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Assembly Agenda - Saturday, April 26

8:00	Registration & Coffee Fellowship	12:00	Lunch
9:00 9:45 10:15	Worship Break Plenary 1 Call to order Introductions Rules of the Assembly Churchwide Report Resolution: Love Your Neighbor Resolution: Spanish Translation Neighbor to Neighbor Board Installation Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Resolution:Indian Boarding Schools Campus Ministry	12:00	Plenary 2 Bishop's Report Resolution: Salary Standards Portico Resolution: Mission Plan Endowment Election of Synod Council Election of Discipline Committee Recognition of Outgoing Synod Council Adjournment

Welcome & Thank You

Welcome everyone to the 2025 Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Assembly! We are grateful for your presence and participation at this event.

Together we will gather around the theme "Come and See," and consider the first chapter of the Gospel of John where Jesus calls the first disciples. With a bit of holy humor and fun, we will worship, engage in the business of the synod, and hear some updates about partner ministries.

Thank You!

- Bethany Lutheran for providing space and staff to assist us with our 2025 assembly
- Synod Council Members
- Conference Deans
- Rev. Josh Toufar for serving as our assembly parliamentarian
- The Trinity Men's Band for their music leadership
- Heart of the North Conference for assisting with worship
- ELCA Representative Imran Siddiqui for your presence and leadership.
- Childcare staff for their time, attentiveness, and commitment to caring for children during this year's assembly
- Adventures Restaurant for providing lunch
- Assembly helpers, Jennifer Bourget and Jean Morey

ELCA Churchwide Representative, Imran Siddiqui



Imran Mohammed Siddiqui was elected to a six-year term as vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) at the 2022 Churchwide Assembly in Columbus, Ohio. Siddiqui was born and raised in New Jersey in the Muslim faith. In 2002 he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and economics from Rutgers University in New Jersey. Siddiqui moved to Atlanta, Ga., to attend Emory Law School and, after receiving his law degree in 2005, decided he liked the area so much that he would stay. An atheist in college, he converted to Christianity in 2009 through the work of the Spirit in the Pentecostal church. After being invited by two of his friends to worship at St. John's Lutheran Church in Atlanta in 2011, he fell

in love with the liturgy and the Lutheran focus on God's grace. He soon became a Lutheran. Siddiqui was first elected to the Southeastern Synod Council in 2015, and in 2018 was elected as synod vice president. He was reelected in 2022 but is unable to serve his second term due to his election as ELCA vice president. He also serves on the board of the Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry, known as "Grace House," at Georgia Tech in Atlanta.

Siddiqui is a senior investigator for the U.S. Department of Labor, where he investigates employer-sponsored pension plans and health care plans. He lives in Decatur, Ga. (well, unincorporated Dekalb County, Ga., to be exact). Siddiqui is married to Kendall, an elementary school art teacher in the Dekalb County school system, whom he met at St John's. They have a son, Asher, and a daughter, Miriam. They are still members of St. John's.

Worship

Prelude Trinity Men's Band

Welcome Bishop Martin Halom

Where we invite you to come and See because we are better together!

Bible Basic Bishop Martin Halom

Welcome to Holy Humor Worship! You might imagine that Adam and Eve are the only two people in history to have not been born of human origin, but this is actually not true. Who else from the Old Testament has no earthly parents?

- 1. Noah
- 2. Moses
- 3. Joshua
- 4. Bishop Martin

Land Acknowledgement

As we worship together, we at the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin acknowledge that we worship on the ancestral lands of the Ho-Chunk, Ojibwe, Dakota, Menominee, Potowatomi, and Lac Courte Orielle people. A people that are still here, continuing to honor and bring to light their ancient heritage.

Opening Litany

Look. The Lamb of God!
Lamb? Does it come with a side of mint jelly?
No. Not an animal lamb. The Lamb (capital L) of God
Who is he?
He takes away the sin of the world.
Yay! Let's follow him!
Does he have snacks? I'm hungry.
And does he have a good place to sleep? My back hurts!
Come and see! He will take away your hunger and comfort you with pillows!
Psst...we found the Messiah! And He has snacks and pillows! (high-five)
He totally is the one Moses wrote about!
Come and see with joyful hearts. Let us worship.

Gathering Hymn

"Joy to the World" (alternative lyrics)

ELW #267

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ⊕ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

This is the day the Lord has made, if only in bed I could have stayed. You gift us with love and grace, yet we struggle to get to this place. Fill our hearts with hope and love, with a heavenly blessing from above. Guide us in service with hearts of fire, and bless us on this journey of holy desire. Amen.

Scripture John 1:35-42

The Holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Trinity Men's Band

"Because He Lives"

Scripture John 1:43-51

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

Amen--it shall be so.

Sermon Bishop Martin Halom

Song of the Day

ELW #270

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (alternative lyrics)

Profession of Faith - (Holy Humor Creed)

We believe in God,
who created all things and us in his own image.
We live, we love, we laugh,
because we are given life through God.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, our Lord and Savior.
He lived, he loved, he laughed.
He rose again from the dead in victory.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
One with our creator God and one with our Savior Christ.
Our counselor, our guide, our motivator-The Holy Spirit is our joy!
We stand united as one body of Christ
with God's promises as our firm foundation
Forgiveness, Resurrection, and Life Everlasting.

Promised love, promised life, promised laughter.

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Intercessory Prayers

With faith like a child, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation. (Moment of silence)

I pray for all people to have love all the time and to give God love. (age 5) Compassionate God, fill us with joy.

I pray that the church is able to reach and help everyone. I pray for the safety and health of everyone who is in a war zone. I pray that the farmers have a good planting season. I pray for the first responders and EMTs, so they make the right decisions and are safe. (Age 13) Compassionate God,

fill us with joy.

I pray that everyone has a dog. (Age 5) Compassionate God, fill us with joy.

I wish that no bad words are said. I hope people have a companion. I pray that people can have anything. (Age 10)

Compassionate God,

fill us with joy.

I hope everyone goes to heaven and lives to be 102. I so wish that people get 8 hours of sleep, unlike me. (Age 11)

Compassionate God,

fill us with joy.

I pray that everyone has a good day. (Age 6)

Compassionate God,

fill us with joy.

I hope that everyone is willing to help others that are in need. I hope that everyone in the congregation are nice to each other. I wish that everyone treats teachers, janitors, and school staff kindly. (Age 11)

Compassionate God,

fill us with joy.

