
June 18-19, 2024
Fifty-Third Biennial Convention
of the Minnesota District

President's Report

1As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. 4There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ~ Ephesians 4:1-6 (NIV 2011)

Faithful to Our Calling

Whenever we see two siblings standing next to each other, we naturally compare and contrast them. We note differences and similarities in height, build, facial features, skin tone, hair color, eye color, even mannerisms. In the fourth chapter of his letter to the Christians in Ephesus, the apostle Paul was reminding God's people then as well as us today that as spiritual siblings we have similarities and differences.

Just as biological siblings share an identical genetic lineage, we Christians share an identical spiritual lineage. Originally all of us were spiritual outcasts, dead in our transgressions, controlled by the Prince of Darkness, and heirs of everlasting destruction. Without our asking and despite our unworthiness, God poured out his grace on us. As recipients of his grace and by the calling of the one Spirit, we by faith are holding on to the one and only Savior from sin. By faith we grasp the same atoning sacrifice made for our sins and the same righteous life of Christ as our own. Having been baptized into the same name, the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we are heirs of the same everlasting inheritance which cannot perish, spoil, or fade.

As sharers of this common spiritual lineage, we also share an identical mission and calling. Each of us is called to be salt and light, a witness and ambassador for Christ, a disciple-maker by use of the means of grace, and an encourager of our spiritual siblings. This is our family resemblance – our shared spiritual mannerism. God be praised for all that we have in common as his children.

Nonetheless, God be praised for our family differences. He gave some to be prophets, apostles, evangelists, pastors and teachers through their formal callings into public ministry. To

others he has given different combinations of spiritual gifts in a variety of measures. Musical gifts, administrative gifts, empathy, wise counsel, encouragement, leadership, planning, executing ministry plans, all of these are from our heavenly Father. He has given them so we might partner with and compliment each other as we seek to be faithful to our shared calling and mission.

In the Minnesota District and across the WELS we are currently experiencing called worker shortages and declining membership in many of our urban and rural congregations. In this ministry context, being faithful to our calling includes congregations and schools in close proximity to one another considering how they might partner together in mission and ministry. Just as individual Christians have a shared calling and complimentary gifts, so local congregations have a shared calling and complimentary gifts. May our heavenly Father guide and bless us as we rejoice in our shared calling to faith and salvation while seeking to be faithful to our calling to proclaim the gospel to the lost.

WHAT WE'VE DONE

Your district presidium has worked on a specific plan during these last two years. I am grateful for having gifted and faithful men to work with: Pastor Wayne Schoch (1st VP), Pastor Mathew Pfeifer (2nd VP), and Pastor Eugene DeVries (Secretary). (We usually meet monthly by video conference call and occasionally face to face. Pastor Schoch will be concluding his service on the District Presidium as he has accepted a call to serve King of Kings, Maitland, FL. I wish to thank him for his five years of faithful service to the Lord and district in this role. May the Lord speed his relocation with his wife, Charlotte, to his new ministry.

Our vision statement is as follows:

Values: *(What we value ...)*

- Evangelical doctrine and practice.
- Vibrant churches planning gospel ministry and outreach.
- Healthy called workers growing spiritually and professionally.
- Well-equipped circuit pastors and district leaders encouraging others.
- Congregations supporting the work of our synod.

Mission: *(Why we exist...)*

The Minnesota District Presidium supports congregations of our district and their leaders in biblical ministry.

Vision: *(What do we want to be...)*

The Minnesota District of WELS is a vibrant group of congregations with ...

- leaders that are personally rooted in the Word, and,
- well-trained and well-balanced spiritual leaders collaborating to carry out Jesus' Great Commission with up-to-date and realistic strategic plans, and,
- Christ-centered, engaging and edifying worship and spiritual growth programs, and,
- regular and effective outreach to "the lost," well-rounded biblical stewardship, strong support for missions, and,
- good communication with their members and in their community,

Leadership training of people in our districts

We believe that circuit pastors are important in providing counseling and leadership to the pastors, teachers and congregations of our district. To that end, we have training for our circuit pastors every year in early November and hold quarterly video conferences to address current issues and review progress toward our long-range goals.

