before us. It is designed to remind us of our obligations and our responsibility to the Lord, ourselves, family, and community. It is designed to provide us with a mirror in which we can seek to serve more effectively. The document is designed to underscore good practice and to help us guard against actions which might interfere with our ministry. You are encouraged to personally explore the issues raised in this document and to adjust your life accordingly.

Our Lord continues to bless our congregations with faithful workers. It is our prayer that this document will help each one of us be more effective in telling others about Him.

Serving our Lord,

C. William Hoesman

C. William Hoesman, President
The Michigan District
The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

*Partners in Ministry:
Ethical Conduct for Professional Church Workers*

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INTRODUCTION

The Christian's ethic is to live by faith in Christ even as Christ lives in us. We repent daily and believe the Gospel, trusting in its sure promises: through Baptism God makes us His holy people; in the Lord's Supper God feeds us with the holy food of heaven for life on earth. God's Word has been fulfilled: *"I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy"* (Exodus 33:19, RSV).

"Partners in Ministry: Ethical Conduct for Professional Church Workers" is not about what we do for God, but about what God has done on the cross and how that applies to us. The death of Jesus on the cross transforms our lives, and the Holy Spirit makes Jesus' death applicable for holy living. As Christians, then, we are holy people living holy lives.¹

The central principle of Lutheran ethics is identical with the central principle of Lutheran theology: justification by grace through faith on account of Christ.²

Conduct and relations within the church reflect the "already-not yet" existence of the church on earth – already justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, but not yet free of the influence of sin and the power of the devil. Under the cross of Christ, both forgiven and forgiving, congregations and their professional church workers are called to live lives controlled by the Spirit (Romans 8:1-17). "Partners in Ministry: Ethical Conduct for Professional Church Workers" is written in the present tense, depicting the lives of congregations and professional church workers controlled by the Spirit as sanctified servants of Jesus Christ.

St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, *"So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful"* (1 Corinthians 4:1-2, NIV). Following St. Paul's dictum, the purpose of this document is to guide professional church workers in remaining faithful to the trust given to them by God and the people who have called them by defining an ethics policy for professional church workers in the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. While the intent of this document is to provide ethical guidelines for all professional church workers it also will, God willing, have application for all congregation workers.

I. PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is not to be a moralistic code or to be used to force submission by those in authority. Rather it is intended as a helpful look at our commitments as shepherds and servants of God's flock with the following purposes:

- A. An examination and reminder of biblically mandated principles for pastors and other professional church workers.
- B. A tool for personal evaluation, examination, and reflection.
- C. An opportunity for encouragement of continuing dialogue and mutual ministry among professional workers.
- D. A vehicle for reaffirming one's dependence on the grace and power of God.
- E. A way of examining new possibilities for growth in the conduct of one's ministry.
- F. A way for professional church workers to grow by the Gospel's power into more principled, committed, and grace-filled servants of Christ for the sake of the Gospel, the Church, and its Mission.

II. BASIC FOUNDATIONS FOR ETHICAL CONDUCT

- A. The professional church worker remains faithful to the Triune God and His baptismal covenant. According to Luther's Small Catechism, "*The Old Adam in us should, by daily contrition and repentance, be drowned and die with all sins and evil lusts and, again, a new man daily come forth and arise, who shall live before God in righteousness and purity forever.*"³
- B. The professional church worker honors his Confirmation commitment "*to conform all (his/her) life to the divine Word, to be faithful in the use of God's Word and sacraments, which are His means of grace, and in faith, word, and action to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death.*"⁴
- C. The professional church worker honors his/her installation vows "*to be faithful to the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice and to be faithful to the three Ecumenical Creeds and the Lutheran Confessions.*"⁵
- D. The professional church worker honors the specific duties of the particular call that the Holy Spirit has led him/her to accept.

III. PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

- A. The professional church worker is committed to **personal and corporate spiritual life**.
1. He/she spends time in personal Bible study, Catechism study, and prayer.
 2. He/she expresses commitment to Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.
 3. He/she is faithful in corporate worship and Bible study.
 4. He/she models the servant role, following Jesus' example (John 13:1-17).
- B. The professional church worker is committed to his/her **spouse and family**.
1. The worker may remain single and fill his/her life with commitments to parents, brothers, sisters, and other close relatives and friends within the congregation or without. Whether single or married, he/she is to be above reproach, which means his/her life and conduct are shaped by his/her commitment to Christ.
 2. A married church worker views his/her marriage as a blessing and responsibility. His/her conduct in marriage is an example to the congregation.
 3. For the sake of his/her family, the professional church worker blessed with children is a responsible, loving, Gospel-centered, caring parent.
 4. The professional church worker views his/her family as a God-given responsibility and allocates his/her time accordingly.
 5. The church worker seeks personal, spiritual, and professional help when encountering problems in his/her marriage or family life, using appropriate resources. Church workers are aware of the implications of the Council of Presidents document, Guidelines for Dealing with Marital Crisis Involving Separation and Divorce.⁶ (See District Website for counseling resources)
- C. The professional church worker is committed to **relationships within the congregation**.
1. Professional church workers understand the role of the pastor as spiritual leader of the congregation and support and encourage the work of the pastor and all other professional staff members.
 2. Professional church workers support the role of the laity, encouraging the development of lay leadership.
 3. When dealing with those entrusted to his/her care, the professional church worker will assume the role of servant.
 4. The professional church worker shows respect for all cultures, recognizing each member of the congregation as a baptized and valued child of God and seeking to understand the diversity that is present.
 5. Professional church workers engage in direct and mutual conversation and support with colleagues and, for the sake of reconciliation and growth, speak the Word of the Lord directly to one another. (Matthew 18; Ephesians 4:2; 2 Timothy 3:16,17; Colossians 3)
 6. Disagreements among professional church workers are resolved in a manner that demonstrates an understanding of Confession and Absolution as a model for reconciliation in the Body of Christ.
 7. The professional church worker respects and protects confidential information shared by colleagues in the course of personal and professional relationships and transactions. When disclosure of confidential information is legally required, the professional church worker does so to the proper civil authorities, attempting first to inform the colleague of this action. If you have questions or concerns regarding confidentiality, contact the District Office for guidance.

8. When a professional church worker has direct knowledge of a colleague's incompetence, impairment, false teaching, immoral or unethical behavior, he/she offers assistance to the individual in the spirit of Christian fellowship as presented in Matthew 18. Situations are disclosed or reported to civil and/or synodical authorities as required by law or synodical guidelines.
9. The professional church worker defends, supports, and assists colleagues who are unjustly charged.

D. The professional church worker is committed to relationships in the **community and the wider church.**

1. The professional church worker is in a special relationship with his/her fellow church workers in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. He/she makes every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3).
2. The professional church worker consults with his/her fellow church workers in their congregation, circuit, and District when making difficult decisions or decisions that affect the public witness and practice of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.
3. The professional church worker recognizes that he/she is called to his/her congregation and to no other. He/she does not counsel members of other congregations or perform pastoral functions for them without their pastor's permission. He/she does not criticize other congregations or their staff.
4. Professional church workers who have moved from a congregation or retired from active ministry avoid exercising influence or offering opinions of a professional nature where they have no call.
5. Professional church workers, in "walking together" in our Synod, honor commitments corporately made through the conventions of the District and Synod, especially those expressed in the constitution and by-laws.
6. The professional church worker respects those who have been placed above him/her and honors their authority as ecclesiastical supervisors. Each professional church worker serves as part of the public ministry of the Church under the doctrinal oversight of the Pastoral Office and within the administrative structure of the congregation.
7. The professional church worker is involved in his/her community, weighing this involvement's effect on his/her ministry. He/she examines the time commitments involved as they affect his/her family. He/she seeks the advice and counsel of congregational leadership and avoids activity that will lead to a compromise of his/her ministry and calling.

E. The professional church worker is committed to appropriate **social behavior.**

1. The professional church worker honors the sixth commandment and its meaning as he/she recognizes his/her own sexuality, remembering that the ultimate gift of sexual expression is found only in marriage.
2. The professional church worker avoids pornography and impure speech and refrains from inappropriate physical contact.
3. The professional church worker uses common sense and care lest he/she give offense when dealing with members of the opposite sex and with children.
4. The professional church worker recognizes that the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod considers homosexual propensity to be a result of our fallen nature and has refused to sanction for ministry those who are practicing homosexuals.

5. The professional church worker recognizes that there are times when church professionals may engage in behavior that, although not sin, may cause offense to the weak Christian or misunderstanding to the unbeliever. He/she is aware that his/her public behavior is representative of their position and as such he/she is never a “private citizen.”
- F. The professional church worker is committed to appropriate **speech and actions**.
1. The professional church worker does not divulge confidential information. He/she does not identify names when discussing a case with his/her peers nor share these confidences with his/her spouse or staff. He/she carries out his/her legal responsibilities concerning confidentiality.
 2. The professional church worker honors the spirit of the Second Commandment. He/she avoids the use of profanity, vulgar words and phrases, and off-color jokes and stories.
 3. The professional church worker avoids losing his/her temper and exploding with rage.
 4. The professional church worker avoids language that stereotypes people by economic or social class, sex, race, age, or religion. He/she avoids racial slurs, jokes, and stories that are degrading and dehumanizing. In conversation with the opposite sex, he/she avoids terms of endearment that should properly be reserved for his/her spouse.
 5. The professional church worker speaks truthfully and avoids deceit of all kinds. He/she does not let his/her silence on a matter be a means of deception.
 6. The professional church worker puts the best construction on the actions of fellow church workers, always being careful to avoid breaking the Eighth Commandment.
 7. The professional church worker speaks well of congregation members and continually prays to the Lord on their behalf.
- G. The professional church worker is committed to the **stewardship of his/her own body**.
1. The professional church worker seeks to practice proper hygiene and wear proper attire that does not give offense in the specific context of ministry.
 2. The professional church worker is aware of the dangers of substance abuse and avoids using legal substances in excess. He/she always avoids illegal drugs.
 3. The professional church worker does not allow any activity to progress to the point of excess and the neglect of his/her calling. He/she carefully weighs his/her activities based on comments from family, peers, and congregational leaders.
 4. The professional church worker avoids becoming a “workaholic.” He/she schedules time with family, for vacations, for physical exercise, for hobbies and avocations.
 5. The professional church worker avoids addictive and abusive behavior that will hurt self or others while giving offense to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and always seeks support for the healing process.
- H. The professional church worker is committed to faithful **stewardship of time, talent, and treasures**.
1. The professional church worker avoids undue and offensive dependence on material possessions.
 2. The professional church worker avoids inaccurate and unscrupulous reporting of income for the purposes of taxation.

3. The professional church worker avoids indifference and neglect toward personal obligations and debts.
4. The professional church worker avoids inappropriate use of another's property, including borrowing money from congregational members, not returning borrowed objects, and considering the church's property his/her own.
5. The professional church worker avoids unnecessarily handling church funds and the funds of others.
6. The professional church worker manages his/her own household finances in such a way as to model Biblical stewardship and to demonstrate sound fiscal management.
7. The professional church worker strives to maintain faithfulness to the observance of a healthy stewardship of work and life as addressed in the Third and Seventh Commandments.