I pray for people to have enough food, like chicken! (Age 6) Compassionate God,

fill us with joy.

God loves you all the time, no matter what. Even if you are not being kind or nice. I hope that people in need get more help than others. Thank you for listening. (Age 9½) And all God's children say AMEN.

AMEN.

Peace Trinity Men's Band

"Shake Another Hand"

Offering Trinity Men's Band

Offering today will benefit Neighbor to Neighbor Ministry & the Synod Endowment Fund "Excuses"

Communion

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

This is the Joy of our Lord

Love, Grace, and forgiveness for all

All are welcome. Our Lord's table is set, the feast is ready!

Everything that we need

The sweetest grace of all—Jesus Christ!

Then let's eat!

Communion Distribution

Communion will be received by intinction; all wine is alcohol free and a gluten free wafer option is available at every station. Ushers will guide you.

"Remember Me"

Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with joy, love, and laughter.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray: Foolish and fun God, your belly laugh echoes through the world. We have responded to your invitation to join in the Banquet. Here we have eaten, we have drunk, we have tasted your goodness. May the joy we find in this meal together lift up our hearts, may we carry your laughter to the world around us, may we live out that foolishness called love wherever we go. **Amen.**

Sending Song ELW #290

"Go. Tell it on the Mountain" (alternative lyrics)

Dismissal

Go in joyful peace.

Carry the curiosity like a child

Explore the wonderment of God's love, grace, and mercy.

Be bold. Be inspired. Be humble.

Come and see the holy assembly.

Okay. We will. Thanks be to God.



^{*}Profession of Faith and Post-Communion Prayer are from Calvary Lutheran, Scottsbluff, NE. Text, tune, and arrangements used by permission of Augsburg Fortress License #12387-S; ELW & ACS

Opening of the Assembly

Please stand.

L: As in one body we have many members,

C: So we, who are many, are one body in Christ.

L: Where two or three are gathered in my name, says the Lord,

C: I am there among them.

L: Live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

C: Let us pursue what makes for justice and peace, and for mutual up-building.

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you

L: Let us pray: O God, you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

L: I declare this assembly to be in session in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Synod Council

Council Officers

Rev. Martin Halom, Bishop (2030) Al Arndt, Vice President (2027) Rev. Julie Brenden, Secretary (2028) Rev. Peter Muschinske, Treasurer (2025)

Conference Representatives:

Black, Indigenous, or Person of Color (BIPOC)

Deacon Lidixe Montova

Apple River Conference

Rev. Laurie Kenyon-Woods (2027) Matt Keenan (2025) Karalyn Littlefield (2026)

Chequamegon Conference

Kaj Peterson(2027) Carol Lekies (2025) Rev. Amy Heinz (2026)

Chippewa Valley Conference

Jacob Gapko (2027) Julie Carr (2025) Rev. JonPaul Dragseth (2026)

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Dairyland Conference

Becky Schwinefus (2027) Rev. Mike Vetsch (2025) Matt Hatleli (2026)

Heart of the North Conference

Rev. Sara Feld (2027) Ted Hakala (2025) Janelle Thompson (2026)

Lake Superior Conference

Mary Trettin (2027) Rev. Rachel Sieja (2025) Richard Bouton (2026)

St. Croix Valley Conference

Kim Warren (2027) Rev. Annie Ladnier (2025) Jacob Summerville (2026)

Youth Representatives

Gabi Amble (2026) Adyson L'Heureax (2025)

Conferences and Deans

1. Lake Superior

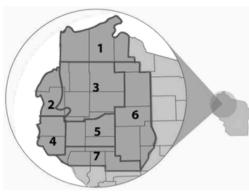
Rev. Sean Koos Our Savior's Lutheran, Superior 218-206-0859 pastorkoos@gmail.com

2. Apple River

Rev. Marilyn Crossfield Rev. Angie Kutney Laketown/Centuria 715-648-5323 715-000-0000 pastormarilync@gmail.com

3. Heart of the North

Rev. Heather Kistner Trinity Lutheran, Spooner 715-635-3603 mhkistner@gmail.com



4. St. Croix Valley

Rev. Melissa Hrdlicka Joy Lutheran, Prescott & 920-676-7439 melhrdlicka@gmail.com

Rev. Ben Nelson Zion, Woodville 262-720-8347 pastorbennelson@gmail.com

5. Chippewa Valley

Rev. Brad Peterson Trinity Lutheran, Boyceville 715-643-3821 pastorpb@cltcomm.net

6. Chequamegon

Rev. Elizabeth Bier ONE in Christ Parish 715-267-6142 revelizabeth001@gmail.com

<u>C</u> 3

7. Dairyland

Rev. David Christianson Upper Pigeon, King's Valley & South Beef River, Osseo 612-817-4582 Chrisdalan@comcast.net

Walking together for the sake of God's mission in the world.

Synod Staff



Rev. Martin Halom Bishop

mhalom@nwswi.org 715-505-6509



Liz Bartsch Synod Minister, Administration Ibartsch@nwswi.org 715-859-6810



Rev. Randy Olson Leadership, Candidacy, Call Process rolson@nwswi.org 715-558-0084



Rev. Diane House

Director for Evangelical Mission dhouse@nwswi.org 715-671-8333



Deacon Lidixe Montoya

Neighbor 2 Neighbor Ministry neighbor2neighbor@nwswi.org 715-944-5052



Deacon Laura Ramlow

Communication, CYF, Malawi Iramlow@nwswi.org 715-559-3474

Changes to the Roster

ORDINATIONS

Justin Arnold, ordained and called to serve St. James and English, Fall Creek and Chippewa

August Hohl, ordained and called to serve Peace Lutheran in Menomonie.