- We have provided a cloud-based reporting site on our synod's database, where circuit pastors can report their visits to pastors and congregations. These reports are visible to the district presidium.
- During the summer months of each year, we organize a retreat with the pastors and their wives who have completed their first year in parish ministry. This retreat is an opportunity for the presidium to listen to the blessings and challenges experienced in their first year of parish service, provide counsel and encouragement, review best practices for congregation administration, and discuss maintaining appropriate work/family life balance.
- In 2023, the presidium partnered with Mr. David Gartner (MN District Schools Coordinator) to engage school law expert, Sam Nelson. Several workshops were held with administrators and leaders of district high schools, elementary schools, and early childhood ministries to review handbooks and policies for compliance with state laws as well as identify prudent and imprudent verbiage inclusion or exclusion in staff, parent, and student policy handbooks. Sound policies reduce the likelihood of litigation and conflicts that sap their time and energy. Our goal is for administrators and leaders to focus as much as possible on our mission of sharing the gospel with blood-bought souls.

Our Two Year Goals

Develop Best Practices for LES/ECE ministries Leadership training in our district

- Build leadership in schools (principals, ECE Directors)
- Conferences for ECE directors / administrators based on principal conference model
- Encourage & train congregations in Ministry Planning

Circuit Pastor Training and Support

- Held Circuit Pastor Retreat January 2024
- 4-Year Training Curriculum
- Schedule quarterly virtual/inperson meetings with CPs

School sustainability

- Identify financially sustainable models to help schools thrive.
- Provide children's ministry harvest strategies

WELS Ministry Certification

- From July 2022 through May 2024, 14 WELS members not WELS teacher certified through Martin Luther College received and accepted provisional calls to serve in district schools.

- Noncertified candidates seeking provisional call status must complete the eligibility process with the district president and agree to complete the WELS Ministry Certification Program through Martin Luther College.
- All WELS Ministry Certification courses are available online.
- Enrollment in the WELS Ministry Certification Program (WMCP) qualifies provisionally called teachers for Minister of the Gospel tax status with the IRS. Teachers not enrolled in the WMCP do not qualify and calling bodies must withhold FICA from their wages.

Ministry Cooperation Meetings

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor” Ecclesiastes 4:9. The MN District Presidium believes there are opportunities for congregations to partner to do more and better gospel ministry. To that end, four meetings have already been held with groups of congregations in rural and urban communities to explore the following:

- How we can be better stewards of the current number of called workers in our district.
- How we can merge, realign, or band together to regain critical mass for sustainable ministry where it has been lost.
- How we can share specialized gifts of lay members and called workers beyond their local congregation.

Our goal is to hold one or more ministry cooperation meetings in each conference of the district by the end of this calendar year.

MN Human Rights Act

In March MN District Presidium became aware a change made by the Minnesota legislature to the Minnesota Human Rights Act (MHRA). This change omitted a religious exemption clause within the MHRA. Without such a clause our WELS ministries in Minnesota would have been considered in violation of state law for insisting that those who serve in our ministries adhere to our biblical teaching, practice, and lifestyle related to sexual orientation and transgenderism.

The presidium informed WELS ministries and members of this threat to our religious freedom guaranteed under the First Amendment of the US Constitution. Along with that information was an encouragement for members to contact their respective legislators requesting the restoration of the religious exemption clause to the MHRA and to pray for the Lord to influence their hearts to do so.

With thanks and praise to God, the religious exemption clause has been restored to the MHRA and was signed into law by Governor Walz on May 15, 2024. The restoration of the religious exemption to the MHRA ensures the act cannot be used against faith communities who are proclaiming and practicing the tenets of their faith.

We thank all of you for approaching God’s throne of mercy with this issue. Once again, we are reminded, “In the LORD’s hand the king’s heart is a stream of water that he channels toward all who please him” (Proverbs 21:1).