I. The professional church worker is committed to **competency in ministry**.

1. The professional church worker continues to study and pursue his/her education for the sake of ministry.
2. The professional church worker manages his/her time properly. He/she performs in a self-directed manner.
3. The professional church worker welcomes an assessment of his/her ministry. He/she asks for help in this assessment from his/her peers, selected members of his/her congregation, and the District President or staff.
4. The professional church worker tries to maintain a realistic view of his/her skills and training and their limitations. He/she refers people to other professionals (psychologists, counselors, etc.) when helpful and necessary. He/she seeks written permission from a congregational member to disclose information when a referral is made to another professional.
5. The professional church worker takes the time and effort necessary to prepare adequately for the daily tasks of his/her ministry.
6. The professional church worker prayerfully and enthusiastically does the whole ministry to which he/she has been called and accepts responsibility for any activity that directly or indirectly relates to his/her job description.
7. The professional church worker is alert to and seeks to prevent conflicts of interest that interfere with the exercise of professional discretion, impartial judgment, and a full teaching of the Word of God. He/she informs the parishioner when a real or potential conflict of personal, political, or business interests arises and, if necessary, refers the parishioner to another professional staff member.
8. The professional church worker is intellectually honest, observing copyright laws, avoiding any hint of plagiarism, and giving credit where credit is due.

IV. ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR ORDAINED MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL

- A. The pastor honors his ordination and installation vows to be faithful to the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as *“the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice, to be faithful to the three Ecumenical Creeds and the Lutheran Confessions, to instruct young and old, to forgive sins of those who repent, to never divulge the sins confessed, to minister faithfully to the sick and dying, to admonish the people to a lively confidence in Christ and holy living and to adorn the office of the public ministry with a holy life.”*⁷
- B. The pastor proclaims the whole will and counsel of God.

V. ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR LUTHERAN TEACHING MINISTERS

- A. In his/her **personal conduct**, the Lutheran teacher:
 - 1. Demonstrates the gift of teaching.
 - 2. Uses Christ-centered teaching styles.
 - 3. Intentionally and deliberately integrates faith into all areas of the curriculum.
 - 4. Nurtures the faith development of all children.
 - 5. Reaches out to those families who are not yet disciples.
 - 6. Maintains proper credentials/certification and licensure.
- B. In his/her **relationship with students**, the Lutheran teacher:
 - 1. Works in the best interest of the child.
 - 2. Demonstrates fair and impartial grading.
 - 3. Shows no favoritism, but demonstrates love and concern for all students.
 - 4. Creates a positive and safe learning environment.
 - 5. Respects the integrity of all students.
 - 6. Reports any suspected abuse to proper authorities.
 - 7. Fosters positive and respectful interaction with students.
 - 8. Disciplines in God-pleasing ways.
 - 9. Avoids the acceptance of money for additional tutoring of own students unless Board policy allows otherwise.
- C. In his/her **relationship with parents**, the Lutheran teacher:
 - 1. Treats all parents with respect.
 - 2. Is approachable and accessible.
 - 3. Communicates appropriate concerns.
 - 4. Assists with training each child.

VI. END NOTES

¹ Eyer, Richard C., *Holy People, Holy Lives, Law and Gospel in Bioethics*, (St. Louis: CPH, 2000), 69. Quoted from his chapter titled “Law and Gospel Foundations for Ethics.”

² Benne, Robert, “Lutheran Ethics”. *The Promise of Lutheran Ethics*, Karen L. Bloomquist and John R. Stimmé, Ed. (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1989), 12.

³ Luther, Martin, *Luther’s Small Catechism*, (St. Louis: CPH, 1986), 22.

⁴ *Lutheran Worship*, page 206.

⁵ *Lutheran Worship Agenda*, 211, 212.

⁶ LCMS Council of Presidents, “Guidelines for Dealing with Marital Crisis Involving Separation and Divorce.”

⁷ *Lutheran Worship Agenda*, 211, 212.

VII. LISTING OF COMMITTEE

Mr. John E. Brandt

Mr. Thomas Jaffke

Dr. George M. Locke

Mr. Keith A. Minda

Mrs. Susan E. Palka

Rev. Philip G. Quardokus

Rev. Luther A. Werth

President C. William Hoesman



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1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** **THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS**
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** **1-01**
3 **SUBJECT:** **To Commend the Use of “Partners in Ministry:**
4 **Ethical Conduct for Congregations and**
5 **Professional Church Workers”**
6

7 **Whereas**, one of the major outcome goals of our Michigan District of the Lutheran
8 Church - Missouri Synod is that “Michigan District congregations and professional
9 church workers demonstrate respect, trust, and support for each other as they engage
10 in interdependent ministries;” and
11

12 **Whereas**, the way congregations and professional church workers conduct themselves
13 in their contacts and transactions with one another greatly affects relationships
14 between them; and
15

16 **Whereas**, the 2006 Convention of the Michigan District of the LC-MS received with
17 gratitude two documents titled *Partners in Ministry: Ethical Conduct for*
18 *Congregations* and *Partners in Ministry: Ethical Conduct for Professional Church*
19 *Workers* which had been developed to provide ethical guidelines for professional
20 church workers and congregations, and directed the Board of Directors to present
21 amended versions of these documents to the 2009 convention; and
22

23 **Whereas**, the 2006 documents have been studied by circuits and congregations which
24 then offered suggestions for improving those documents; and
25

26 **Whereas**, many of those suggestions have been incorporated into the amended
27 documents being presented to the 2009 convention; and
28

29 **Whereas**, most professions have a code of ethics that are subscribed to by the
30 members of that profession; therefore be it
31

32 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod receive
33 with gratitude the ethical guidelines as they have been studied, reviewed, and edited;
34 and be it further
35

36 **Resolved**, that the congregations, professional church workers, and circuits of the
37 Michigan District continue to devote sufficient time to study and reflect upon these
38 guidelines; and be it finally
39

40 **Resolved**, that the congregations and professional church workers of the Michigan
41 District commit themselves to implementing these guidelines in their lives and ministry
42 together.
43

44 Board of Directors
45 The Michigan District – LCMS

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-02
3 **SUBJECT:** To encourage each of our Congregations to be involved in
4 the *Ablaze!* movement
5

6 **Whereas,** our church body has its roots and heart in worldwide evangelization, and
7

8 **Whereas,** we have been boldly challenged to share the Gospel with 100,000,000 people between
9 now and 2017, the 500th Anniversary of the Posting of the 95 Theses, and
10

11 **Whereas,** the heart of the *Ablaze!* movement is to foster a burning desire and to increase the
12 ability of God’s people to share their Christian faith with others (Romans 1:16),
13

14 **Whereas,** the LCMS in convention resolved to start 2,000 new congregations and to revitalize
15 2,000 existing congregations, and
16

17 **Whereas,** many congregations in our District are already participating in the movement through
18 tracking Gospel contacts, using *Ablaze!* outreach materials, working to start new congregations
19 and generally to fire members up to share their Christian faith, and
20

21 **Whereas,** time may be drawing ever nearer for the return of Jesus; therefore be it
22

23 **Resolved,** that we encourage each of our congregations to redouble its efforts to evangelize the
24 community and beyond, and be it further
25

26 **Resolved,** that we commend congregations who have taken a lead in outreach, church planting
27 and registering Gospel contacts at the Synod’s web site, and be it further
28

29 **Resolved,** that we encourage each of our congregations to develop a procedure to recognize and
30 celebrate experiences of sharing the faith with non-Christians, and be it further
31

32 **Resolved,** that during the next triennium, we encourage each of our congregations to develop an
33 intentional plan to join the *Ablaze!* movement by considering each of the following opportunities:
34

- 35 • Adopting or adapting existing *Ablaze!* materials appropriate to the local
36 congregation,
- 37 • Assessing the possibility of beginning a daughter congregation
- 38 • Assessing the need to become involved in a revitalization program
39

40 and be it finally
41

42 **Resolved,** that Convention delegates offer up thanks to God for the great privilege of being
43 ambassadors of Jesus to the world.
44

45 St. Luke Lutheran Church
46 Haslett, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** **THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS**
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** **1-03**
3 **SUBJECT:** **To Ensure Accountable Internet Usage in Michigan**
4 **District Churches**

5
6 **Whereas,** we believe, teach and confess that we are redeemed by the grace of Jesus Christ and are
7 called to newness in life in Christ.

8
9 **Whereas,** statistics on internet pornography and other ungodly usage indicate that such abuse is
10 rampant in our culture (*2008 Ambassadors of Reconciliation Bible Study entitled Responding to Sexual*
11 *Temptation in a High Tech Society, Billings, MT*), and

12
13 **Whereas,** Christians and Church workers are susceptible to temptations (i.e. pornography, gambling,
14 wasting of time) via the internet and other technological media and

15
16 **Whereas,** God commands in Eph. 5:3-4, *“But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual*
17 *immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.*
18 *Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather*
19 *thanksgiving.”*

20
21 **Whereas,** our Michigan District *Partners in Ministry: Ethical Conduct for Professional Church Workers*
22 *(page 7, part E)* encourages upright behavior stating:

23 “The professional church worker is committed to appropriate social behavior.
24 The professional church worker honors the sixth commandment and its meaning as he/she
25 recognizes his/her own sexuality, remembering that the ultimate gift of sexual expression is found
26 only in marriage.
27 The professional church worker avoids pornography and impure speech and refrains from
28 inappropriate physical contact.” and

29
30 **Whereas,** research on social behavior indicates accountability to another person is the most effective
31 means of ensuring appropriate social conduct, be it

32
33 **Resolved,** that all of the delegates assembled in the 2009 Convention be encouraged to lead their
34 respective congregations to recognize the above dangers, and be it further

35
36 **Resolved,** that each of the congregations of the Michigan District warn and instruct their members
37 about such abuses and how they can be avoided, and be it further

38
39 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District research internet accountability software, negotiate discount
40 prices for her member congregations, and be it further

41
42 **Resolved,** that member congregations employ such accountability software on congregation owned
43 computers and other types of electronic devices and be it finally

44
45 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District persuade church workers to do the same on their personal
46 computers and internet devices.

47 St. Matthew Lutheran Church
48 Grand Rapids, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-04
3 **SUBJECT:** To Encourage Spiritual Leadership by Convention
4 Delegates
5

6 **Whereas**, we believe, teach and confess that we are redeemed by the grace of Jesus
7 Christ and trust that we are powerless to achieve anything without his aid, and
8

9 **Whereas**, the delegates, voting and advisory, of the Michigan District are leaders in
10 their congregations, and
11

12 **Whereas**, Dr. Luther and his Large Catechism (15-19, Tappert) challenges believers to
13 develop specific spiritual disciplines and practices, and
14

15 **Whereas**, God invites us into His Word and promises great things through it
16 (John 8:31-32), and
17

18 **Whereas**, God invites us to prayer and promises great things through it
19 (Matthew 7: 7-8), and
20

21 **Whereas**, God wants us to put our trust in Him and to follow no other gods
22 (Matthew 6: 19-34), and
23

24 **Whereas**, God wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth
25 (1 Timothy 2:4), and
26

27 **Whereas**, the 2006 convention adopted a resolution to challenge delegates in the area
28 of leadership and spiritual discipline, and
29

30 **Whereas**, delegates to this Convention may not have served as delegates to a prior
31 Convention, therefore be it
32

33 **Resolved**, that we encourage all of the delegates assembled in the 2009 Convention to
34 take the lead in their respective congregations in the area of spiritual discipline, and be
35 it further
36

37 **Resolved**, that we encourage each of the assembled delegates to read the entire Bible
38 annually, and be it further
39

40 **Resolved**, that we encourage each of the assembled delegates to pray at least one half
41 hour a day, and be it further
42

43 **Resolved**, that we encourage each of the assembled delegates to intentionally cultivate
44 a relationship with four un-churched people to lead them to Christ Jesus, and be it
45 finally
46

1 **Resolved**, that we encourage each of the assembled delegates to encourage others to
2 do the same.