TRANSFERRED TO **ANOTHER SYNOD**

Deacon David Behling, transfer to St. Paul Area Synod Rev. Karen Behling, transfer to St. Paul Area Synod Rev. Mikayla Kopp, transfer to South Central Synod of WI **Rev. Gail Sowell**, transfer to the East Central Synod of WI Rev. Heather Wigdahl, transfer to the Montana Synod

INTERIM and BRIDGE **PASTORS**

(as of April 1, 2025)

Rev. Mary Albin, Lakeside,

Rev. Mary Ann Bowman, Luck,

Rev. Julie Brenden, Trinity, Hammond

Rev. Dale Chesley & Rev. Nancy Hanson, Saron, Ashland Rev. Len Halverson, Bethany, Grantsburg

Rev. Gary Hedding, St. John's,

Rev. Diane Norstad, Trinity and Georgetown, Cumberland Rev. Keith Ruehlow, Our

Savior's, Menomonie

Rev. Peter Ruggles, First Faith Valley parish

Rev. Jeffrey Smith, Christ, Somerset

Rev. Bethany Walker, administrative interim, Osseo, Osseo

Pulpit Supply

- Immanuel, Clayton
- Bethany, Star Prairie

DEATHS

Rev. Charles Arndt Rev. Carl Ames Rev. LeMoyne Boleman Rev. Dean Brockmeier SAM, John Kurschner Rev. Marlin Snyder

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NEW CALLS WITHIN OUR SYNOD

Rev. Mara Ahles-Iverson called to serve Central, Monrovia Rev. Robert Friese, called to serve Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish, Spring Valley

Rev. Peter Johnson, called to serve Lakeside Community, Webster

Rev. Natalie Leske, called to serve Shepherd of the Hill, Elk

Rev. Rene'Mehlberg, called to serve First Congregational United Church of Christ, Menomonie Rev. Lori Peper, called to serve Peace, Dresser

Rev. Carolyn Staats, called to serve Rush River, River Falls

SEMINARY INTERNS SERVING IN OUR SYNOD

Kellie Heath Cathy Reuter

RECEIVED FROM ANOTHER SYNOD

Rev. Anne Frerks, Retired Pastor, transferred from East Central Synod of Wisconsin

Rev. Len Halverson, Retired Pastor, transferred from Western Iowa Synod

Rev. Tim Lincoln, Retired Pastor, transferred from Southwestern Texas Synod

ON LEAVE FROM CALL

(as of March 31, 2025) Rev. Amy Fondroy-Eich Rev. Erin Nelson Rev. Rebecca Holland Rev. Sara Bishop

Rev. Lucy Schottelkorb

Rev. Andy Schottelkorb Rev. Stacey Nalean Carlson

RESIGNED FROM ROSTER

Kari Burke-Romarheim

RETIREMENTS

Rev. Lowell Bolstad

Rev. Mary Erickson Rev. Linda Rozumalski

Rev. Keith Ruehlow

Rev. Paul Simmons

Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson

Rev. Jay Ticknor

Rev. Jonathan Zielske

SYNODICALLY AUTHORIZED **MINISTERS**

(Currently Serving as of April 1, 2025) John Addison serving Faith, Grantsburg Todd Ahneman, serving Barronett, Barronett

Steve Aldach, Our Saviors and Northfield, Hixton

Kathy Boe, Serving Taylor, Taylor Heidi Bragger-Kadinger, serving Independence, Independence

Scott Brown, serving Our Saviours aand Grace of Pleasantville

John Brunclik, serving Grace, Our Saviors Deacon Scott Burns, serving Ridgeland, Ridaeland

Jennifer Carey, serving Pilgrim, Superior Monica Dejno, serving Chimney Rock,

Deacon Darrel Diers, serving Zion,

Matt Dietsche, serving Our Saviors, Iron

Jill Fries, serving First, Stone Lake Kellie Heath, serving Living Water, Cameron

Shawnda Hora, serving Northwoods STaR Ministries

Bonnie Isaacson, serving Modena, Mondovi

Michael Isaacson, serving Drammen and Valley of the Shepherd, Monrovia/Eleva

Allen Johnson, serving Little Norway and Spirit Creek, Black River Falls Don Knutson, serving Colfax, Colfax and Holden, Colfax

Barb Krug, serving Our Saviour's and St. Paul's, Medford

Jeanne Madsen, serving West Immanuel, Osceola

Bruce Metcalf, serving Our Savior's, Bloomer

John Neddendurst, serving Moland,

Luke Pederson, Trinity of Norden, and Good Shepherd

Debbie Poirier, serving Bethel, New Auburn

Tom Potterton, serving Lake Superior Conference

Gary Preston, serving Modena, Mondovi Catherine Reuter, serving Salem, Shell

Lyle Roe, serving the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Travis Rogers, serving Northwoods STaR Ministries

Micaela Stenner, serving North Running Valley, Colfax

Jane Snowden, serving Partners in Faith, Cameroon & Rice Lake

Deb Strobl, serving Northwoods STaR

Loren Teig, serving Neighbors United in

Janelle Thompson, serving Nathaniel,

We Remember



Reverend Marlin Snyder, Marlin was born on February 24, 1935, to Leslie and Lillian (Brunsvold) Snyder in Mason City, Iowa. Rev. Snyder passed away on May 30, 2024. Marlin graduated from Central Lutheran Theological Seminary in Fremont, Nebraska. He was ordained as a Lutheran Minister in May of 1962. He served congregations in Nebraska, Upper Michigan, North Dakota, Kansas, and Iowa

He married Mary Gretchen Dallenbach on June 22, 1974, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife, Mary Gretchen of Centuria, daughters, Cindy Snyder of Fort Dodge, Iowa and Shelly Mitchell of Lacona, Iowa, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother and son, Philip Marlin Snyder.



Reverend Carl Ames, 76, of Northfield, Minnesota, died on June 28th, 2024, due to the progression of cancer. Carl was born on December 8, 1947, to William Ambrose and Elfreida Thompson Ames in Birmingham, Alabama. Carl attended Auburn University earning his Bachelor of Science degree in Pre-Med. He then attended the University of Alabama at Birmingham, earning his Master's Degree in Public Health, with a major in Epidemiology. Later, he attended The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, earning his Master's of Divinity degree. Carl served in the US Army for three years, spending most of his time in Washington, DC at Walter Reed Hospital and in Bangkok, Thailand, conducting studies in public health. Carl was passionate about sharing the love of God with others.. Raised as a Roman Catholic, he always found himself involved in the church. In 1987, he

became Lutheran and began his seminary education the next year. He was ordained a Pastor of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) on August 16, 1992. Since that time, for almost 32 years, he faithfully served churches in Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia, Minnesota and Wisconsin. He helped countless others to recognize and live into their gifts, inspiring many into ministry as pastors and other leaders in the church. His passions in the church included loving the congregation and community he served, engagement with the larger church, and working to support veterans and their families.

Second only to his relationship with God was Carl's love of family. He married the love of his life, his best friend, Kathy Eckstam-Ames, on March 5, 1988. Together, they raised their two children, Paula and Devin, in a home that Carl always filled with love, his big and warm laugh, and more stories than any normal person could remember. His love of working outside, southern foods, reading, quick wit, history, and playfulness shaped his life.