Thank you also for contacting your representatives to encourage them to restore the religious exemption clause to the MHRA. It is good and godly for us to exercise our rights as Christian citizens to influence our government representatives to protect our religious freedoms and uphold the natural law which God has written in human hearts.

It would be appropriate for us to also thank our legislators for listening to the concerns of their constituents and restoring the religious exemption clause to the MHRA.

Appointments

When an elected position becomes vacant between district conventions, it is the responsibility of the presidium to appoint qualified individuals to complete the outgoing member's term of service. In the past biennium the district presidium made the following appointments.

- Pastor Dustin Sievert – MN District Mission Board (10/11/2022)
- Mr. Glenn Schulz – MN District Mission Board (3/23/2023)
- Pastor Daniel Walters – Nominations Committee – St. Croix Conference (8/15/2023)
- Pastor James Roecker – Nominations Committee – St. Croix Conference (8/15/2023)
- Seth Georgson – Circuit Pastor – Southern Conference South Circuit (11/28/2023)
- Mark Kom – Circuit Pastor - St. Croix Conference Central Circuit (1/18/2024)
- Pastor Gregory Tobison – MN District Constitution Committee (5/30/2024)
(deliberating)

Conference of Presidents:

1. In the Assignment Committee at MLC this year, there were 72 (61 in 2023, 74 in 2022, 92 in 2021) teacher candidates who could go anywhere (58 from the graduating class and 14 from previous years), and all of them were assigned. In addition, 23 teacher candidates who were limited geographically received Calls, and 36 teacher candidates returned for another year to their current place of service, for a total of 131 candidates assigned (138 in 2023, 125 in 2022, 168 in 2021). After the Assignment Committee met, there were still 115 total vacancies for teacher-trained men and women synod-wide (at least 158 at this time in 2023, 140 in 2022, 90 in 2021). Of those 115, 93 had brought Calls to the Assignment Committee that went unfilled.
2. At MLC, 5 Staff Ministry candidates were available for assignment, and all of them were assigned.
3. The MN District submitted 26 teacher assignment requests (1-Missionary 1-College, 6-high school, 14 - LES, 4-ECE. 15 requests were filled via assignment, leaving 11 requests unfilled. I am currently working with vacant calling bodies to fill their staffing needs.
4. At MLC this year, 45 men graduated in the preseminary program (37 in 2023, 48 in 2022, 35 in 2021), all 45 with a Bachelor of Arts degree (34 in 2023, 47 in 2022, 33 in 2021) and no one with Seminary Certification (3 in 2023, 1 in 2022, 2 in 2021).

5. The number of MN District parish vacancies currently stands at 25. There are also two One Africa Team (OAT) missionary vacancies which currently fall under the auspices of the MN District as the current OAT chairman serves in our district.
6. In the Assignment Committee at WLS this year, there were 97 requests for candidates (116 in 2023, 90 in 2022, 74 in 2021). There were 27 candidates available (42 in 2023, 27 in 2022, 33 in 2021), and all of them were assigned, so 70 of those Calls were unfilled (74 in 2023, 63 in 2022, 41 in 2021). Of those 27 candidates, 26 were seniors receiving their first Call and 1 was from a previous class. In addition, 5 men were reassigned to one-year Calls. After the Assignment Committee did its work, there were still 146 vacancies for pastor-trained parish men synod-wide (140 in 2023, 136 in 2022, 95 in 2021), a 12% vacancy rate. After vicars were assigned at WLS this year, 7 vicars' wives received one-year Calls to teach. The assignment committee assigned two candidates to the MN District this year.