3
4
5

St. Luke Lutheran Church
Haslett, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-05
3 **SUBJECT:** To Plan for the 500th Anniversary Celebration of
4 the Reformation
5

6 **Whereas**, The Lutheran Reformation has been an inestimable blessing to all
7 Christendom and the world by upholding the central Christian doctrine of justification
8 by faith in Christ Jesus; and
9

10 **Whereas**, The confessional heritage of our District is traced in large measure to the
11 influence of Martin Luther and those confessors with him who believed and bravely
12 taught the Word of God which declares salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, for
13 the sake of Christ alone; and
14

15 **Whereas**, the commonly marked anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation is celebrated
16 in commemoration of the posting of Ninety-five Theses by Martin Luther, October 31,
17 1517; and
18

19 **Whereas**, the year 2017 will be the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, a
20 unique opportunity to invite again the world's attention to the pure Word of God and
21 the Lutheran Confessions; and
22

23 **Whereas**, all congregations of the Michigan District, by expressing acceptance of the
24 Holy Scriptures as the written Word of God and all the Symbolical Books of the
25 Evangelical Lutheran church as a true exposition of that Word of God, share the
26 foundation of confessional unity; and
27

28 **Whereas**, a celebration of our reformation heritage and unity under the Word of God is
29 a powerful witness to the world and encouragement to the whole church; therefore be
30 it
31

32 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District, under the auspice of the District President,
33 commence planning for a confessional celebration of this historic anniversary.
34

35 Grace Lutheran Church
36 Auburn, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** **THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS**
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** **1-06**
3 **SUBJECT:** **To Begin Planning for the 500th Anniversary**
4 **Celebration of the Reformation**

5
6 **Whereas,** The Lutheran Reformation has been an inestimable blessing to all
7 Christendom and the world by upholding the central Christian doctrine of justification
8 by faith in Christ Jesus; and

9
10 **Whereas,** The confessional heritage of our District is traced in large measure to the
11 influence of Martin Luther and those confessors with him who believed and bravely
12 taught the Word of God which declares salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, for
13 the sake of Christ alone; and

14
15 **Whereas,** the commonly marked anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation is celebrated
16 in commemoration of the posting of Ninety-five Theses by Martin Luther, October 31,
17 1517; and

18
19 **Whereas,** the year 2017 will be the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, a
20 unique opportunity to invite again the world’s attention to the pure Word of God and
21 the Lutheran Confessions; and

22
23 **Whereas,** all congregations of the Michigan District, by expressing acceptance of the
24 Holy Scriptures as the written Word of God and all the Symbolical Books of the
25 Evangelical Lutheran church as a true exposition of that Word of God, share the
26 foundation of confessional unity; and

27
28 **Whereas,** a celebration of our reformation heritage and unity under the Word of God is
29 a powerful witness to the world and encouragement to the whole church; therefore be
30 it

31
32 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District, under the auspice of the District President,
33 commence planning for a confessional celebration of this historic anniversary.

34
35 St. Peter’s Lutheran Church
36 Rockford, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-07
3 **SUBJECT:** To Urge Congregations of the Michigan District to
4 **Seek Uniformity in Worship Practice**
5

6 **Whereas**, worship begins when God speaks and we respond; and
7

8 **Whereas**, worship is an integral part of the Christian life as St. Paul writes: *“Let the word*
9 *of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,*
10 *singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God”*
11 *(Col. 3:16); and*
12

13 **Whereas**, St. Paul prayed for the Christians in Rome that God would *“give you a spirit of*
14 *unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you*
15 *may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Rom 15:5-6); and*
16

17 **Whereas**, the Lutheran Confessions say, *“For this is enough for true unity of the*
18 *Christian church that there the Gospel is preached harmoniously according to a pure*
19 *understanding and the sacraments are administered in conformity with the divine*
20 *Word. It is not necessary for the true unity of the Christian church that uniform*
21 *ceremonies, instituted by human beings, be observed everywhere. As St. Paul says in*
22 *Ephesians 4[:4-5]: ‘There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one*
23 *hope of you calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism”’ (AC VII; Kolb-Wengert edition);*
24 *and*
25

26 **Whereas**, our Confessions also recognize the benefits of uniformity in worship when
27 they say, *“Nevertheless, we teach that liberty in these matters should be exercised*
28 *moderately, so that the inexperienced may not take offense and, on account of an*
29 *abuse of liberty, become more hostile to the true teaching of the gospel. Nothing in the*
30 *customary rites may be changed without good reason. Instead, in order to foster*
31 *harmony, those ancient customs should be observed that can be observed without sin*
32 *or without proving to be a great burden” (AP XV 51; cf AC XV1-3; Ap XV 1; Ap XXVIII 17);*
33 *and*
34

35 **Whereas**, our Confessions could affirm *“that among us nothing in doctrine or*
36 *ceremonies has been accepted that could contradict either Holy Scripture or the*
37 *universal Christian church” (AC Conclusion 5) and that “no novelty has been introduced*
38 *that did not exist in the church in days of old, [for] no noticeable change has occurred in*
39 *the public liturgy of the Mass” (AC XXIV 40); and*
40

41 **Whereas**, our doctrine and teaching shapes and forms the way we worship, and our
42 worship ceremonies influence our doctrine and teaching in the church; and
43

44 **Whereas**, one of the chief reasons for forming the synodical union, now called the
45 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, was to *“strive after the greatest possible uniformity*
46 *in ceremonies” (1854 Constitution, Art. IV 10); and*

1 **Whereas**, the LCMS lists as one of its objectives to “Encourage congregations to strive
2 for uniformity in church practice, but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of
3 responsible practices and customs which are in harmony with our common profession
4 of faith” (Constitution, Art. III 7); therefore be it

5
6 **Resolved**, that the congregations of the Michigan District remind each other of the
7 promise we have made of “Exclusive use of doctrinally pure agenda, hymnbooks, and
8 catechisms” (Constitution Art. VI 4), both to preserve the truth and for the sake of good
9 order; and be it further

10
11 **Resolved**, that, out of common love for each other and acknowledgment of our
12 communion in Christ, the congregations of the Michigan District be strongly urged to
13 seek as much uniformity in ceremonies as possible; and be it further

14
15 **Resolved**, that since the Michigan District ranks lowest among all the districts of Synod
16 with regards to the usage of *Lutheran Service Book*, Synod’s new hymnal (50% district-
17 wide compared with 70% synod-wide), that congregations be encouraged to seriously
18 consider adopting and using *Lutheran Service Book*, for the sake of uniformity in
19 ceremonies among the congregations of the Michigan District; and be it further

20
21 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District would build greater understanding of our theology
22 of worship and foster further discussions of worship practices that are consistent with
23 our theology, and be it finally

24
25 **Resolved**, That the President of the Michigan District, along with the regional Vice
26 Presidents and the Circuit Counselors, find ways to foster discussion among groups with
27 diverse viewpoints for the purpose of building greater understanding of our theology of
28 worship and fostering further discussion of worship practices that are consistent with
29 sound Lutheran theology and practice.

30
31
32 Hope Lutheran Church
Dewitt, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-08
3 **SUBJECT:** To Urge Congregations of the Michigan District to
4 **Seek Uniformity in Worship Practice**
5

6 **Whereas**, worship begins when God speaks and we respond; and
7

8 **Whereas**, worship is an integral part of the Christian life as St. Paul writes: *“Let the word*
9 *of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,*
10 *singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God”*
11 (Col. 3:16); and
12

13 **Whereas**, St. Paul prayed for the Christians in Rome that God would *“give you a spirit of*
14 *unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you*
15 *may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ”* (Rom 15:5-6); and
16

17 **Whereas**, the Lutheran Confessions say, *“For this is enough for true unity of the*
18 *Christian church that there the Gospel is preached harmoniously according to a pure*
19 *understanding and the sacraments are administered in conformity with the divine*
20 *Word. It is not necessary for the true unity of the Christian church that uniform*
21 *ceremonies, instituted by human beings, be observed everywhere. As St. Paul says in*
22 *Ephesians 4[:4-5]: ‘There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one*
23 *hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism”* (AC VII; Kolb-Wengert edition);
24 and
25

26 **Whereas**, our Confessions also recognize the benefits of uniformity in worship when
27 they say, *“Nevertheless, we teach that liberty in these matters should be exercised*
28 *moderately, so that the inexperienced may not take offense and, on account of an*
29 *abuse of liberty, become more hostile to the true teaching of the gospel. Nothing in the*
30 *customary rites may be changed without good reason. Instead, in order to foster*
31 *harmony, those ancient customs should be observed that can be observed without sin*
32 *or without proving to be a great burden”* (AP XV 51; cf AC XV1-3; Ap XV 1; Ap XXVIII 17);
33 and
34

35 **Whereas**, our Confessions could affirm *“that among us nothing in doctrine or*
36 *ceremonies has been accepted that could contradict either Holy Scripture or the*
37 *universal Christian church”* (AC Conclusion 5) and that *“no novelty has been introduced*
38 *that did not exist in the church in days of old, [for] no noticeable change has occurred in*
39 *the public liturgy of the Mass”* (AC XXIV 40); and
40

41 **Whereas**, our doctrine and teaching shape and form the way we worship, and our
42 worship ceremonies influence our doctrine and teaching in the church; and
43

44 **Whereas**, one of the chief reasons for forming the synodical union, now called the
45 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, was to *“strive after the greatest possible uniformity*
46 *in ceremonies”* (1854 Constitution, Art. IV 10); and

1 **Whereas**, the LCMS lists as one of its objectives to “Encourage congregations to strive
2 for uniformity in church practice, but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of
3 responsible practices and customs which are in harmony with our common profession
4 of faith” (Constitution, Art. III 7); therefore be it

5

6 **Resolved**, that the congregations of the Michigan District remind each other of the
7 promise we have made of “Exclusive use of doctrinally pure agenda, hymnbooks, and
8 catechisms” (Constitution Art. VI 4), both to preserve the truth and for the sake of good
9 order; and be it further

10

11 **Resolved**, that, out of common love for each other and acknowledgment of our
12 communion in Christ, the congregations of the Michigan District be strongly urged to
13 seek as much uniformity in ceremonies as possible; and be it further

14

15 **Resolved**, that since the Michigan District ranks below other districts of Synod with
16 regards to the usage of *Lutheran Service Book*, Synod’s new hymnal (50% district-wide
17 compared with 70% synod-wide), that congregations be encouraged to seriously
18 consider adopting and using *Lutheran Service Book*, for the sake of uniformity in
19 ceremonies among the congregations of the Michigan District; and be it further

20

21 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District would build greater understanding of our theology
22 of worship and foster further discussions of worship practices that are consistent with
23 our theology, and be it finally

24

25 **Resolved**, That the President of the Michigan District, along with the regional Vice
26 Presidents and the Circuit Counselors, find ways to foster discussion among groups with
27 diverse viewpoints for the purpose of building greater understanding of our theology of
28 worship and fostering further discussion of worship practices that are consistent with
29 sound Lutheran theology and practice.