Carl is preceded in death by his parents, his older brother John, and his nephew John Ames, Jr.. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Kathy Eckstam-Ames, his son Devin (Becca) and daughter Paula (Ben), grandchildren Jackson and William, sister-in-law Vickie, niece Diane (Michael), nephew Tim (Ashley), and great-niece Kayleigh, among many other cousins and relatives. Carl will be deeply missed by friends and family, all who know that his memory will live on in the many stories that will continue to be shared.



SAM John Kurschner, 80, Chetek, WI, passed away Monday August 12, 2024. He was born in Prairie Farm Wisconsin on October 9, 1943 to Harold and Clara (Strand) Kurschner. After high school graduation in 1961, he got his bachelor's degree from Milton College and later received his master's degree from UW-Eau Claire. Throughout his life, he pursued many vocations. A large part was working for Kutrieb Corporation for several years before becoming a teacher for the Colfax school district from where he retired. John married Jane K. Knilans in August of 1973. After they parted ways he went on to find the love of his life. He married Sandra Gail Fraley (Folstad) on June 28, 1986. Along with Sandra came Scott, her son, a bonus for John.

We Remember

Together John and Sandra traveled extensively in the United States (acquiring many antiques along the way). They also made two trips to Europe, visiting the Scandinavian countries as well as England, Ireland, Scotland and Germany. Camping at Washburn on Lake Superior was the highlight of their summers.

Family & Friends were most important to him and Sandra, often entertaining and sharing their love of cooking. His love also extended to many cats and dogs as pets, most importantly Angus and Otis.

John was involved in the community and lived his Christian faith by serving others. He was a student in the fourth group of the LAY School of Ministry from 1996 until 1998. Every year since then, he has participated in the continuing education offerings of the school. He was asked by then Bishop Bob Berg to serve as Dean of that school, a capacity the he held until now. Bishop Berg also selected him to be in the first group of 10 persons trained to be a Synodically Authorized Minister in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. He has served many congregations in that capacity.

He and Sandra envisioned a community where people helped one another. They started Chetek Area We Care Ministries during the onset of COVID with concern for those in Meadowbrook, those living alone, and those without an adequate support system by giving them a weekly phone call and a weekly treat made by members of area churches along with a spiritual message. Now this vision is expanding to encompass even more services that allow them to stay in their own homes as long as possible



Reverend Chuck Arndt, passed away peacefully and surrounded by family on October 10, 2024, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis, MN, due to complications from Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Born on March 14, 1942, in Hutchinson, MN, to Fred and Lillie (Hoecke) Arndt, he was baptized into the Christian faith on April 12, 1942, and confirmed his faith on June 5, 1955. He grew up on the family farm near Cosmos, MN. After graduating from Hector Community High School in 1959, he obtained a BA in History from Augsburg College in Minneapolis, MN, in 1963. His commitment to faith and service led him to complete a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN, in 1967. On June 10, 1967, Chuck married Mary Jo Handeland. They walked hand in hand as they served the people of Christ and St. John's Lutheran Churches in Earl Grey, Saskatchewan, Canada, from 1967 to 1972, and First

and Laketown Lutheran Churches in Cushing, WI, from 1972 until his retirement in 2007. In retirement, Chuck continued to embody the virtues of a faith-filled life devoted to service. He offered his time and compassion as a part-time chaplain at the Good Samaritan Center in St. Croix Falls, volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and Interfaith Caregivers, and did pulpit supply until the Covid pandemic. Chuck loved working outside in his yard and garden, where he found peace and solace in the beauty of nature. His hands were rarely still, as he found joy in refinishing wood furniture and tinkering in his shop. An avid reader, Chuck was always ready to explore new worlds and ideas through the pages of a book. He loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Chuck is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Mary Jo, his son, Marcus (Becca) Arndt, his daughter, Connie (Andy) Clausen, his cherished grandchildren, Andrew, Kelly and Jason Arndt, and Adam, Aaron, Ryan and Rachel Clausen, and dear cousins who were like brothers and sisters. Each of them carries a piece of Chuck's legacy in their hearts and will continue to honor his memory through their lives. He was preceded in death by his parents and granddaughter, Leah Clausen.

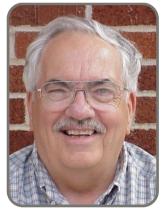
Chuck journeyed through this world with a heart full of faith, leaving behind a legacy that will continue to inspire and uplift all who were blessed to know him. "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23).

We Remember



Reverend Dean Brockmeier, December 15, 2024 Reverend Dean Brockmeier passed on to his heavenly reward surrounded by his family. Born October 11th, 1940, in Holdredge NE, Dean grew up on a cattle farm but felt the call to the ministry as a teenager. He graduated from Wartburg Seminary in 1966 and soon after married Carolyn "Kari" (Strey) Brockmeier, an RN and the loving and practical hands that complemented his spiritual heart. Dean will be remembered for many things, but most of all for his servant leadership. Dean began his ministry at our Savior's Lutheran Church, Solon Springs, WI where he served for six years. As pastor of Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church in Elk Mound, WI for over 35 years, Dean shepherded his congregation through two major renovations, started the village's food pantry, and led Luther League canoe expeditions in the Minnesota boundary waters, delighting in the rivers and lakes that were so different from the prairies of his beloved Nebraska. In 2005, he was humbled to be presented with Wartburg Theological Seminary's "The Living"

Award", for distinguished set-960 and through the Church. As a dedicated community leader, Dean was a charter member of the Elk Mound Lion's Club, where he helped organize fundraisers ranging from tractor pulls to fish fries and pancake breakfasts for over 40 years. He was a village board trustee, serving two terms, and a Chairperson for the Elk Mound Habitat for Humanity Committee. Perhaps the achievement that most exemplifies Dean's generous spirit was the founding of the annual EMHS Seniors' All Night Graduation Party in 1986, an event he championed to ensure that every graduate had an opportunity to celebrate their achievement in a fun and inclusive environment. Dean loved to travel, visiting 13 countries and all 50 states with wife Kari. Much of Wisconsin was seen from the driver's seat of his beloved Ruby Corvette on trips with the Corvette Club of which he and Kari were charter members. A renowned baker whose pies were in high demand, Dean was also an avid woodworker and fisherman, enjoying many trips to Canada with son Karl as well as teaching granddaughters Frannie and Sophie to fish on Lake Nancy.