MN DISTRICT STATISTICS

- Congregations = 153
- Early Childhood Ministries = 41
- Lutheran Elementary Schools = 30
- Area Lutheran High Schools = 4
- Pastors Active = 163
- Staff Ministers Active = 7
- Teachers Active = 402
- Total Called Workers Active = 572
- Communicant Members = 34,207

WELSource Reminder:

1. **Retired Called Workers:** Please take some time to update your information as well. Retired pastor John Seifert is working with the synod to keep the retired people's willingness to serve updated. This is to assist the COP as it seeks retired people to serve in part-time roles.
2. **Personal Biography Information:** A Personal Biography link is available to all WELS Called Workers via My WELS Cloud (<http://cloud.wels.net/me>).
3. **Self-Assessment Forms.** All Called workers, please take a moment to update your WELS Cloud profile to ensure it reflects the most current information. Please refer to our updating help document <https://wels.bmetrack.com/> for details.
4. **Teacher Forms:** Information and instructions regarding the forms are available in the General Documents folder on the Lutheran Schools Resource Center (<http://cls.welsrc.net>). If you need to request an account, go to <http://account.wels.net>. When prompted for a request code, please enter CWI. Once your account has been established you will receive an email that contains your login information.

2023-2024 PASTORS ASSIGNED:	
*Robert Beaver	Salem, Woodbury, MN
*Karl Christie	Our Savior, Kasson, MN
*Erik Lund	St. John, Lake Benton, MN/Good Shepherd, Pipestone, MN
*Philip Schroeder	Peace, Shiloh, IL
Yaffet Gabayehu	Holy Trinity, New Hope, MN
*Noah Hartmann	St. Paul's, N. Mankato, MN/Beacon Campus Ministry, Mankato, MN
*Collin Wenzel	Christ Our Rock, Rochester, MN
*Joel Hansen	Bloomington/Living Hope, Bloomington/Shakopee, MN (Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary grad assigned via ELS Assignment Committee)
*Nathaniel Savage	Tutor – Martin Luther College – reassigned for third year
*Aaron Bush	Tutor – Martin Luther College – reassigned for second year

2023-2024 TEACHERS ASSIGNED	
Mr. Joseph Nash	St. Peter Lutheran School, St. Peter, MN
*Mr. Joel Holz	Immanuel Lutheran School, Hutchinson, MN
Ms. Rebecca Loescher	Immanuel Lutheran School, Hutchinson, MN
Ms Sophia Scheuerlein	St. Paul's Lutheran School, Arlington, MN
Ms. Hannah Renner	Trinity Lutheran School, Belle Plaine, MN
Ms. Katherine Fink	Salem Preschool, Woodbury, MN
Ms. Chantel Vant Hul	St. Paul's Lutheran School, St. James, MN
*Mr. Maxwell Holmes	West Lutheran High School, Plymouth, MN
Ms. Hannah Willems	St. Croix Lutheran Academy, West St. Paul, MN
*Mr. Jacob Kasper	Bloomington Lutheran School, Bloomington, MN
*Mr. Matthew Krueger	Salem Lutheran School, Loretto, MN
Ms. Linsey Mahron	Building Blocks for Life, Cambridge, MN
Ms. Abigail Bartel	Mt. Olive Lutheran School, Delano, MN
*Mr. Jake Vilhauer	One Africa Team, Lusaka, Zambia
Ms. MacKenzie Holzbauer	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN
*Mr. Noah Ungemach	Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School, New Ulm, MN
*Mr. Kincaid Diersen	St. Croix Lutheran Academy, West St. Paul, MN
* Andrew Gradey	St. Croix Lutheran Academy, West St. Paul, MN
Ms. Katherine Boehlke	Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Burnsville, MN
Ms. Lisa Hoffer	St. John Lutheran School, Lake City, MN
Ms. Erica Schlomer	St. Paul's Lutheran School, Arlington, MN
Ms. Madelyn Plitzuweit	Bloomington Lutheran School, Bloomington, MN
Ms. Madeline Abel	Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Burnsville, MN
Ms. Taylor Natalie	God's Treasures Early Childhood Center, Winthrop, MN
Ms. Alyssa Walther	Holy Trinity Lutheran Academy, New Hope, MN

*These are accepted into the membership of the Minnesota District.