30

31

32

Our Savior Lutheran Church
Grand Rapids, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-09
3 **SUBJECT:** To Oppose Embryonic Stem Cell Research
4

5 **Whereas**, Holy Scripture teaches that God alone has created all human life begins and
6 all human life beings at conception (Psalm 51, Jeremiah 1 etc.) and,
7

8 **Whereas**, Our Lord Sanctified all stages of life from conception to death and
9 resurrection with His conception by the Holy Spirit in the Virgin Mary (Luke 1) and,
10

11 **Whereas**, all humanity has been dignified with the Image of God at Creation, and
12

13 **Whereas**, God prohibits the willful destruction of Human life, and
14

15 **Whereas**, God encourages His people to love and care for all people, and
16

17 **Whereas**, science acknowledges that life begins at conception, and
18

19 **Whereas**, human embryos are being created for the soul purpose of harvesting stem
20 cells, and
21

22 **Whereas**, the harvesting of stem cells from human embryos results in the destruction of
23 the embryo, and
24

25 **Whereas**, human stem cells can be obtained apart from adults apart from the
26 destruction of human life, therefore be it,
27

28 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention reject all forms of Embryonic stem
29 cell research, and be it further
30

31 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District provide resources to encourage congregations and
32 pastors in the witness against Embryonic Stem Cell Research, and be it finally,
33

34 **Resolved**, that our preaching and teaching emphasize God's creative activity and will in
35 the preservation of all human life until he alone chooses to end it.
36

37 Grace Lutheran Church
38 Auburn, MI

Hope Lutheran Church
Dewitt, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-10
3 **SUBJECT:** To Reject Gender Neutral Language in Readings,
4 Liturgies and Confirmation Material
5

6 **Whereas,** worldly influences and ideologies impact church life, and
7

8 **Whereas,** such influences often blur the distinction between the sexes through the use
9 of gender neutral language, and
10

11 **Whereas,** such differences often manifests itself in the removal of masculine terms
12 resulting is a distortion and denial of God’s self revelation as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
13 and,
14

15 **Whereas,** a blurring of gender distinctions results in the confusion of vocations of men
16 and women, and
17

18 **Whereas,** purposely mistranslating God’s Revealed Word is equal to lying and deceiving
19 by God’s Name, and
20

21 **Whereas,** many of these “mistranslations” manifest themselves in the liturgies and
22 hymns of Christian Worship, therefore be it
23

24 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District in convention reject the use of gender neutral
25 bibles, liturgies, and hymns in public and private use, and be it further
26

27 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District provide resources which assist in the teaching of
28 the biblical view of the relationship between men and women, and be it further
29

30 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District develop bible studies highlighting the importance of
31 the biblical basis of gender specific language, and be it further
32

33 **Resolved,** that Congregations and Pastors make known to their members reasons for
34 rejecting gender neutral language in bibles, liturgies and hymns, and finally be it
35

36 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District in Convention memorialize this overture to the
37 2010 Synodical Convention.
38

39 St. Peter’s Lutheran Church Hope Lutheran Church
40 Rockford, MI Dewitt, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-11
3 **SUBJECT:** To Reject Gender Neutral Language in Readings,
4 Liturgies and Hymns
5

6 **Whereas,** worldly influences and ideologies impact church life, and
7

8 **Whereas,** such influences often blur the distinction between the sexes through the use
9 of gender neutral language, and
10

11 **Whereas,** such differences often manifests itself in the removal of masculine terms
12 resulting is a distortion and denial of God’s self revelation as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
13 and,
14

15 **Whereas,** a blurring of gender distinctions results in the confusion of vocations of men
16 and women, and
17

18 **Whereas,** purposely mistranslating God’s Revealed Word is equal to lying and deceiving
19 by God’s Name, and
20

21 **Whereas,** many of these “mistranslations” manifest themselves in the liturgies and
22 hymns of Christian Worship, therefore be it
23

24 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District in convention reject the use of gender neutral
25 Bibles, liturgies, catechisms and hymns in public and private use, and be it further
26

27 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District provide resources which assist in the teaching of
28 the biblical view of the relationship between men and women, and be it further
29

30 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District develop Bible studies highlighting the importance
31 of the biblical basis of gender specific language, and be it further
32

33 **Resolved,** that Congregations and Pastors make known to their members reasons for
34 rejecting gender neutral language in Bibles, liturgies and hymns, and be it finally
35

36 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District in Convention memorialize the 2010 A+D Synodical
37 Convention to consider similar action on the synodical level.
38

39 Our Savior Lutheran Church
40 Grand Rapids, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** **THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS**
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** **1-12**
3 **SUBJECT:** **To Promote the Biblical Understanding of**
4 **Marriage**

5
6 **Whereas,** God instituted Marriage as the lifelong exclusive union of one man and one
7 woman as husband and wife (Genesis 2) and,

8
9 **Whereas,** God instituted marriage for the procreation of children (Genesis 1:28), the
10 avoidance of sin (1 Corinthians 7:2), and so that man and woman may find delight in one
11 another (LSB Holy Matrimony pg. 275) and

12
13 **Whereas,** the institution of marriage is foundational for family and community, and

14
15 **Whereas,** marriage is a picture of the communion of Christ and His bride Church
16 (Ephesians 5:22 ff), and

17
18 **Whereas,** the Biblical Understanding of Marriage has been under attack from groups
19 attempting to change the definition of marriage, and

20
21 **Whereas,** several states have begun to recognize Homosexual unions as marriage
22 thereby providing blessing from the state, and

23
24 **Whereas,** many Christian marriages are broken and end in divorce due to a rejection by
25 one or both parties of the biblical vocations of husband and wife, and

26
27 **Whereas,** homosexual “civil unions” and heterosexual divorce have an adverse impact
28 upon family and community, therefore be it

29
30 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District in convention confess the Biblical understanding of
31 Marriage as the lifelong union of one man and one woman, and be it

32
33 **Resolved,** that the District urge its members to clearly preach and teach this biblical
34 truth, and be it

35
36 **Resolved,** that the District provide resources to assist in such preaching and teaching
37 promoting strong and healthy marriages, and be it

38
39 **Resolved,** that men and women in struggling marriages seek reconciliation and support
40 from their Christian brothers and sisters within the community of Christ’s Church, and
41 be it

42
43 **Resolved,** that those who have suffered the dissolution of their marriage seek
44 forgiveness from Christ through Holy Absolution from their pastor, and finally be it

45
46 **Resolved,** that all husbands and wives “lead a sexually pure and decent life in what they

1 say and do, and love and honor each other” (Sixth Commandment) according to God’s
2 Word.

3

4 Hope Lutheran Church
5 Dewitt, MI

St. Peter’s Lutheran Church
Rockford, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** **THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS**
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** **1-13**
3 **SUBJECT:** **To Promote the Biblical Understanding of**
4 **Marriage**
5

6 **Whereas,** God instituted Marriage as the lifelong exclusive union of one man and one
7 woman as husband and wife (Genesis 2) and,
8

9 **Whereas,** God instituted marriage for the procreation of children (Genesis 1:28), the
10 avoidance of sin (1 Corinthians 7:2), and so that man and woman may find delight in one
11 another (LSB Holy Matrimony pg. 275, Genesis 2:18) and
12

13 **Whereas,** the institution of marriage is foundational for family and community, and
14

15 **Whereas,** marriage is a picture of the communion of Christ and His bride Church
16 (Ephesians 5:22 ff), and
17

18 **Whereas,** the Biblical Understanding of Marriage has been under attack from groups
19 attempting to change the definition of marriage, and
20

21 **Whereas,** several states have begun to recognize Homosexual unions as marriage
22 thereby providing blessing from the state, and
23

24 **Whereas,** many Christian marriages are broken and end in divorce due to a rejection by
25 one or both parties of the biblical vocations of husband and wife, and
26

27 **Whereas,** homosexual “civil unions” and heterosexual divorce have an adverse impact
28 upon family and community, therefore be it
29

30 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District in convention confess the Biblical understanding of
31 Marriage as the lifelong union of one man and one woman, and be it
32

33 **Resolved,** that the District urge its members to clearly preach and teach this biblical
34 truth, and be it
35

36 **Resolved,** that the District provide resources to assist in such preaching and teaching
37 promoting strong and healthy marriages, and be it
38

39 **Resolved,** that men and women in struggling marriages seek reconciliation and support
40 from their Christian brothers and sisters within the community of Christ’s Church, and
41 be it
42

43 **Resolved,** that those who have dissolved their marriage fro unbiblical reasons seek
44 forgiveness from Christ through Holy Absolution from their pastor, and be it further
45

46 **Resolved,** that all husbands and wives “lead a sexually pure and decent life in what they

1 say and do, and love and honor each other” (Sixth Commandment) according to God’s
2 Word, and be it finally

3

4 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention submit this resolution to the 2010
5 A+D Synodical Convention.

6

7

8

Our Savior Lutheran Church
Grand Rapids, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** **THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS**
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** **1-14**
3 **SUBJECT:** **To Encourage the reading and study of C.F.W.**
4 **Walther’s Church and Ministry**
5

6 **Whereas**, confusion regarding the doctrine of church and ministry continues to plague
7 our LC-MS, and

8
9 **Whereas**, Dr. C.F. W. Walther addressed the confusion regarding the doctrine of church
10 and ministry in his *Theses on Church and Ministry*, which were subsequently adopted as
11 the as the official position of the LC-MS in 1851, and

12
13 **Whereas**, in 2001, the LC-MS in convention reaffirmed C.F.W. Walther’s *Church and*
14 *Ministry* as the official position of Synod under the Holy Scriptures and Lutheran
15 Confessions, and

16
17 **Whereas**, in 2001 the LC-MS resolved that all pastors, professors, teachers of the church
18 and congregations honor and uphold this as the official position of Synod, and

19
20 **Whereas**, many members of synod, including pastors, professors, teachers and
21 congregations have not read C.F.W. Walther’s *Church and Ministry*, therefore having
22 little understanding of its contents, and

23
24 **Whereas**, understanding of this doctrine contributes to the unity of Synod, therefore be
25 it

26
27 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention commit herself to the study of C.F.W.
28 Walther’s *Church and Ministry* in Winkels, Circuit forums, District Conventions, and
29 congregational Bible studies and be it further

30
31 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention request both seminaries develop a
32 document which includes a new translation of *Church and Ministry (Kirche und Amt)* and
33 addresses our current confusion regarding the doctrine of church and ministry. And be
34 it finally

35
36 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in her official publications (including *Michigan in*
37 *Touch*) present articles which hold before the people what we believe, teach, and
38 confess regarding the doctrine of church and ministry.