Reverend LeMoyne Boleman, 89, left his earthly life on January 31, 2025, at The Homestead Care Center of Anoka, MN. He was surrounded by family, prayer, songs, stories, laughter, tears and love. Lee was born on August 31, 1935, in Grand Rapids, MN, to LeMoyne and Lucille Boleman. He grew up on a farm on the St. Croix River, outside of Taylors Falls, MN. Later his family moved to another farm, a few miles away, in Shafer, where Lee helped build the barn. He graduated from Taylors Falls High School in 1953, where he made the first regulation basket in the new gym. He often reminisced about childhood days swimming, fishing, operating a corn stand and "milking cows twice a day by hand". When he started college, his dad bought a milking machine. He attended the University of Minnesota – St. Paul campus and then joined the US Army. Thanks to getting the measles, along with several fellow oldiers, he missed graduation and orders to Missouri, and happily took another soldier's orders to be based in Germany. There he met the love of his life, Erika (Ricky) Waack at a Youth for Christ

base. They were married on thereting 1957, and began their 67-year journey together. Back in the United States, Lee attended Augsburg College and Seminary in Minneapolis and then Augustana Seminary in Rock Island, IL, where he received his Master of Sacred Theology degree. He did his internship at Emmanuel Lutheran in Manchester, CT. Once ordained, he served at Peace Lutheran in Poplar, WI; Trinity Lutheran in Lake Nebagamon, WI; Peace Lutheran in Belmont, WI; Bethany Lutheran in Republic, MI; United Lutheran in Gilbert, MN; Stockholm Lutheran in Stockholm, MN and, again, at Trinity Lutheran in Lake Nebagamon, WI. During his "retirement" he also served several congregations in Alaska, including Fairbanks, Shishmaref, Palmer, Anchorage and Unalakleet. His wife, Ricky, was a partner in these ministries, as was his well-loved puppet Tex, who was renamed Al by children in Alaska. Another puppet, Ricky's Auktweena, joined the team, making them quite a hit during children's sermons! Lee and Ricky loved traveling and the many friends they made along the way. Lee and Ricky visited 20 foreign countries and all fifty states, their last one being Delaware which, ironically, is nicknamed "The First State". Whether it was a north woods "short cut", or one of their many trips overseas, their favorite place was always their "cabin" on Pickerel Lake at Barnes, Wisconsin. Lee and Ricky built and designed every aspect of this one-of-a kind retreat. When Lee wasn't doing carpenter work, he could be found doing yard work and life guarding his children and grandchildren as they completed their coming-of-age swim across the lake. Lee loved reading, carpentry and "any kind of cake as long as it was chocolate!" The Vikings, Twins and Gophers lost a loyal fan, and Dairy Queen lost a loyal customer. Throughout their marriage, Lee and Ricky prayed every night for every family member by individual name. Lee was also proud to perform the weddings of all his children and grandchildren and baptized all his grandchildren and almost all of his great grandchildren! Lee was always kind and put others ahead of himself.

Rules & Procedures for an Assembly

The synod council, upon the recommendation of the bishop approved to recommend to the Synod Assembly the following Rules and Procedures for the 2025's Synod Assembly.

These Rules and Procedures will be formalized by the Assembly at the Plenary Session of the Assembly on April 26.

A. Registration and Quorum

Registration shall close at midnight April 18. No registrations may be received after the deadline has passed. Voting members present will use green and red cards to vote.

The Quorum for the meeting will be one half of the number of eligible voting members. (An eligible voting member is a registered voter.)

B. Plenary Meeting Procedures

- 1. When an item of business is opened by the chair for discussion, those voting or advisory members wishing to speak **must specify if they are speaking "for" or "against" the item under consideration** by going to the microphone, identify themselves and their congregation, and indicate "for" or "against" the matter at hand.
- **2.** Once recognized by the chair, each speaker will be given permission to speak so they can state their name and congregational membership. No person may speak more than once on an item of business until all others who wish to speak have had the opportunity to do so.
- **3.** Speeches during debate shall be limited to two (2) minutes. Speeches will be made in alternating order between supporting and opposing views. Time will be kept by a designated individual. The chair will rotate speaking privileges between proponents and opponents of a measure.
- **4.** The chair may recognize an individual(s) to provide pertinent background information regarding a resolution. Such speakers shall be limited to two (2) minutes.
- **5.** Debate and discussion will be limited to 10 minutes for each resolution. At the end of 10 minutes the assembly will be asked to vote unless there is a motion to extend the discussion.
- **6.** Any resolutions that remain at 4 p.m. Saturday, April 26 will be directed to the synod council for action, unless the assembly votes to extend the meeting.
- 7. Roberts Rules of Order will be used to manage assembly proceedings according to the synod's constitution.

C. Motions

All brief motions must be written, and hand delivered or emailed to the synod secretary including the name and congregation of the person making the motion. When a member intends to bring a motion, the motion must be made and seconded, if applicable, before speaking to the issue. If a member speaks to a matter before bringing the motion, the motion will be considered out of order by the chair. Once the motion is properly made and seconded, if applicable, the member who made the motion shall have the privilege of speaking first in support of it, upon recognition by the chair.

D. Voting

• In determining the outcome of a vote, only the yes and no votes shall be counted in determining the total number of votes required for adoption. Proxy and absentee voting shall not be permitted in the transaction of any business of the Synod Assembly. The Chair will allow for at least one (1) minute for voting to occur. Voting members will use a green card to approve, a red card to oppose a vote.

E. Privilege of Voice

Guests, other than voting members, may be accorded the privilege of voice by a majority vote. Voice shall also be granted to those persons designated by the Synod Council, as provided for in S7.23. of the Synod's Constitution.

We need at least 3/4 majority to adopt these rules and procedures.