A. PASTOR CALLS ACCEPTED INTO AND WITHIN THE DISTRICT

Name	Start Date	Calling Body
Rev. Anthony Allard	7/1/2023	Timothy Lutheran Church, Saint Louis Park, MN
Rev. Jacob Behnken	10/1/2022	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN
Rev. Timothy Berg	6/1/2022	St John's Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye, MN
Rev. Gary Bode	7/1/2022	Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Coon Rapids, MN
*Rev. Jesse DeDeyne	1/16/2023	Emanuel Lutheran Church, Fairfax, MN
Prof. Aaron Dolan	7/1/2023	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN
Rev. David Endorf	7/1/2022	Brooklyn Lutheran Church, Brooklyn Park, MN
Rev. Paul Fritz	6/1/2022	Immanuel Lutheran Church, Woodville, WI
*Rev. Robert Harting	5/1/2023	St John Lutheran Church, Janesville, MN
Rev. Preston Heuer	6/1/2022	Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, Elk River, MN
Rev. James Krueger	5/1/2024	St John Lutheran Church, Centuria, WI
Rev. Timothy Otto	6/1/2022	St John Lutheran Church, Saint Paul, MN
Rev. Keith Petersen	5/16/2023	St Matthew Lutheran Church, Danube, MN
Rev. David Russow	6/1/2023	Salem Lutheran Church, Loretto, MN
*Rev. Andrew Schmidt	7/15/2022	Zion Lutheran Church, Morgan, MN
Rev. Brian Schmidt	9/1/2023	Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, West Des Moines, IA
Rev. Ryan Wolfe	7/1/2022	Salem Lutheran Church, Stillwater, MN
Rev. Austin Ziche	9/1/2023	Redeemer Lutheran Church, Maple Grove, MN

*These are accepted into the membership of the Minnesota District.

B. TEACHER & STAFF MINISTER CALLS ACCEPTED INTO AND WITHIN THE DISTRICT

Name	Start Date	Calling Body
Mrs. Sandy Brauer	5/31/2024	St. John Lutheran School, Dakota, MN
Mrs. Natalie Eckstein	7/1/2024	St. Peter Lutheran School, St. Peter, MN
Mr. Kyle Heise	10/1/2022	Bloomington Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN
Mrs. Kirsten George	7/12/2022	NorthCross Lutheran Church, Lakeville, MN
Mr. James Dretske	1/1/2024	St John's Lutheran Church, New Ulm, MN
Mr. Richard Gibson	8/1/2023	Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Prior Lake, MN
Mr. Jakin Anderson	7/1/2023	Risen Savior Lutheran School, Mankato, MN
Mrs. Katherine Anez	7/1/2023	Mt Olive Lutheran School, Delano, MN
Mrs. Kayla Becker	7/1/2023	Cross of Christ Lutheran School, Coon Rapids, MN
Mrs. Mollie Benjamin	7/1/2023	Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Burnsville, MN
Mrs. Rebecca Berg	7/1/2023	Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School, New Ulm, MN
Miss. Lydia Bitter	2/28/2023	St John Lutheran School, Red Wing, MN
Mr. Nathan Bitter	7/1/2023	St John Lutheran School, Red Wing, MN
Mrs. Ashley Breuer	7/1/2023	Bloomington Lutheran School, Bloomington, MN
Mrs. Sheila Burfield	7/1/2023	Precious Lambs Preschool, Rochester, MN
Mrs. Sara Dobberstein	7/1/2023	Bloomington Lutheran School, Bloomington, MN