39
40
41

Hope Lutheran Church
Dewitt, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-15
3 **SUBJECT:** To Develop and Promote a Forum which Addresses
4 Topics Characterizing Synod and Congregational Disunity
5

6 **Whereas**, Scripture clearly encourages us to live in peace, harmony and unity within the Body
7 of Christ (John 13:34-35, 17:20-23; 1 Cor. 1:10-13, 12:12-13; Eph. 4:4-6; Php. 2:1-2; *et al*); and,
8

9 **Whereas**, the Lutheran Confessions expect us to do the same, but not at the expense the Truth
10 (*F.C., S.D., XI.95*), and,
11

12 **Whereas**, the Synod Constitution states as among its "Objectives" to "1. Conserve and promote
13 the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 1:10), ..., and provide a united defense against
14 schism, sectarianism (Rom. 16:17), and heresy;" and to "7. Encourage congregations to strive
15 for uniformity in church practice, but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of *responsible*
16 practices and customs which are *in harmony with our common profession of faith*;" (emphasis
17 added), and,
18

19 **Whereas**, the Synod is holding a series of convocations on unity, and has provided studies for
20 use in Circuit Pastors' gatherings on the subject; and,
21

22 **Whereas**, the Synod President has indicated in his "Theological Unity and Disunity in The
23 Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod" (April 21, 2008) that where he sees great unity in doctrine, he
24 admits there is disunity in practice throughout the Synod, specifically in the areas of "Close
25 Communion, Church and Ministry, The Service of Women in the Church, and Worship." At the
26 same time many others see these practical differences as reflective of doctrinal differences;
27 and,
28

29 **Whereas**, it would be therefore beneficial to have be a vehicle for teaching, discussing, and
30 implementing measures to encourage peace, harmony, and unity in doctrine and practice
31 within the District and Synod; be it therefore ...
32

33 **Resolved**, that the District President and administration develop a series of forums, to include
34 all rostered Church workers and laity, in various locations within the four Regions, which
35 addresses topics and areas around which there exists uncertainty over whether or not we are
36 united in Christ's Word in the Synod, District, and congregations; and be it further ...
37

38 **Resolved**, that these forums included the teaching and discussing of the connection of doctrine
39 and practice; and be it finally ...
40

41 **Resolved**, that a plan of implementation be developed to foster peace, harmony, and unity in
42 doctrine and practice, and our relationships with one another, within the District.
43

44 Hope Lutheran Church
45 Dewitt, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** THEOLOGY, MISSION and RELATIONS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 1-16
3 **SUBJECT:** To Address Clergy Mental Health
4

5 **Whereas** burnout is found most often among those in helping or people-related professions,
6 among those who bear heavy responsibilities, and
7

8 **Whereas** burnout is often found among pastors, and
9

10 **Whereas** the causes cited for clergy “burnout” are: role overload, role confusion, inability to
11 shed continually responsibility, and inability to get time off. And,
12

13 **Whereas** clergy “burnout” can result in fatigue, tension, exhaustion, anxiety, worry, insecurity,
14 and even guilt. And,
15

16 **Whereas** Christian psychologists, pastors and therapists suggest that “burnout” can be headed
17 off or overcome by prayer, Scripture reading, physical therapy and exercise, spiritual
18 development, free time and having a support system, and
19

20 **Whereas** many congregations unduly limit the amount of time their pastor may have for
21 vacations, conferences, and spiritual development through sabbaticals, thereby contributing to
22 clergy “burnout.” Therefore be it
23

24 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District in Convention acknowledge clergy “burnout” as a serious
25 issue within the church, and be it
26

27 **Resolved,** that congregations of the Michigan District reconsider the amount of time and
28 monies allotted for their pastor’s vacation, conferences and spiritual development, and be it
29 further
30

31 **Resolved,** that the congregations of the Michigan District graciously provide sufficient time and
32 monies for vacation, conferences, and spiritual development, and be it further
33

34 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District reevaluate its guidelines regarding vacation, conferences
35 and spiritual development of the congregation’s pastors, and be it further
36

37 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District provide resources for pastors and congregations which
38 support the pastor through clergy renewal programs such as the Lilly Endowment’s clergy
39 renewal program. And be it finally
40

41 **Resolved,** that pastors be encouraged to purposely set aside time for vacation with family,
42 study and prayer in the Word, and further spiritual development through attendance of
43 theological conferences, retreats, and classes.
44

45
46 Hope Lutheran Church
Dewitt, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-01
3 **SUBJECT:** To Implement Changes to Future Michigan District
4 Conventions
5

6 **Whereas**, Resolution 2-06, adopted by the 2006 Michigan District Convention, directed
7 that a task force be appointed to reexamine the pre-convention Regional Assemblies,
8 study the length, timing and logistics of the District Convention, and report its findings
9 to the District Board of Directors, and
10

11 **Whereas**, while the main purpose of the District Convention is to conduct the business
12 of the Michigan District, other components and elements can be incorporated while the
13 District is gathered. (i.e., inspiration, communication, celebration, recognition,
14 promotion of unity, and the like), and
15

16 **Whereas**, May pre-convention Regional Assemblies are poorly attended despite
17 important agenda items, and
18

19 **Whereas**, there is a perceived feeling of disenfranchisement among commissioned
20 workers of the District, who may not vote at conventions according to Synodical Bylaws,
21 and
22

23 **Whereas**, there has been a reduced number of resolutions for previous conventions to
24 consider and a perceived need to reduce the amount of floor time, and
25

26 **Whereas**, the District Convention Task Force has completed a careful study of the
27 evaluation results, along with the strengths and weaknesses of previous conventions,
28 and has made its recommendations to the District Board of Directors, therefore be it
29

30 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District adopt a new model for future District Conventions
31 starting in 2012, with the District Convention held immediately after a triennial
32 conference for all professional church workers as well as lay delegates, and be it further
33

34 **Resolved**, that the District change the timing of the Convention from Sunday-
35 Wednesday to Thursday-Saturday to better accommodate the work schedules of our
36 teachers and lay delegates, and be it further
37

38 **Resolved**, that future conventions be held early in the month of October and begin with
39 workshops and plenary speakers designed to build congregational, District and
40 Synodical unity and provide training and inspiration, and be it further
41

42 **Resolved**, that reports from District and Synodical leaders at future conventions be
43 scheduled to encourage attendance by all professional church workers and voting lay
44 delegates, and be it further
45
46

1 **Resolved**, that Regional Assemblies be moved from the first Saturday in May to the day
2 before the convention, and be it further

3

4 **Resolved**, that since Concordia-Ann Arbor's facilities would be inadequate to
5 accommodate the new model, the District gather at a convention center chosen by the
6 General Convention Committee, and be it finally

7

8 **Resolved**, that the Bylaws of the Michigan District be amended as follows:

9

10 ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION

11

12 1.3.b. The four Regional Assemblies shall meet prior to the District Convention, at
13 which time delegates shall consist of the regularly elected and delegated
14 representatives, cf 2.3, of said regions. The purpose of the Regional Assemblies shall be
15 to ~~evaluate their Regional as well as District needs~~, conduct appropriate business and to
16 ~~submit nominations for District elections~~ present the regional ballot to the convention.

17

18 ARTICLE III - REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES

19

20 3.1 Regional Assemblies shall meet ~~on the first Saturday in May~~ prior to the
21 Convention of the Michigan District. The Regional Vice-President shall ~~call at a place of~~
22 ~~his choosing an assembly of his region~~ *preside and conduct appropriate business.*

23

24 3.3 Representation: Each congregation shall be represented at ~~this assembly~~ *these*
25 *assemblies* as it is at District Conventions; namely, by two voting delegates *nominated,*
26 *elected or duly appointed by the congregation* (one pastor and one layperson) and by
27 the advisory members of Synod (cf 2.3).

28

29 3.6 The purpose of ~~the each~~ Regional Assembly shall be:

30 a. ~~To study the needs of the Region in mission and ministry;~~

31 b. ~~To hear and discuss the total needs of the District;~~

32 e. a. To be informed about major issues to come before the District
33 Convention;

34 d. b. To nominate from its Region two (2) pastors for election by the District
35 Convention

36 to the office of Regional Vice-President in accordance with the provisions
37 of Bylaw 5.12 and the Schedule of Elections.

38 e. c. To nominate from its Region two (2) ordained ministers *and* two (2)
39 commissioned ministers from the roster of the District and four (4) lay
40 persons from a slate prepared by the Regional Nominating Committee for
41 election by the District Convention to the Board of Directors of the
42 District.

43 f. d. To nominate as specified in 5.8 c. and d.

44

45

46

Board of Directors
The Michigan District - LCMS

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-02
3 **SUBJECT:** To Revise District Convention Nomination and
4 Election Procedures
5

6 **Whereas**, Resolution 2-06, adopted by the 2006 Michigan District Convention, directed
7 that a task force be appointed to study the length, timing and logistics of the District
8 Convention, and report its findings to the District Board of Directors, and
9

10 **Whereas**, under the current nomination process for Regional Vice-Presidents, delegates
11 cast one ballot for first and second choices, with tellers using a point system to rank the
12 candidates, so that the two candidates with the largest number of points become the
13 nominees (see Bylaw 5.12f), and
14

15 **Whereas**, a candidate for Regional Vice-President with fewer actual nominations than
16 another may be forwarded to the convention under this nomination process, and
17

18 **Whereas**, Bylaw 4.2 states that “No congregation of the District shall have more than
19 one (1) member from its congregation as a voting member of the Board of Directors to
20 the district,” sometimes rendering approved nominees ineligible to serve based on
21 completed elections, and
22

23 **Whereas**, the District Convention Task Force has made recommendations to the District
24 Board of Directors to change the vice-presidential nomination process and minimize
25 confusion in Board of Directors elections, therefore be it
26

27 **Resolved**, that the Bylaws of the Michigan District be amended as follows:
28

29 ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES
30

31 5.12 Nominations and Elections of Vice Presidents.
32

- 33 f. Each voting delegate in the Region may vote for ~~two (2) nominees for Vice-~~
34 ~~President, indicating his first and second choice. The tellers, appointed by the~~
35 ~~Chairman, shall score two (2) points for each first choice and one (1) point for~~
36 ~~each second choice. The two (2) nominees receiving the largest number of points~~
37 ~~shall be candidates. The tellers shall report the results of the meeting to the~~
38 ~~Chairman. one (1) nominee for Vice-President. The candidate receiving the lowest~~
39 ~~number of votes shall be eliminated from the succeeding ballot. Voting shall~~
40 ~~continue until a majority vote is achieved for one candidate. A second round of~~
41 ~~balloting shall follow, using the same procedure, to determine a second nominee.~~
42 ~~The two nominees will be forwarded to the Convention as the slate to be~~
43 ~~considered for election.~~

1 5.16 Election of Other Officers.

2

3 a. Election of all officers other than the President and Vice-Presidents will be held
4 at a special period of the Convention session determined and announced by the
5 President in advance.

6 b. The Committee on Elections shall submit one (1) ballot containing the nominees
7 furnished by the Committee on Nominations for all elective offices.

8 c. The list of nominees for each respective office, together with their experience
9 and qualifications, shall be distributed.

