

THE MINNESOTA DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Rev. Dennis C. Klatt, President
4332 Gettysburg Ave. N., New Hope, MN 55428
Phone: Fax: (763) 533-3680 | Cell: (763) 777-2085
MNDP@wels.net

August 29, 2023

Rev. Wayne Schoch
1st Vice President
Wayne Schoch
pstrws@gmail.com
Cell: 507-421-7924

Rev. Mathew Pfeifer
2nd Vice President
pastormrp@gmail.com
Cell: (515) 771-5111

Rev. Eugene De Vries
Secretary
eugene.mark.devries@gmail.com
Cell: (320) 405-6490

God's Word – The Key to Spiritual Health

The LORD continued to appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his word" (1 Samuel 3:21). "Samuel continued as judge over Israel all the days of his life. From year to year he went on a circuit from Bethel to Gilgal to Mizpah, judging Israel in all those places" (1 Samuel 7:15,16).

How is a nation transformed from ungodliness to godliness; from rejecting God to trusting him; from spiritual lethargy to lives of active service to him? Throughout the Scriptures there is a clear correlation between a people's connection with the word of God and their spiritual health.

When Samuel was a child, the high priest, Eli, and his sons were terrible examples for the nation. They didn't proclaim God's word faithfully nor did they live by it. They held the LORD and his word in contempt. It's no wonder the nation followed suit. "Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17). Where the word of Christ is neglected, faith and godliness will decline.

On the other hand, where the message of Christ is faithfully read, proclaimed, and heard, saving faith will spring up and bear fruit. That is evident when we compare the spiritual condition of Israel under Eli's watch with its condition during the ministry of Samuel. Within a few years the nation experienced a spiritual resurgence. This was not by Samuel's power. Rather, Samuel received God's word and shared it with the nation. God builds his kingdom when and where he wills, but only his chosen means—the Word. Samuel traveled throughout the entire land of Israel from south to north and east to west judging—proclaiming and applying God's word to God's people. It's no coincidence the time of Samuel's ministry was a period of spiritual health in Israel.

Throughout the history of the church the correlation of spiritual health and people growing in the word is evident. As our schools begin the fall session and our congregations fall ministry schedules, let's remember the message of Christ crucified and risen is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes. May every activity have the ultimate purpose of connecting sinners to their Savior. May we like Samuel take the Word to those who are neglecting it by make phone calls and even cold calls at their homes to share a devotion.

Seeds don't grow unless they are planted. The gospel doesn't work and increase faith unless it is proclaimed. When proclaimed, it does not return the Lord empty (Isaiah 55:11). As called servants of the Word and congregation leaders may we remember the key to spiritual health for ourselves as well as those in and outside of our congregations is God's Word. God bless our labors in his name!

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Dennis Klatt

Pastor Installations

May 7 – Robert Harting – St. John’s/Trinity, Janesville, MN
June 4 – David Russow – Salem, Loretto, MN
June 4 – Keith Petersen, St. John, Renville, St. Matthew’s, Danube, MN
June 25 – Anthony Allard – Timothy, St. Louis Park, MN
July 16 – Yaffet Gabayehu – Holy Trinity, New Hope, MN
July 23 – Erik Lund – St. John, Lake Benton/Good Shepherd, Pipestone, MN
July 23 – Robert Beaver – Salem, Woodbury, MN
July 23 - Philip Schroeder – Christ Our Savior, Collinsville, IL
August 6 – Karl Christie – Our Savior, Kasson, MN
August 21 – Aaron Bush – Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN
August 27 – Brian Schmidt – Beautiful Savior, West Des Moines, IA
September 17 – Austin Ziche – Redeemer, Maple Grove, MN

MN District Pastoral Vacancies

**Resurrection/Life, Rochester, MN	Trinity, Glenwood/ St. John, Hancock
**St. Paul’s, North Mankato, MN	Cross, Rockford, MN
*Pilgrim, Minneapolis, MN	Zion, Olivia, MN
Christ Our Rock, Rochester, MN	Zion, Springfield/Peace, Marshfield, MO
Shepherd of the Lakes, Fairmont, MN	***Zion, Morton, MN
Faith, River Falls, WI	***Grace, Clear Lake, WI/Zion Almena, WI
St. John’s, Centuria, WI/Redeemer St. Croix Falls, WI	***Shepherd of the Hills, Inver Grove Heights, MN
Christ, North St. Paul, MN	MVL – Dean of Students/Religion, New Ulm, MN
Emmanuel, Hudson, WI	<u>One Africa Team (2)</u>
Mt. Olive, Delano, MN	*Vacant for over a year
Petra, Sauk Rapids, MN	**Vacant for over two years
St. Paul’s, Prescott, WI	***Not actively calling
Salem, Stillwater, MN	
Hope, Andover, MN	

MN District Vacancies

21 Parish pastor
3 Non-parish pastor
2 Staff minister
0 Teacher

The Teacher Call Window for the upcoming school year will run from Sunday, October 15, 2023 through Monday, April 15, 2024.

Upcoming District Events

October 19-20 ~ 2023 MN District Teachers Conference
April 9-11 ~ 2024 MN District Spring Pastor’s Conference
June 18-19 ~ 2024 MN District Convention