Mrs. Kayla Eisenmann	7/1/2023	St Croix Lutheran Academy, West Saint Paul, MN
Mrs. Marissa Giovannettone	7/1/2023	Cross of Christ Lutheran School, Coon Rapids, MN
Mr. Mitchell Giovannettone	7/1/2023	Cross of Christ Lutheran School, Coon Rapids, MN
Mrs. Carol Green	7/1/2023	Holy Trinity Lutheran Academy, New Hope, MN
Ms. Colleen Haag	7/1/2023	St Mark Lutheran School, Bemidji, MN
Mrs. Elizabeth Hanson	7/1/2023	St Peter Lutheran School, Saint Peter, MN
Mrs. Nancy Hasselquist	7/1/2023	Grace for Kids Lutheran Preschool, Osceola, WI
Miss. Alyssa Heckendorf	7/1/2023	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN
Mr. Michael Hinds	7/1/2023	St John Lutheran School, Redwood Falls, MN
Mrs. Stefanie Hinds	7/1/2023	St John Lutheran School, Redwood Falls, MN
Miss. Allison Hofland	7/1/2023	Roots to Wings Learning Center, Lake City, MN
Mr. Paul Huebner	7/1/2022	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN
Prof. Samuel Hunter	7/1/2023	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN
Mrs. Nancy Johnson	7/18/2022	Jesus Loves Me Learning Center, North Mankato, MN
Mrs. Karen Klindworth	7/1/2024	Precious Lambs Preschool, Rochester, MN
Mrs. Sarah Kohls	7/1/2022	Risen Savior Lutheran School, Mankato, MN
Mrs. Kirstie Klug	12/20/2023	St Paul's Lutheran School, New Ulm, MN
Mr. Jeffrey Koepsell	7/1/2023	Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School, New Ulm, MN
Mrs. Jeannie Konecne	7/1/2023	St Mark Lutheran School, Bemidji, MN
Mrs. Ashley Koopman	7/1/2024	Mt. Olive Lutheran School, Delanor, MN
Miss. Hannah Koss	7/1/2023	Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Burnsville, MN
Dr. Martin LaGrow	7/1/2023	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN
Dr. Nichole LaGrow	1/1/2023	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN
Mrs. Kirsten Larkin	7/1/2024	Bloomington Lutheran School, Bloomington, MN
Mrs. Ashley Larson	7/1/2022	Risen Savior Lutheran School, Mankato, MN
Mrs. Ruth Lee	7/1/2023	Jesus Loves Me Learning Center, North Mankato, MN
Miss. Kristin Lehmann	1/1/2023	St Croix Lutheran Academy, West Saint Paul, MN
Miss. Amanda Lokensgard	7/1/2023	Immanuel Grace Lutheran School, Hutchinson, MN
Mrs. Heather Luepke	7/1/2023	Resurrection Lutheran School, Rochester, MN
Miss. Miranda Maasz	7/1/2023	Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School, New Ulm, MN
Mrs. Heidi Paulsen	7/1/2023	St Croix Lutheran Academy, West Saint Paul, MN
Mr. Anthony Perry	7/1/2023	West Lutheran High School, Plymouth, MN
Mrs. Tanya Rassmussen	7/1/2022	Christ Lutheran School, Zumbrota, MN
Mrs. Sophia Scheuerlein	7/1/2023	St Paul Lutheran School, Arlington, MN
Mrs. Jessica Schmidt	1/1/2023	God's Treasures Child Care, Winthrop, MN
Mrs. Madison Schneider	7/1/2023	Crown of Life Lutheran School, West Saint Paul, MN
Mr. Jeffrey Schultz	7/1/2023	Holy Trinity Lutheran Academy, New Hope, MN
Mrs. Ardith Seehafer	7/1/2023	Prairie Lutheran School Lower Site, Fairfax, MN
Mr. Jeffrey Seehafer	7/1/2023	Prairie Lutheran School Upper Site, Fairfax, MN
Mrs. Allison Stevens	7/1/2024	Mt. Olive Lutheran School, Delano, MN
Mrs. Madeline Stevens	7/1/2023	Mt. Olive Lutheran School, Delano, MN