Parliamentary Procedure

To accomplish this:	You say this:	Interrupt the speaker?	is a second necessary?	Is it debatable?	Can it be amended?	Necessary vote?	Can it be reconsidered?
Introduce business	"I move that"	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
Amend a motion	"I move to amend the motion by"	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
Give further study	"I move to refer the matter to committee."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes (Unless it has gone to committee)
Postpone discussion for stated period of time	"I move to postpone the discussion until"	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
End debate and amendments	"I move the previous question."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	No (Unless vote is not taken)
Suspend consideration of an issue temporarily	"I move to table the motion."	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
Raise a question about noise, etc.	"I rise to a question of privilege."	Yes	No	No	No	No vote	No (Usually)
Call for an intermission	"I move we recess for"	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	No
Adjourn the meeting	"I move that we adjourn."	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
Other motions to:	You say:						
Requestinformation	"Point of information"	Yes	No	No	No	No vote	No
Reconsider an action	"I move to reconsider the vote on"	Yes	Yes	Yes (if motion to reconsider is debatable)	No	Majority	No
Take up a matter previously tabled	"I move to take from the table"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
Verify a voice vote by having members stand	"I call for a division"	Yes	No	No	No	No vote	No
Vote on a ruling of the chair	"I appeal from the chair's decision."	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Yes
Protest breach of rules or conduct	"I rise to a point of order."	Yes	No	No	No	No vote (unless it is unclear)	No
Avoid considering an improper matter	"I object to consideration of this motion."	Yes	No	No	No	2/3	Yes (if main motion was not considered)
Suspend rules temporarily	"I move to suspend the rules so that"	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	No

Sample Ballot				
2025 Ballot - 3 year terms	Synod Council Members			
Apple River Conference Vote for 1 Lay Male	Heart of the North Conference Vote for 1 Lay Male			
Matt Keenan*	Ted Hakala *			
Chequamegon Conference Vote for 1 Lay Female	Lake Superior Conference Vote for 1 Clergy			
Nancy Young	Reverend Rachel Sieja*			
Chippewa Valley Conference Vote for 1 Lay Female	St. Croix Valley Conference Vote for 1 Clergy			
	Reverend Ladd Sonnenberg			
Dairyland Conference Vote for 1 Clergy	Synod Council Treasurer			
Reverend Mike Vetsch	Jay Rongstad			
*incumbent	+currently filling a vacant term. Seeking first full term on council			

Sample Ballot			
2025 Ballot - 3 year term	s Discipline Committee		
Lake Superior Conference Lay Person	Lake Superior Conference Rostered Leader		
Tom Potterton	Reverend Sean Koos		
Chippewa Valley Conference Rostered Leader	Chippewa Valley Conference Lay Person		
Reverend Sarah Miller	Kris Carlsbad		

Resolutions

The resolutions that were submitted by the deadline appear on the next several pages. They are:

- Resolution 1 Love Your Neighbor Capital Campaign
- Resolution 2 Spanish Translation/Interpretation for Synod Materials and Events
- Resolution 3 2026 Minimum Standards for Compensation and Benefits
- Resolution 4 Operating Mission Plan
- Resolution 5 National Day of Remembrance Indian Boarding Schools

Resolution 1

Love Your Neighbor Capital Campaign

WHEREAS Deuteronomy 10: 17-19 commands, "For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt"; and

WHEREAS both Leviticus 19:18 and Matthew 19:19 command, "You shall not take vengeance and bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself"; and

WHEREAS in answer to the question in Luke chapter 10 of "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus gives us the parable of the Good Samaritan to teach us that love is shown to our neighbors often different from us through acts of mercy and grace; and

WHEREAS five years ago the Neighbor 2 Neighbor ministry was created by Deacon Lidixe Montoya with the blessing and help of the synod council and synod staff to foster and support relationships with our neighbors living and working in our synod; therefore be it

RESOLVED that this synod will conduct a three year "Love Your Neighbor" Capital Campaign with the goal of raising \$175,000 for the support and sustainability of this vital ministry within our synod.

Submitted by Neighbor to Neighbor Ministry and Synod Council

Spanish Translation/Interpretation for Synod Materials and Events

WHEREAS, 3 John 1:5-6 states, "Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers and sisters, even though they are strangers to you. They have told the church about your love. Please send them on their way in a manner that honors God."; and

WHEREAS, when the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was formed in 1988, it was with the intention that the church would be a diverse body, inclusive and authentically reflective of the world around us. However, despite our efforts, we remain a predominantly white, middle-class church of European descent; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, in unity with the broader church, acknowledges the importance of engaging in intentional actions to reflect on our diversity, to educate ourselves about it, and to begin the work of healing. We recognize that by amplifying voices from different backgrounds, our synod becomes stronger, more authentic, and more clearly reflects the body of Christ; and

WHEREAS, the "Neighbor to Neighbor: Together in Ministry / Vecino a Vecino: Juntos en Ministerio" initiative aims to support congregations in re-imagining their role and identity within their communities, addressing issues of social and racial justice, fostering connections with neighbors, and exploring shared worship and learning opportunities. This initiative embodies a reimagined approach to living and sharing our faith in a rapidly changing society; and

WHEREAS, we also recognize that many of our neighbors in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin speak languages other than English and Spanish, and that language is an essential bridge for inclusion and community-building; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin will make every effort to translate key documents and provide interpretation for events and experiences in both English and Spanish, as a way to more fully connect with our Spanish-speaking neighbors. This commitment will also extend to exploring translation into other languages that reflect the diverse linguistic makeup of our synod; and therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the costs for translation and interpretation services will be covered for two years through a Strategy Toward Authentic Diversity (STAD) Grant from the ELCA, with the possibility of exploring additional funding sources for ongoing support of this important work.

Resolution 3

2026 Minimum Standards for Compensation and Benefits

For Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Ministers of Word and Service, Lay Program Staff, and Support Staff

WHEREAS each year the Salary Standards Committee reviews and makes recommendations; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin approve the salary standards provided in the on-line preassembly materials.

Forwarded on March 27, 2025 by Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Synod Council with recommendation for approval.

Operating Mission Plan

WHEREAS, each year the Synod Council reviews and makes recommendations for the proposed financial mission plan; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the financial mission plan for the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin be adopted.

Forwarded on March 27, 2025 by Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Synod Council with recommendation for approval.