10 d. *In order to clearly abide by the provisions of Bylaw 4.2, elections for the Board of*
11 *Directors shall be held in the following order: Ordained, Commissioned, Lay.*

12

13

14

Board of Directors

The Michigan District – LCMS

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-03
3 **SUBJECT:** To Encourage Participation in National Lutheran
4 School Accreditation
5

6 **Whereas**, congregations in the Michigan District sponsor elementary schools and high
7 schools that daily address the spiritual and educational needs of 13,000 students in 95
8 different locations. And
9

10 **Whereas**, we are Called by Christ to be “excellent” in everything we do as reflected in Paul’s
11 writings in Colossians 3:23 where he writes “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart,
12 as working for the Lord, not for men.” And
13

14 **Whereas**, the changing needs of students require us to be “excellent” in Lutheran
15 education, preparing students for an earthly walk as “good Citizens” and a Heavenly Walk as
16 Christ Followers. And
17

18 **Whereas**, parents are seeking schools that are academically excellent and continually
19 striving to improve and better assist families in training children. And
20

21 **Whereas**, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod has developed a process for maintaining
22 excellence through school improvement that is currently used by over 67% of our District’s
23 elementary schools and high schools. And
24

25 **Whereas**, this process is known as National Lutheran School Accreditation and involves a
26 thorough self-study in key areas related to excellence, a visit team assessment and the filing
27 of ongoing annual reports for a period of five years, which is the duration of the program
28 before it needs to be repeated. And
29

30 **Whereas**, this process costs \$300 payable to Synod and \$100 or less to the District
31 annually, it is an inexpensive model to assist Lutheran Schools in planning for Ongoing
32 improvement, striving for academic excellence and in assessing quality and assisting
33 congregations in evaluating their program.
34

35 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention thank Terry Schmidt, Executive Director
36 of LCMS School Ministry, for this tool. And be it further
37

38 **Resolved**, that every elementary school and high school operated by congregations in the
39 Michigan District be encouraged to participate in this process by 2012. And be it finally
40

41 **Resolved**, that a report be presented to the 2012 District Convention on the progress of
42 schools in the NLSA process.
43

44 Board of Directors
45 The Michigan District – LCMS

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-04
3 **SUBJECT:** To Affirm Mission Through Lutheran Schools
4

5 **Whereas**, Holy Scripture exhorts us to “Train a child in the way he should go, and when
6 he is old he will not turn from it” (Proverbs 22:6) and “do not exasperate your children;
7 instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4), and
8

9 **Whereas**, the schools of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod offer parents an
10 opportunity to supplement their children's training, and
11

12 **Whereas**, The Michigan District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has a long and
13 cherished tradition of providing Lutheran school training for the school-aged children of
14 the District, and
15

16 **Whereas**, “Only 3 percent of the nation’s 13-year-olds have a Biblical worldview which
17 serves as the foundation for their decision making” (Transforming Children into Spiritual
18 Champions, George Barna, 2003, page 37) and “whatever beliefs a person embraces
19 when he or she is young are not likely to change as the individual ages” (Transforming
20 Children into Spiritual Champions, George Barna, 2003, page 37), and
21

22 **Whereas**, the Lutheran schools of the Michigan District-LCMS provide a nursery for a
23 Biblical worldview that will last for this life and the next, and
24

25 **Whereas**, Lutheran schools enroll a significant percentage of children from non-
26 church homes, providing an excellent opportunity for Christian witness, outreach and
27 assimilation, and
28

29 **Whereas**, the Lutheran schools of the Michigan District-LCMS annually account for a
30 large number of baptisms, expanding the family of God, and
31

32 **Whereas**, many future church workers are inspired to enter ministry while in a Lutheran
33 school, and
34

35 **Whereas**, teachers, principals and staff members of Lutheran schools model faith with
36 deeds in their congregations and communities, and
37

38 **Whereas**, Lutheran school graduates consistently take Christian leadership roles in their
39 congregations and communities, therefore be it
40

41 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District-LCMS in convention commend the work of
42 Lutheran schools in the District, and be it further
43

1 **Resolved**, that all congregations of the Michigan District-LCMS be encouraged to
2 establish, support or maintain Lutheran schools in the Michigan District-LCMS, and be it
3 further

4
5 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District-LCMS in convention empower the President
6 to appoint a Task Force to study the feasibility of establishing and funding a new
7 Lutheran school that ministers to children and touches entire families with the Gospel,
8 leading eventually to the start of a mission congregation, and be it further

9
10 **Resolved**, that this Task Force report to the 2012 District Convention with a plan to
11 implement said mission, and be it finally

12
13 **Resolved**, that the delegates of the Michigan District-LCMS in convention rise and sing
14 praise to God in thanksgiving for all of the blessings He has provided through the
15 Lutheran schools of the Michigan District-LCMS.

16
17
18

Board of Directors
The Michigan District – LCMS

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-05
3 **SUBJECT:** To Support the Lutheran Character of Lutheran Schools
4

5 **Whereas,** Lutheran schools can only be truly Lutheran when the educators who teach in them
6 are Lutheran and are trained to communicate their faith through their teaching and practice,
7 and
8

9 **Whereas,** only roughly one in three educators in K-12 schools in the district are rostered
10 Lutheran teachers, one in three are Lutheran laypeople, and one in three are not even
11 Lutheran, and
12

13 **Whereas,** there is a declining enrollment in applicants for the Lutheran Teacher Diploma at
14 Concordia, Ann Arbor, and across the Synod, and
15

16 **Whereas,** all congregations have catechism classes to instruct laypeople in the Lutheran faith,
17 and
18

19 **Whereas,** the Synod has a colloquy program to enable lay educators to achieve rostering as
20 called Lutheran teachers, and
21

22 **Whereas,** the cost of higher education at a private university is one large factor that hinders
23 Lutheran youth from studying to be Lutheran school teachers, therefore be it
24

25 **Resolved,** that, wherever possible, congregations call rostered Lutheran teachers to serve in
26 their schools, and be it
27

28 **Resolved,** that pastors and principals encourage Lutheran laypeople to avail themselves of the
29 colloquy training to become educators of the Lutheran faith, and be it
30

31 **Resolved,** that congregations support their teachers in colloquy training with their prayers and
32 with their dollars, and be it
33

34 **Resolved,** that non-LCMS teachers of Lutheran schools be encouraged to attend instruction in
35 the Lutheran faith in order to be better informed about the faith promoted at their school and
36 to prayerfully consider confessing the Lutheran faith as their own, and be it
37

38 **Resolved,** that congregations encourage their gifted and faith-filled youth to consider whether
39 God is calling them to serve as Lutheran teachers, and finally be it
40

41 **Resolved,** that congregations support their students and their institutions of higher education
42 with their prayers and with their offerings.
43

44 St. Thomas Lutheran Church
45 Ann Arbor, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-06
3 **SUBJECT:** To Support the Board of Black Ministry Services
4

5 **Whereas**, Christians have been released from the bondage of sin and death through the
6 victorious death and resurrection of the Great Emancipator Jesus Christ; and
7

8 **Whereas**, Lutherans, in particular, rejoice in the reclamation of the blessing of that freedom by
9 the emancipating monk Martin Luther; and
10

11 **Whereas**, the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod has been uniquely blessed by it's work among
12 the African American people, whose cry for freedom was answered by the Emancipation
13 proclamation of President Abraham Lincoln; and
14

15 **Whereas**, such a great heritage of freedom was denied to generations of African Americans
16 through Reconstruction, segregation, intolerance, inequity, and injustice; and
17

18 **Whereas**, the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod in its human efforts sinned, at times, in its
19 implementation of such actions and sinned, oft times, in its toleration of such actions; and
20

21 **Whereas**, the healing and reconciliation begun in our humble confession of that sin is yet
22 incomplete; and
23

24 **Whereas**, the unique experience of generations of African Americans has formed a culture
25 unique to these generational African Americans; and
26

27 **Whereas**, hundreds of thousands of these generational African Americans, especially in the
28 core urban areas of this nation, remain unclaimed by the Gospel and unharvested to our
29 church; therefore, be it
30

31 **Resolved**, that we affirm the unique work of the Board for Black Ministry Services, in guiding
32 our church in the continuing healing path of repentance; and be it further
33

34 **Resolved**, that we support the specific continuation of the Board for Black Ministry Services in
35 recognition of its unique work and the special gifts it brings to the furtherance of the Kingdom,
36 and the blessings it brings to our church and be it finally
37

38 **Resolved**, that we, in the unity of faith, reaffirm our dedication to the unaccomplished task of
39 bringing the Gospel to generational African Americans and uplift the continuation of the Board
40 for Black Ministry Services in our prayers and with our time, talents, and tithes that we may
41 claim for the Kingdom the great harvest set before us.
42

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44
Charity Lutheran Church
Detroit, Michigan

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-07
3 **SUBJECT:** To Memorialize Synod to Re-establish the Board for
4 Stewardship for the LCMS
5

6 **Whereas**, Resolution 4-03 of the 1992 LCMS Convention restructured the Department of
7 Stewardship and The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod Foundation; and
8

9 **Whereas**, that restructuring caused stewardship ministry in the LCMS to have a less influential
10 voice; and
11

12 **Whereas**, Resolution 2-07A of the 2001 LCMS Convention in an attempt to increase
13 stewardship influence re-established the Department of Stewardship under the Board for
14 District and congregational Services; and
15

16 **Whereas**, Resolution 4-01 of the 2004 Convention called for a “Stewardship Ablaze” emphasis
17 to raise awareness of faithful stewardship in all of the congregations; and
18

19 **Whereas**, Resolution 4-02 of the 2007 convention indicated that the Blue Ribbon Task Force for
20 Funding the Mission identified a significant need in our LCMS to strengthen the areas of
21 stewardship in the life of every Christian within our church body; and
22

23 **Whereas**, Resolution 4-02 mandated the coordination of national and district leaders and other
24 assisting entities in the development of resources, training, and strategic components for an
25 expanding stewardship renewal in the life of our church; and
26

27 **Whereas**, Resolution 4-02 to begin a stewardship renewal through enhanced communication
28 was adopted in convention; and
29

30 **Whereas**, the Director of Stewardship Ministry of the LCMS will have the greatest influence to
31 help guide stewardship renewal in the LCMS functioning at the executive staff level; therefore
32 be it
33

34 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention memorialize the LCMS to re-establish the
35 Board of Stewardship elevating the Director of LCMS Stewardship Ministries to executive staff
36 level reporting to the LCMS President/Board of Directors.
37

38 Hope Lutheran Church
39 Warren, Michigan

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-08
3 **SUBJECT:** To Give Thanks for the Work of LCMS World Relief and
4 Human Care
5

6 **Whereas**, LCMS World Relief and Human Care, its Executive Director Rev. Matthew Harrison,
7 and its staff serve "as the instrument through which faithful and compassionate believers in
8 Jesus Christ extend the mercy of a loving God to others;" "seeks to alleviate human suffering
9 and elevate the human condition by responding to emergencies and enabling struggling people
10 to become self-sufficient;" and works with LCMS Districts and congregations, and inter-
11 Lutheran agencies to accomplish this task; and,
12

13 **Whereas**, "LCMS World Relief and Human Care supports a variety of development projects,
14 both overseas and in the United States," dealing with such things as "the physical and
15 emotional effects of poverty, homelessness, neglect or economic crisis," including "inadequate
16 education or vocational preparation, joblessness, hunger and malnutrition, physical and mental
17 illness, addiction and dependency, and lack of opportunity;" and,
18

19 **Whereas**, "LCMS World Relief and Human Care works with partners around the world to enable
20 people to overcome physical and emotional challenges," through such things as "agricultural
21 assistance projects ..., to preschool and after-school care for the children of working poor
22 families ..., to resettlement and orientation programs for immigrants and refugees;" and,
23

24 **Whereas**, LCMS World Relief and Human Care has provided extraordinary assistance in the
25 wake of recent national and international natural disasters; and,
26

27 **Whereas**, in recent years, under the leadership of Executive Director Matthew Harrison, the
28 work of LCMS World Relief and Human Care has increased; the awareness of its work has
29 increased; and its mercy mission focus has been highlighted; be it therefore ...
30

31 **Resolved**, that the congregations of the Michigan District give heartfelt thanks to God for
32 blessings He has provided through LCMS World Relief and Human Care, its Executive Director
33 Matthew Harrison, its staff and all of its volunteers for their blessed work; and be it finally ...
34

35 **Resolved**, that congregations and individual members be encouraged to provide financial and
36 volunteer service support for the work of LCMS World Relief and Human Care.
37