C. PASTORS TRANSFERRED OUT OF THE DISTRICT		
Name	Date	District
Rev. Timothy Blauert	10/15/2022	Western Wisconsin
Rev. Joel Gaertner	06/15/2023	Southeastern Wisconsin
Rev. Thomas Gorzalski	04/30/2023	South Atlantic
Rev. Matthew Hennig	10/31/2022	Nebraska
Rev. Isaiah Horn	08/31/2023	Northern Wisconsin
Rev. Mark Kahrs	05/31/2023	Western Wisconsin
Rev. Stephen Kurtzahn	11/12/2018	North Atlantic
Rev. Michael Kuschel	07/31/2022	Southeastern Wisconsin
Rev. Kenley Mann	08/31/2022	Western Wisconsin
Rev. John Paustian	05/31/2022	Southeastern Wisconsin
Rev. Bryan Prell	05/31/2023	Western Wisconsin
Rev. Timothy Rosenow	02/28/2023	South Atlantic
Rev. Steven Saatkamp	10/31/2022	North Atlantic
Rev. Steve Schmeling	06/30/2022	Southeastern Wisconsin
Rev. Jacob Schram	02/28/2023	Western Wisconsin
Rev. David Spaude	07/15/2022	Western Wisconsin
Rev. Ori Thomford	06/30/2022	Western Wisconsin
Rev. Jason Zuehlke	09/30/2022	Western Wisconsin

D. TEACHERS & STAFF MINISTERS TRANSFERRED OUT		
Name	Date	District
Mrs. Bethany Walsh	06/30/2022	Northern Wisconsin
Mrs. Jo Carmichael	06/30/2023	South Atlantic
Mr. Grey Davis	06/30/2023	Southeastern Wisconsin
Ms. Stephanie Diersen	06/30/2022	Northern Wisconsin
Mrs. Noelle Dimke	06/30/2022	Southeastern Wisconsin
Mrs. Hannah Foelske	06/30/2022	Southeastern Wisconsin
Mr. D.H. Fuhrmann	06/30/2023	Southeastern Wisconsin
Mr. Bradley Gurgel	06/30/2022	Southeastern Wisconsin
Mrs. Karlie Habermann	06/30/2021	Western Wisconsin
Mr. Eric Hahn	06/30/2022	South Atlantic
Mr. Dyllan Jensen	06/30/2023	Pacific Northwest
Mrs. Elizabeth Jensen	06/30/2023	Pacific Northwest
Miss. Melissa Koenig	06/30/2023	Northern Wisconsin
Mr. Dayne Kopfer	06/30/2022	South Atlantic
Mrs. Halie Kren	06/30/2023	Northern Wisconsin
Mrs. Jamee Kroll	06/30/2023	South Atlantic
Mr. Brian Mensching	06/30/2022	Western Wisconsin
Mrs. Erin Mensching	06/30/2022	Western Wisconsin

Miss. Meredith Milbrath	06/30/2022	Northern Wisconsin
Mrs. Mercedes Ronholt	06/30/2022	Southeastern Wisconsin
Mr. Mark Stein	06/30/2022	Northern Wisconsin
Miss. Mary Story	06/30/2022	South Central
Mrs. Kristi Utsch	06/30/2023	Northern Wisconsin
Mr. Joel Westenberg	06/30/2023	Western Wisconsin
Mr. Jared Witkowiak	06/30/2023	Southeastern Wisconsin
Mr. Jon Woldt	06/30/2023	South Atlantic
Mrs. Rachel Berger	12/31/2023	Southeastern Wisconsin

E: Pastor Resignations

Name	Date
Rev. Wolf Parsons	10/23/2023

F. Teacher & Staff Minister Resignations

Name	Date
Mr. Nathan Voss	09/08/2023
Mrs. Rachel Berger	12/31/2023
Mrs. Bethel Boeder	06/30/2023
Mrs. Naomi Boerner	06/30/2023
Ms. Stephanie Diersen	06/30/2022
Mrs. Janet Fredrich	06/30/2023
Mrs. Kirsten George	06/30/2022
Mrs. Amber Johnson	06/30/2022
Mrs. Sandy Karnopp	06/30/2022
Mrs. Heidi Kieta	06/30/2022
Mrs. Jessica Klatt	06/30/2022
Mrs. Brittany Lebert	6/30/2024
Dr. Mark Lenz	06/30/2023
Mr. Benjamin Lundsten	06/30/2022
Mrs. Rachel Markgraf	06/30/2023
Mr. Adam Mateske	06/30/2023
Mrs. Roseanne Millner Blake	12/31/2022
Mrs. Bethany Olson	06/30/2023
Mrs. Robin Paustian	06/30/2022
Mrs. Mya Peshon	05/31/2024
Mr. Ryan Plath	06/30/2023
Ms. Heidi Remmele	06/30/2022
Mr. Shawn Scherer	12/21/2022
Mrs. Claire Schlomer	06/30/2022
Ms. Tingting Schwartz	06/30/2023