	CURRENT	Amended	Amended	
	1/31/2025 2024-25	2024-25	2025-26	Proposed at Salary Standards 2026-27
RECEIPTS				
General Mission Support (Benevolence)	\$1,135,609	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,100,000
Grants & Other Misc. Income	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Interest Income	924	2,000	2,000	1,000
Assembly receipts over expenses	5,934			
TOTAL RECEIPTS	1,152,466.83	\$1,212,000	\$1,212,000	\$1,111,000
FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIP MINISTRIES (BASED UPON % OF Beney Royd)				
ELCA Churchwide Synod Benevolence	\$401,358	\$438,897	\$424,921	\$372.03
Seminaries	\$49,161	\$53,759	\$52,047	\$45,560
Colleges	\$7,522	\$8,225	\$7,963	\$6,977
Support/Wis Conf of Churches	\$4,336	\$4,741	\$4,590	\$4,01
Support-Twin Ports Ministry	\$436	\$477	\$462	\$40
Support-Public Policy Office	\$519	\$568	\$550	\$48
Support-Luth Outdoor Min.	\$403	\$441	\$427	\$37
TOTAL SUPPORT-PARTNERSHIP MINISTRIES	\$463,735	\$507,108	\$490,960	\$429,850
MISSION (SYNOD SHARE)	\$ 688,731	\$ 704,892 \$	721,040	\$ 681,150
SYNODICAL MISSION				
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$81,000	\$81,000	\$81,000	\$81,00
Camping Ministry-Luther Park, Luther Point, Wapogasset and Amnicon	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,00
Region 5 Support-Operations	\$5,158	5,158	4,942	4,942
First Call/Multi-Synod Educ.	\$1,660	1,660	1,660	1,660
	\$89,818	\$89,818	\$89,602	\$89,602
SYNOD COMMITTEES	****	****	****	****
Candidacy	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800
Youth	\$1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Synod Council	\$1,200	1,200	1,200 \$3,000	1,200
COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS	******	******	******	******
Bishop (Inc. housing allow.)	\$104.623	\$103.626	\$101,322	\$103,855
Synod Minister: Full Time (inc. housing)	\$88,132	\$88,132	\$104,841	\$118,214
Synod Minister: 1/3 Time	\$16,180	\$22,843	\$0	\$0
Synod Minister for Communication(inc. housing)	\$57,531	\$57,531	\$60,503	\$67,820
Synod Minister: Administration	\$63,178	\$63,178	\$68,248	\$69.954
Pensions, Health Insurance, etc.	\$140,827	\$149.313	\$164,000	\$164,000
		\$16,417	\$20,399	\$20,399
	\$15.652			
Social Security-Rostered Leaders	\$8,786	\$9,234	\$5,221	\$5.221
Social Security-Rostered Leaders Social Security- Employee		\$9,234 5,600	\$5,221 4,600	\$5,221 4,600
Social Security-Rostered Leaders	\$8,786			

	CURRENT	Amended	Amended	
	1/31/2025 2024-25	2024-25	2025-26	Proposed at Salary Standards 2025-27
	\$17,403	\$18,600	\$18,600	\$18,600
GENERAL OFFICE				
Supp.Post.Printing/Technology	\$9,749	9,500	9,500	9,500
Office Rent	\$11,200	11,200	11,200	11,200
	\$20,949	\$20,700	\$20,700	\$20,700
PURCHASED SERVICES				
Audit	\$12,800	10,700	11,000	14,000
Telephone	\$3,161	5.700	5.700	5,700
Dues, Registrations, Fees	\$769	1,500	1,500	1,500
	\$16,750	\$17,500	\$18,200	\$21,200
INSURANCE	25.050.000	2000000000	2000	
Automobiles & Umbrella	\$11,882	5,900	8.634	8.634
Worker's Compensation & Multi-peril	\$1,425	5,000	5.070	5.070
	\$13,507	\$10,900	\$13,704	\$13,704
RETURN TO RESERVE EQUIPMENT				
Transfer to designated & restricted accounts	\$21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000
Repairs, Equipment, Rental	\$5,997	7,100	7,100	7,100
	\$26,997	\$28,100	\$28,100	\$28,100
TOTAL SYNODICAL MISSION	\$668,731	\$704,892	\$721,040	\$681,150
NET SYNOD SHARE OVER/JUNDER) MISSION	50	50	50	\$0
	\$463,735	\$507,108	\$490,960	\$429,850

National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools

WHEREAS, from 1819 to 1969, countless Indian day schools and over 520 Indian boarding schools operated in the United States, with 417 receiving federal support [1], where Native children were forcibly taken from their families and communities, prohibited all expression of Native language and culture, and required to perform manual labor [2], with a goal to "Kill the Indian in him, and save the man" [3]; and

WHEREAS, religious organizations collaborated with the federal government in operating more than half of these federally-funded schools; and predecessor denominations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) operated Bethany Indian Mission Boarding School in Wittenburg, Wisconsin [4], and other non-federally funded boarding schools, day schools, and related institutions [5]; and

WHEREAS, these schools were part of a larger strategy of physical and cultural genocide that included forcing Indigenous people and Tribal Nations off of their original homelands and onto reservations so that settlers and governments could claim the stolen land for themselves, undermining sovereignty [6], and perpetrating extermination in multiple other ways; and

WHEREAS, boarding school students, which at one point included over 83% of all Native children [7], often suffered physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological abuse that caused deep trauma for the children, their families, their tribal communities, and subsequent generations [8]; and an untold number of children died while at boarding schools (nearly 1,000 identified to date) [9]; and

WHEREAS, the ELCA has committed to work against injustices and toward healing as stated in "The Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery" (2016) [10] and the "Declaration to American Indian and Alaska Native People" (2021) [11], therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Synod Assembly memorialize the 2025 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to address the legacies of our church's role in Indian Boarding Schools through the following actions:

- 1. Actively invite and equip all congregations, synods, and affiliate ministries to commemorate the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools annually on or near September 30th;
- **2.** Broaden and deepen awareness at congregation, synod, and churchwide levels of Christian and Lutheran roles in Indian boarding schools, through creation of adult and children/youth educational programs and materials and through consistent publishing of articles in all of the church's publications;
- **3.** Provide on-going recognition of and support for the growing network of lay people and clergy volunteering their time in the work of the ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative on Indian Boarding Schools (see www.elca.org/IndianBoardingSchools) to locate all known records related to the ELCA's predecessor bodies' involvement with Indian boarding and day schools and to educate others about Indian boarding schools;
- **4.**Encourage ELCA affiliate ministries to commit to learning the truth of their involvement with Indian boarding schools, in partnership with the ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative; and to responsibly create paths to healing and repair;
- 5. Organize and care for all information in the ELCA's possession that was recorded about Indian boarding and day schools and the students who attended them, forcibly or otherwise; carry out this work in partnership with the ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative and the ELCA Archives; recognize that this information belongs to and is a source of healing for student survivors, their descendants, communities, and Tribal Nations; and ensure that the records and research are made accessible to Indian boarding school survivors and their families in a responsible manner; and
- **6.** Identify sources of funding to sufficiently support research and organizing efforts; and to sufficiently support digitization and labeling of all ELCA Indian boarding school archival records.