38 Hope Lutheran Church
39 Dewitt, MI

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Rockford, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-09
3 **SUBJECT:** To Commend the Lutheran Heritage Foundation
4

5 **Whereas**, Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) is a Michigan based mission organization that
6 has been dedicated to translating, publishing, and distributing Bible based, Christ centered, and
7 Reformation focused materials for use in the mission field for more than 15 years; and
8

9 **Whereas**, The LHF engages more than 300 individuals around the world who serve as
10 translators, reviewers, editors, general linguist and theological specialists in order to provide
11 the most accurate translations of Biblically based and Christ centered Lutheran theology; and
12

13 **Whereas**, the LHF is working in more than 80 countries throughout the world; and
14

15 **Whereas**, the LHF is working to provide materials in more than 90 languages throughout the
16 world; and
17

18 **Whereas**, the LHF published over 2 million Lutheran books which are freely distributed to
19 missionaries, churches and individuals throughout the world; and
20

21 **Whereas**, the LHF has been a critical source of Bible based, Christ centered materials for World
22 Missions in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS) and other churches throughout the
23 world; and
24

25 **Whereas**, the LHF is a recognized service organization of the LCMS; therefore be it
26

27 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention acknowledge, commend and thank the LHF
28 for its invaluable work of translating, publishing and distributing Bible based materials that are
29 Christ centered for use in the mission fields; and be it further
30

31 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention acknowledge, commend and thank Rev. Dr.
32 Robert Rahn for his work as founder and executive director of LHF for its first 15 years; and be it
33 further
34

35 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention commend LHF to the congregations of the
36 district for their prayerful and financial support; and be it finally
37

38 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention submit this resolution to the 2010 A+D
39 Synodical Convention.
40

41
42
43
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Grand Rapids, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-10

3 **SUBJECT:** To Commend Lutheran Heritage Foundation

4
5 **Whereas**, Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) is a Michigan based mission organization that
6 has been dedicated to translating, publishing, and distributing Bible based, Christ centered, and
7 Reformation focused materials for use in the mission field for more than 15 years; and

8
9 **Whereas**, The LHF engages more than 300 individuals around the world who serve as
10 translators, reviewers, editors, general linguist and theological specialists in order to provide
11 the most accurate translations of Biblically based and Christ centered Lutheran theology; and

12
13 **Whereas**, the LHF is working in more than 80 countries throughout the world; and

14
15 **Whereas**, the LHF is working to provide materials in more than 90 languages throughout the
16 world; and

17
18 **Whereas**, the LHF published over 2 million Lutheran books which are freely distributed to
19 missionaries, churches and individuals throughout the world; and

20
21 **Whereas**, the LHF has been a critical source of Bible based, Christ centered materials for World
22 Missions in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS) and other churches throughout the
23 world; and

24
25 **Whereas**, the LHF is a recognized service organization of the LCMS; therefore be it

26
27 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention acknowledge, commend and thank the LHF
28 for its invaluable work of translating, publishing and distributing Bible based materials that are
29 Christ centered for use in the mission fields; and be it further

30
31 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention acknowledge, commend and thank Rev. Dr.
32 Robert Rahn for his work as founder and executive director of LHF for its first 15 years; and be it
33 finally

34
35 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention commend LHF to the congregations of the
36 district for their prayerful and financial support.

37
38
39 St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Rockford, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-11
3 **SUBJECT:** To Support Synodical Pre-Seminary Programs
4

5 **Whereas**, the challenges of pastoral ministry today require well trained shepherds of God's
6 flock, and
7

8 **Whereas**, a thorough preparation for seminary studies is the best way to ensure a full benefit
9 from those studies, and
10

11 **Whereas**, our Synod has been blessed with excellent pre-seminary programs and our District
12 shares in this blessing through Concordia Ann Arbor, and
13

14 **Whereas**, those who are academically prepared for seminary through our Synod's pre-seminary
15 programs avoid the risk of dropping out of seminary for academic reasons, and
16

17 **Whereas**, pre-seminary programs uniquely nurture a student's growth in Christian faith, in
18 practical skills, and in one's perception of calling, and
19

20 **Whereas**, the cost of higher education at a private university is one large factor that hinders
21 Lutheran youth from enrolling in a pre-seminary program; therefore be it
22

23 **Resolved**, that congregations encourage their God-gifted and faith-filled men to consider
24 preparing to serve God's people as a minister of the Word through enrollment in a pre-
25 seminary program, and finally be it
26

27 **Resolved**, that congregations support their students and their institutions of higher education
28 with their prayers and with their offerings.
29

30 St. Thomas Lutheran Church
31 Ann Arbor, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-12
3 **SUBJECT:** To Express Concern for the Lawsuit Against Issues, etc.
4

5 **Whereas,** Issues Etc. weekday and national Sunday night show was cancelled on Tuesday March
6 18th, 2008; and
7

8 **Whereas,** the LCMS Board of Director's stated in August 2008 Reporter, "the Board authorized its
9 general counsel to prepare a release for use of the LCMS-owned trademark for the radio program
10 "Issues, Etc.," the archived programs, and related materials to Rev. Todd Wilken and Jeff Schwarz.
11 Wilken and Schwarz intend to continue the program, which was dropped by KFYO. According to
12 Schultz, the Board expects the agreement will help bring the recent programming issues to a
13 positive conclusion; and
14

15 **Whereas,** US Trademark office stated that in October of 1999 the LCMS cancelled its Trademark
16 on the name "Issues, Etc."; and
17

18 **Whereas,** on May 31st, 2008 Mr. Harry Madsen made application for the name "Issues, Etc."; and
19

20 **Whereas,** on December 7th, 2008 the LCMS filed a Letter of Opposition to Mr. Madsen's trademark
21 application; and
22

23 **Whereas,** on December 16th, 2008 the attorney for the LCMS Board of Director's sent a letter
24 threatening to recommend legal action against Rev. Wilken and Mr. Schwarz; and
25

26 **Whereas,** no vote is recorded in the minutes of the LCMS Board of Director's stating a change in
27 their position stated in the Reporter August 2008 edition; and
28

29 **Whereas,** this unnecessary legal action is an unwise use of the financial resources and man hours
30 of LCMS Inc. and its legal counsel; Therefore be it
31

32 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District in Convention express as a united voice their displeasure with
33 this unwarranted opposition to the application for the "Issues, Etc." trademark and the continued
34 work of Rev. Todd Wilken, and Mr. Jeff Schwarz; and be it further
35

36 **Resolved,** that the Michigan District in Convention request President C. William Hoesman to
37 express our concerns and displeasure to the COP, the Synod's Board of Directors, The Board for
38 Communication Services and President Gerald Kieschnick; and be it finally
39

40 **Resolved,** that we encourage one another to continue to walk together in service of our Lord Jesus
41 Christ, as we strive to serve all our neighbors and that we continue to pray and support the faithful
42 work of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, the Issues, Etc. radio show, Rev. Todd Wilken, Mr.
43 Jeff Schwarz, and all parties involved, so that there may be a God pleasing and peace bringing
44 conclusion reached.
45

46
47
Hope Lutheran Church
Dewitt, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-13
3 **SUBJECT:** To Revise the Church Extension Fund Bylaws allowing
4 the participation or purchase of loans or investments
5 outside of the Michigan District
6

7 **Whereas,** the Church Extension Fund (CEF) of the Michigan District of the Lutheran
8 Church – Missouri Synod has been blessed by God with financial resources and
9 reserves for the extension of the Kingdom, and

10
11 **Whereas,** those resources could be used for the extension of the Kingdom outside of
12 the Michigan District boundaries, while also supporting the overall financial health of
13 the Michigan CEF, and

14
15 **Whereas,** the Church Extension Fund may want, from time-to-time, to assist in the
16 mission of other sister District CEF's or the national CEF program by purchasing or
17 participating in loans or investments, therefore be it

18
19 **Resolved,** while recognizing the primary purpose of the CEF is to contribute to the
20 ministry and purposes of the Michigan District and its member congregations the CEF
21 Bylaws shall be emended to allow for the participation or purchase of loans or
22 investments outside of the Michigan District, therefore be it finally

23
24 **Resolved,** that the Purpose Statement of the CEF Bylaws be revised in the following
25 manner [deleted words stricken and new language highlighted for reference]:

26
27 **I. PURPOSE**

28
29 The purpose of the Church Extension Fund is to administer a fund and acquire assets to
30 assist by loans, grants, or otherwise, primarily to the Michigan District of the Lutheran
31 Church – Missouri Synod, congregations of the Michigan District, individuals serving as
32 professional church workers within the Michigan District, LCMS schools and colleges,
33 entities and associations qualifying as Michigan District recognized service organization,
34 entities and associations qualifying as Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod recognized
35 service organizations, and entities owned and/or operated by member congregations.
36 The Church Extension Fund may also assist other LCMS Districts, through their
37 respective Church Extension Funds, by purchasing or participating, in whole or in part, in
38 loans or investments, of other LCMS District or the Lutheran Church Extension Fund of
39 the LCMS. The purpose for which funds and assistance may be provided shall include,
40 but not limited to, acquiring property, erecting buildings, purchasing equipment,
41 acquiring housing and supporting projects and the operations of the above. The primary
42 a# purposes, however, of the Church Extension Fund shall be to contribute to the
43 ministry and purposes of the Michigan District and its member congregations.

44
45 Board of Trustees
46 Church Extension Fund

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-14
3 **SUBJECT:** To Revise the Church Extension Fund Bylaws
4 changing the mix of Board members, adding
5 qualifications for Board members, and limit only
6 one Board member from a congregation.
7

8 **Whereas**, the Church Extension Fund (CEF) of the Michigan District of the Lutheran
9 Church—Missouri Synod has a Board of Trustees of nine members elected by the
10 Michigan District in convention, and

11
12 **Whereas**, said CEF Trustees presently are comprised of three (3) ordained ministers,
13 two (2) commissioned ministers, and four (4) laypersons, and

14
15 **Whereas**, it is desirous to change the mix of Board members allowing for more persons
16 with experience or expertise in fields related to the operation and governance of CEF,
17 and

18
19 **Whereas**, it is also prudent to allow not more than one Trustee from a congregation, as
20 is consistent with the Michigan District Bylaws for Board of Director membership,
21 therefore be it

22
23 **Resolved**, that the mix of the CEF Board of Trustees be changed to three (3) rostered
24 and six (6) laypersons, and be it further

25
26 **Resolved**, that the qualifications for CEF Board membership be expanded to include
27 certain areas of expertise, and be it further

28
29 **Resolved**, that a congregation shall have not more than one person as a voting member
30 of the CEF Board, and be it finally

31
32 **Resolved**, that the Membership Statement of the CEF Bylaws be revised in the following
33 manner [deleted words stricken and new language highlighted for reference]:

34
35 **II. MEMBERSHIP**

36
37 The Church Extension Board of Trustees shall consist of nine (9) elected trustees.

38 1. The elected trustees shall consist of three (3) ~~ordained ministers~~ persons duly
39 rostered in the LCMS and called or assigned within the Michigan District, and,
40 ~~four six (-4-6) laypersons, and two (2) commissioned ministers.~~ They Trustees
41 shall be elected by the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri
42 Synod at its regular Convention in the following manner:

43 a. The District Nominating Committee shall draw up a list of candidates and
44 alternates for the Church Extension Board of Trustees. The Nominating
45 Committee shall obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to nominate

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and prepare biographical data, including occupation or profession, residency, and specific experience and qualifications for the proposed office, for each candidate. Board of Trustee candidates shall have an understanding of the Church Extension program and/or demonstrate expertise in fields or areas closely related to Church Extension activities, such as knowledge of banking, investments, accounting, law, real estate, business management and financial planning.