Mr. Christian Stoeberl	11/10/2022
Mrs. Catherine Strehlow	06/30/2022
Mr. Jeffrey Strehlow	06/30/2022
Mrs. Susan Van Houten	06/30/2023
Mrs. Donna Woldt	08/31/2022
Ms. Michelle Yotter	06/30/2022
Mrs. Kristi Bredendick	06/30/2024

G. Pastor Retirements	
Name	Date
Rev. Mark Bartsch	08/31/2022
Rev. Dean Biebert	07/31/2022
Rev. Wesley Bruss	10/30/2022
Rev. Philip Gieschen	06/30/2022
Rev. Thomas Hartwig	12/31/2023
Prof em. Douglas Lange	06/30/2023
Rev. Edwin Lehmann	12/31/2023
Rev. Jeffrey Limpert	07/12/2022
Rev. John Maasch	06/30/2023
Rev. Paul Marggraf	06/30/2023
Rev. David Peters	03/31/2024
Rev. Curtiss Seefeldt	06/30/2022
Rev. Philip Spaude	06/30/2022

H. Teacher & Staff Minister Retirements	
Name	Date
Prof em. Paul Bases	06/30/2022
Prof em. David Bauer	06/30/2022
Mrs. Beverly Bentz	06/30/2023
Mrs. Becky Birr	06/30/2023
Mrs. Jodeen Britton	06/30/2022
Mrs. Jo Carmichael	06/30/2023
Mrs. Joy Enter	06/30/2022
Mrs. Karen Grunwald	06/30/2022
Prof em. Daryl Hanneman	06/30/2022
Mrs. Grace Hennig	06/30/2024
Mr. Jeffrey Koepsell	06/30/2023
Mrs. Merry Leerssen	06/30/2022
Prof em. Cheryl Loomis	06/30/2022
Mr. Stephen Merten	06/30/2022
Mr. David Noack	06/30/2022

Prof em. Ronald Ohm	06/30/2023
Mrs. Laurel Otto	06/30/2022
Ms Ellen Pieper	06/30/2024
Mr. Greg Schmill	12/31/2022
Ms. Debra Schultz	06/30/2022
Prof em. Steven Thiesfeldt	06/30/2022
Mrs. Elizabeth Wessel	06/30/2022
Mr. Jon Woldt	06/30/2023
Mrs. Grace Hennig	06/30/2024
Rev. Rodney Pudell	06/30/2024
Mr. Jeffrey Koepsell	06/30/2024
Rev. Allen Lonquist	07/31/2024

I. Called Workers Called to Glory While Residing in the MN District	
Name	Date
Rev. Donald Hochmuth	2/25/2023
Rev. Roderick Luebchow	9/6/2023
Rev. Melvin Schwark	11/26/2022
Mrs. Dorothy Hopman	6/22/2023
Mrs. Wanda Sellnow	11/10/2023
Mr. Robert Averbeck	1/10/2024
Prof. Lawrence Czer	6/26/2023
Prof em. Gary Dallmann	4/8/2024
Mr. Barry Gostchock	10/25/2023
Mrs. Jeanette Hillmann	2/13/2023
Mr. Harold Mears	1/29/2024
Mrs. Barbara Naumann	8/1/2022
Prof em. Ronald Shilling	5/24/2023
Prof. James Unke	7/30/2022

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Serving Jesus and his saints,

Rev. Dennis C. Klatt

Rev. Dennis C. Klatt – WELS Minnesota District President