

THE MINNESOTA DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S REPORT



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October 28, 2023

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God's Pleasing Creation

“God saw all that he had made, and it was very good” (Genesis 1:31). We would expect nothing less from God. All he does is pure, right, and flawless. Everything he does is pleasing to himself. We cannot say the same about the work of our hands. It disappoints – often other people, often ourselves, always our God.

When a product we chose to purchase disappoints, it isn't chosen again. Why should God choose any of us when we always end up displeasing him? But our LORD is a God of grace. As Martin Luther correctly deduced from Scripture.

God does not choose what is pleasing to him. He creates it. As we will celebrate this Reformation Sunday, the righteousness that makes us pleasing to God is Jesus' work. It is the Father's gift to us received through the faith in Christ the Holy Spirit has worked in us. From top to bottom and beginning to end our salvation is all God's work for us. Such is his amazing grace.

We are now a new creation pleasing to God for Jesus' sake. We are a new creation daily striving with all our might against our sinful flesh to do what is pleasing to the One who made us pleasing to himself. Though we daily disappoint because of our flesh, through faith we daily cling to Jesus who didn't and doesn't disappoint.

With this in mind ponder and marvel again at Paul's words to the saints in Ephesus “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Ephesians 2:8-10).

Be of good cheer. In Christ God is pleased with you!

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Dennis Klatt

MN District Pastoral Vacancies

Pilgrim, Minneapolis, MN
St. Paul's, North Mankato, MN
Christ Our Rock, Rochester, MN
Resurrection/Life, Rochester, MN -
Shepherd of the Lakes, Fairmont, MN
Faith, River Falls, WI
St. John's, Centuria, WI/Redeemer St. Croix
Falls, WI
Grace, Clear Lake, WI/Zion Almena, WI (Not
Calling)
Christ, North St. Paul/Hugo, MN
Emmanuel, Hudson, WI
Mt. Olive, Delano, MN
Petra, Sauk Rapids, MN
St. Paul's, Prescott, WI
Salem, Stillwater, MN

Hope, Andover, MN
Calvary, Glenwood/ St. John, Hancock, MN
Shepherd of the Hills, Inver Grove Heights, MN
Cross, Rockford, MN
Zion, Olivia, MN
Zion, Springfield/ Peace, Marshfield, MO
Good Shepherd, Burnsville (Associate Pastor)
NorthCross, Lakeville, MN (Associate Pastor)
Zion, Springfield/ Peace, Marshfield, MO
Grace, South St. Paul, MN
St. John, Dakota, MN
[MVL New Ulm, MN – Dean of Students/Religion](#)
[SCLA St. Paul, MN –Religion/Counselor](#)
[One Africa Team Missionary](#)

MN District Vacancies

25 Parish pastor

[3 Non-parish pastor](#)

Pastor Calling Hiatus

The Christmas calling hiatus for pastors will be in place from Friday, December 15, 2023, through Tuesday, January 9, 2024. (This means that the last call meeting before Christmas could take place on Thursday, December 14, 2023, and the first call meeting after Christmas could be conducted on Wednesday, January 10.)

MN District Teacher Vacancies

SCLA, W. St. Paul, MN – Social Studies
SCLA, W. St. Paul, MN – SPED
MVL, New Ulm, MN – Science, Physics, Engineering
WLHA, Plymouth, MN – English
Christ/Samuel, Marshall, MN – Principal, grades 6-8
Risen Savior, Mankato, MN – Principal, grades 7-8
St. Peter's, St. Peter, MN – Principal, grades 7-8
St. John, Redwood Falls, MN – Grades 7
Immanuel, Hutchinson, MN – Grades 2-4/Coaching
Christ, Baxter, MN – ECE Teacher/Director
Holy Trinity, New Hope, MN – 2 ECE
One Africa Team, Lusaka, Zambia – Teacher Outreach

Grace In Action, New Ulm, MN – Staff Minister

The active teacher call window will remain open through Monday, April 15, 2024.

President Klatt to Travel to Tanzania

Our WELS One Africa Missionary Team has asked President Klatt to serve as an adjunct instructor in Tanzania. He will partner with Missionary Benjamin Foxen to teach a course on the Lutheran Confessions to representatives of the Africa Mission Evangelism Church (AMEC). This is part of an ongoing effort to determine if our church bodies share the same Scriptural beliefs and practices. Pastor Klatt will depart November 3rd and return November 13th.

While President Klatt is away, he will be able to communicate via e-mail and text message. There is a nine-hour time difference between Tanzania and CDT. For immediate assistance or counsel during this time contact MN District 1st Vice President, Pastor Wayne Schoch: pstrws@gmail.com; Cell: 507-421-7924.

Please pray that the Lord will grant safe travel to all and bless the dialogue with AMEC church leaders. We hope that one day we will be able to work together united in faith.

October 2023 COP Meeting Notes

Updated Guidance for District Constitution Committees

A number of WELS congregations and affiliate ministries have expressed a desire to restructure their constitutions and bylaws to better fit a small body of communicants and utilize the gifts of women in ways which honor and align with the scriptural male headship principal. President Schroeder will appoint a task force to establish guiding principles and templates for use by such ministries. They will also develop a strategy to educate district constitution committees regarding these principles.

Seeking Qualified Laymen to Serve as Christian Giving Counselors

In its effort to keep as many pastors in parish and missionary positions as possible and to use the gifts of qualified laymen in encouraging and facilitating special offerings, the COP is seeking to call laymen to serve as Christian Giving Counselors when possible and appropriate.

If you know of a WELS member who might serve well as a CGC, please let us know. You may provide his name to me or Kurt Lueneburg directly, or through a forthcoming nomination alert that should be emailed to you this week. Relocation may not be necessary, even if he is called to serve in another district.

Pastor Michael Hatzung has accepted a retirement call to continue serving WELS Ministry of Christian Giving.

2024 Congregation Mission Offering Subscriptions

The CMO 2024 subscription setting materials and reporting link can be found at mcg.welsrc.net/cmo. The deadline for submitting CMO 2024 subscriptions (and 2023 statistics) is “the first Friday of February,” Friday, February 2, 2024, at noon (Central).

WELS NIGHT



MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES VS. LA CLIPPERS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14TH, 2024 AT 6:00PM

See Anthony Edwards and the Minnesota Timberwolves take on the Los Angeles Clippers on Sunday, January 14th with this special offer for WELS members.

Following the game, WELS members will have the opportunity to shoot a free throw on the court!

TO PURCHASE TICKETS

SCAN QR CODE + PROMO CODE: 2324WELS



QUESTIONS

CONTACT: CAMERON SCHWARZ
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Upcoming District Events

Area Reformation Services

October 29, 3:00 pm – MLC, Chapel of the Christ

November 5, 4:30 pm – Christ Lutheran, North St. Paul Campus

January 14 ~ WELS Night at the Timberwolves

April 9-11~ 2024 MN District Spring Pastor's Conference

June 18-19 ~ 2024 MN District Convention