- b.** Trustees must be members in good standing of congregations in the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. No congregation of the District shall have more than one (1) member [including ordained, commissioned or layperson] from its congregation as a voting member of the Board of Trustees.

Board of Trustees
Church Extension Fund

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-15

3 **SUBJECT:** To Commend Higher Things

4
5 **Whereas**, thousands of Lutheran college and high school youth since 2000 have joined with
6 their pastors around God's Word, the Lutheran confessions and the historic liturgies of the
7 Christian church at events sponsored by *Higher Things*; and

8
9 **Whereas**, *Higher Things* publishes the only magazine in the world which challenges young
10 people to "dare to be Lutheran"; and

11
12 **Whereas**, a *Higher Things* Internet site continuously maintained, offers daily devotions,
13 blogs, and stimulating interaction between Lutheran youth and pastors from across the
14 church; and

15
16 **Whereas**, a network of Lutheran campus ministries, retreats and resources from *Higher*
17 *Things* assist college and high school students to remain rooted to their faith and better
18 confess Christ on campus; and

19
20 **Whereas**, *Higher Things* is devoted to assisting pastors, parents, and congregations in
21 cultivating a Lutheran identity among our youth; and

22
23 **Whereas**, all those in leadership positions with *Higher Things* are members or pastors in
24 good standing in The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, all speakers at annual Higher Things
25 conferences are LCMS pastors or laity, and hymnals of the LCMS are used for worship; and

26
27 **Whereas**, *Higher Things* provides young people of the Lutheran Church opportunities for
28 worship, catechesis, and enjoyment together; therefore be it

29
30 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District give thanks to God for the commitment and valuable
31 work among Lutheran youth being conducted by *Higher Things*; and be it further

32
33 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District express its support for ministry among youth that is in
34 keeping with the doctrine and practice of The Evangelical Lutheran Church; and be it finally

35
36 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District welcome and encourage the efforts and events of
37 *Higher Things* which continue to expand and serve the youth of the church.

38
39 Hope Lutheran Church Grace Lutheran Church
40 Dewitt, MI Auburn, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-16
3 **SUBJECT:** To Commend Higher Things
4

5 **Whereas**, thousands of Lutheran college and high school youth since 2000 have joined with
6 their pastors around God's Word, the Lutheran confessions and the historic liturgies of the
7 Christian church at events sponsored by *Higher Things*; and
8

9 **Whereas**, *Higher Things* publishes the only magazine in the world which challenges young
10 people to "dare to be Lutheran"; and
11

12 **Whereas**, a *Higher Things* Internet site continuously maintained, offers daily devotions,
13 blogs, and stimulating interaction between Lutheran youth and pastors from across the
14 church; and
15

16 **Whereas**, retreats, resources and a network of Lutheran campus ministries from *Higher*
17 *Things* assist college and high school students to remain rooted to their faith and better
18 confess Christ on campus; and
19

20 **Whereas**, *Higher Things* is devoted to assisting pastors, parents, and congregations in
21 cultivating a Lutheran identity among our youth; and
22

23 **Whereas**, all those in leadership positions with *Higher Things* are members or pastors in
24 good standing in The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, all speakers at annual Higher Things
25 conferences are LCMS pastors or laity, and hymnals of the LCMS are used for worship; and
26

27 **Whereas**, *Higher Things* provides young people of the Lutheran Church opportunities for
28 worship, catechesis, and enjoyment together; therefore be it
29

30 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District give thanks to God for the commitment and valuable
31 work among Lutheran youth being conducted by *Higher Things*; and be it further
32

33 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District express its support for ministry among youth that is in
34 keeping with the doctrine and practice of The Evangelical Lutheran Church; and be it finally
35

36 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District welcome and encourage the efforts and events of
37 *Higher Things* which continue to expand and serve the youth of the church.
38

39
40 Our Savior Lutheran Church
Grand Rapids, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-17

3 **SUBJECT:** To Strengthen *Michigan In Touch*

4
5 **Whereas**, communication is imperative to preserving the unity of witness and work within
6 the Michigan District, and
7

8 **Whereas**, all members within congregations of the Michigan District are entitled to be
9 informed regarding issues, both doctrinal and ecclesiastical, which are of continuing value
10 or current interest to the district and synod, and
11

12 **Whereas**, the Lutheran Church has a long history of using official publications to teach the
13 faith as well as to report news, and
14

15 **Whereas**, readers of the official periodical of the Michigan District, *Michigan In Touch*, are
16 strengthened in their Lutheran convictions and become more conversant regarding
17 churchly subjects when provided wholesome teaching and commentary, and
18

19 **Whereas**, the Michigan District has within its clergy capable teachers and writers as well as
20 others with particular expertise touching relevant topics of church doctrine, mission, and
21 practice; and
22

23 **Whereas**, *Michigan In Touch* continues in an ideal position for communicating with the
24 widest number of laity; therefore be it
25

26 **Resolved**, that *Michigan In Touch* be structured so it not only reports news and information
27 on programs but will regard as primary articles dealing with Christian doctrine and life.
28 These may include teaching articles of faith, explaining the official position of our Synod on
29 contemporary issues, or considering topics of Christian practice; etc.; and be it further
30

31 **Resolved**, that an ordained pastor of the Michigan District be appointed by the District
32 President to serve as general editor for *Michigan In Touch*; and be it further
33

34 **Resolved**, that future issues of *Michigan In Touch* be made available to the general public in
35 PDF or similar format posted at the district web site; and be it finally
36

37 **Resolved**, that those serving in the Communication Office of the Michigan District and
38 contributing writers for *Michigan In Touch* be thanked for their service.
39
40

41 Hope Lutheran Church
42 Dewitt, MI

Grace Lutheran Church
Auburn, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-18
3 **SUBJECT:** To Encourage Michigan District Congregations to
4 Embrace Disaster Preparedness
5

6 **Whereas**, recent American history has shown us that communities and congregations
7 are impacted by a wide variety of disasters, and
8

9 **Whereas**, the Bible speaks about making wise decisions to prepare for disasters
10 (Matthew 7:24-27; Proverbs 6:6-11), and
11

12 **Whereas**, the congregations of the Michigan District should recognize the potential of
13 natural disasters affecting our congregations and schools, and
14

15 **Whereas**, disaster preparedness provides an opportunity to care for our members and
16 reach out to the community following a disaster, and
17

18 **Whereas**, the District Disaster Response Team has been trained by Lutheran World
19 Relief and Human Care, FEMA, and NIMS, and
20

21 **Whereas**, the benefits of preparedness far outweigh the costs, therefore be it
22

23 **Resolved**, that all congregations and schools in the Michigan District should be
24 encouraged to prepare for potential disasters, and be it further
25

26 **Resolved**, that all congregations encourage their members to prepare for potential
27 disasters, and be it further
28

29 **Resolved**, that they be encouraged to prepare a ministry plan for members of the
30 congregation and their communities to utilize in times of disaster, and be it finally
31

32 **Resolved**, that congregations of the Michigan District be encouraged to utilize the
33 guidance provided by the District Disaster Response Team to facilitate these
34 preparations.
35

36 Disaster Response Team
37 Michigan District – LCMS

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-19
3 **SUBJECT:** To Retain the Name “The Lutheran Church –
4 **Missouri Synod”**

5
6 **Whereas**, the name *The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod* represents faithful
7 Lutheranism to the world and has been treasured by the Synod for many years;
8 therefore be it

9
10 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District express its desire that that the name *The Lutheran*
11 *Church--Missouri Synod* be retained.

12
13 Grace Lutheran Church
14 Auburn, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-20
3 **SUBJECT:** To Ensure Proper Accounting of Congregational
4 Money
5

6 **Whereas**, Jesus taught his disciples: *“So if you have not been trustworthy in handling*
7 *worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been*
8 *trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?”*
9 Luke 16: 11-12
10

11 **Whereas**, the Michigan District publication *Guidelines for Constitutions and Bylaws of*
12 *Lutheran Congregations* – May, 2006 states: “Congregations may wish to include
13 provisions regarding the following: retention of the minutes and records of the
14 secretary as property of the congregation; bonding of the treasurer; some form of
15 financial review or audit”; and
16

17 **Whereas**, most congregations have a stipulation in their constitution calling for an audit
18

19 **Whereas**, discord has erupted in congregations where impropriety of donated funds has
20 been uncovered; be it
21

22 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District of the LCMS show its commitment to accountable
23 stewardship by developing an affordable and usable system for “some form of financial
24 review or audit” to be used within her member congregations and be it further
25

26 **Resolved**, that each of the congregations utilize such outside finance reporting at least
27 once per triennium if not annually and those congregations completing such disclosure
28 be noted at the next Michigan District Convention.
29

30 St. Matthew Lutheran Church
31 Grand Rapids, MI

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

2 **OVERTURE NUMBER:** 2-21

3 **SUBJECT:** To Raise Awareness of Resources

4

5 **Whereas**, the church has never before witnessed the volume of resources being offered
6 to congregations, church leaders, and individuals through print media and rapidly
7 expanding electronic and digital media; and

8

9 **Whereas**, the sheer quantity of resources can overwhelm the commitment of Lutheran
10 congregations to review materials to determine if they are suitable for use among God's
11 people; and

12

13 **Whereas**, many resources marketed to the church are from unknown publishers or hold
14 unwholesome theology; and

15

16 **Whereas**, many resources are soon out of print, or are delivered in formats becoming
17 obsolete (e.g. audio tape and VHS formats); and

18

19 **Whereas**, the transfer speed of resources is growing exponentially away from traditional
20 libraries; and

21

22 **Whereas**, the Michigan District in its lending library has provided a clearing house and
23 catalog of resources which in recent years has declined in usage due in part to the new
24 environment of overwhelming materials available more readily and simply through
25 other means; and

26

27 **Whereas**, the endorsement and sharing of quality resources remains a valuable benefit
28 to the church; therefore be it

29

30 **Resolved**, that Michigan District assess the value, patronage, and circulation of the
31 district's lending library to determine its usefulness in its current form; and be it finally

32

33 **Resolved**, that the district investigate the feasibility of other means to acquire and share
34 samples of worthwhile resources, and to receive doctrinally sound reviews,
35 endorsements, and critiques.

36

37

Grace Lutheran Church
Auburn, MI

38

1 **COMMITTEE NAME:** **ADMINISTRATION/CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS**
2 **RESOLUTION NUMBER:** **2-22**
3 **SUBJECT:** **To Transfer Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Ortonville**
4 **from Circuit #12 – Flint South Circuit to Circuit #17 –**
5 **Oakland North Circuit**

6
7 **Whereas**, the membership of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Ortonville believes that
8 membership in the Oakland North Circuit would better support their efforts to grow in
9 membership since many who move to Ortonville are from the southern suburbs of metro
10 Detroit, and

11
12 **Whereas**, the needs and concerns of the congregation are more closely aligned with our sister
13 congregations in the Oakland North Circuit, and

14
15 **Whereas**, the Voters Assembly of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church has resolved to unanimously
16 request such a transfer, therefore be it

17
18 **Resolved**, that Prince of Peace Lutheran Church be transferred to #17 Oakland North Circuit.

19
20 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
21 Ortonville, MI