Author: Elizabeth M. Andress, Co-lead (lay volunteer), <u>ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative on Indian Boarding Schools</u>; <u>liz@solbrack.com</u>, 651-983-8105 (m)

Resolution 5 (Continued)

NOTES

- 1."Indian Boarding Schools in the United States." National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. January 2025: https://boardingschoolhealing.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-Indian-Boarding-Schools-Map-.pdf
- 2. David Treuer, The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America From 1890 to the Present (New York: Riverhead Books, 2019): 141.
- 3. "Kill the Indian in him, and save the man': R.H. Pratt on the Education of Native Americans." Carlisle Indian School Digital Resource Center. Accessed February 15, 2025. https://carlisleindian.dickinson.edu/teach/kill-indian-him-and-save-man-r-h-pratt-education-native-americans
- **4.** Anna M. Peterson, "Norwegian Americans and the Bethany Indian Mission," Currents: The Newsletter of the Norwegian-American Historical Society (Volume 189, Fall 2023): 6-9.
- 5.United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report Volume II List of Other Institutions (Appendix F), July 2024, https://www.bia.gov/service/federal-indian-boarding-school-initiative
- 6. Ned Blackhawk, The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2023): 333-337.
- 7. "US Indian Boarding School History." National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. Accessed February 15, 2025. https://boardingschoolhealing.org/education/us-indian-boarding-school-history/
- 8. United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report Volume II, July 2024, 15, https://www.bia.gov/service/federal-indian-boarding-school-initiative
- **9.** Matthew Brown. "Survivors Say Trauma from Abusive Native American Boarding Schools Stretch Across the Generations." AP. Updated November 5, 2023. https://apnews.com/article/native-american-boarding-schools-victims-3f927e5054b6790cef1c6012d8616ad6
- 10. "ELCA Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery," Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, 2016, https://resources.elca.org/wp-content/uploads/Repudiation_Doctrine_of_DiscoverySPR16.pdf
- 11."A Declaration of the ELCA to American Indian and Alaska Native People," Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, 2021, https://resources.elca.org/wp-content/uploads/Declaration_to_American_Indian_Alaska_Native.pdf

Submitted by Rev. Laurie Kenyon Woods, Rev. Rachel Sieja, Rev. Diane House, Rev. Connie Monson, Rev. MaryAnn Bowman, Luke Pederson, Deacon Lidixe Montoya, Rev. Justin Arnold, Deacon Kari Allen, and Laurel Boyer of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin.

Ordination Anniversaries & Retirements

25 years 2024:

• Rev. Margaret Isaacson

50 years 2024:

- Rev. Sam Kochel
- Rev. Michael Rehak
- Rev. Kermit Solem
- Rev. Larry Sturges

Retirements:

- Rev. Lowell Bolstad
- Rev. Mary Erickson
- Rev. Linda Rozumalski
- · Rev. Keith Ruehlow
- Rev. Paul Simmons
- Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson
- Rev. Jay Ticknor
- Rev. Jonathan Zielske

Well done good and faithful servants!



Congratulations to our 2024 Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Loving Lutheran Congregations!



The following congregations qualified to have 200% of their 2024 donations to LSS matched by a generous Lutheron donor

Barran Latheren Church (Elk Mound)

Berthall Lutherson Church (Madhesol)

Big ER Greek Entheron Church ER Mound

Colomy Latheren Drunch - Draner (Winter)

Central Econodical Lateurses Church (Monthol)

Owiet Indoorse Church (Mesopolose)

Best International Latherent Church (Revent-

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Bles Lieberter Church (Amery)

Enmanuel Latheron Church Sangwoods

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Description Lateral Court Black River Falls:

Emilial Inform Church Steen Falls:

First Latheren Church (Amery)

First Lutherson Church (Barrest)

Bethamore Lichman Church Baldwin

Good Shaphard Lutheron Church - Addard

Holdes Software Church (Callins)

Hope Lichman Church Broke.

Hope Latherse Church (East Claim)

Immanuel Lutheron Church (Comunique)

Only Bir Creek Surboran Church Microsophical

Lack Latheren Drumb Saukt

System Lutherson Church (Reduced)

New Maps Judenan Church (Sand Greek)

North Welley Latheron Church (Centerial)

Nortes Lutheren Church Kelfled

Owen Brangelind Latherer Church (Deser

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Our Senior's Justiness Church Minesessond

Our Service's Latherton Church (Nice Label)

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South Beef Bleen Lutheron Drunch (Depen)

Salet Lateran Bay Cales

St. John's Evergelical Letheron Church Spring Welling:

St. John's Lutheren Church (Bloomer)

St. Auberts Lucturers Church (Bear Claire)

St. John's Lutheren Church (Sidman)

St. Salin Sutheran Church (Found) (Desent)

See Lutheren Church Mager Cityl

Mode Luberter Church Bay Daire!

Minity Lutheren Church Surgets

West Allert Latheren Church Preirie Ferrei

Whomers of the BIGA is Central Sufferior Church.

Chippens Falso

Women of the BIGA - St. Lake Latherton Church -

France (Decemb)

Women of the BIGA - Briefly Lutheran Church.

Birchwood

Women of the EUCA - Trivilly Lutheron Church.

(Combactions)

Women of the BICA - Dise batherer Druck of Trade

Lake (Freshold)

Zine Lutteron Church Streetland



Closing of the Assembly

Leader: Jesus said, You will be my witnesses

All: to the ends of the earth.

Leader: I chose you and appointed you

All: to bear fruit that will last.

Leader: Remember, I will be with you always

All: to the end of time. Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Direct us, Lord God, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and extend to us your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: I now declare this assembly closed in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All: **Amen**.

Leader: Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Events

Indigenous Sacred Sites Tour May 17, 2025 + St. Paul, MN

Fresh Expressions Sampler (Option 2) May 31, 2025 - Superior Conference

2025 WELCA Retreat June 4-5, 2025 + Chetek

Fresh Expressions Sampler (Option 3)
June 28, 2025 - Chequamegon Conference

ENTANGLED - Multi-Synod High School Gathering July 8-11, 2025 - UW River Falls

Daylily Dig (Fundraiser for Malawi) July 18-19, & August 1-2, 2025 + 9:00-1:00 each day + Kaufmann Farm

Fresh Expressions Sampler (Option 4)
July 26, 2025 - Heart of the North Conference

Fall Ministry Retreat (Rostered Leaders/SAMs) August 24-26, 2025 - Hudson, WI

Lay School of Ministry September 12-13, 2025 + Chippewa Falls

All Conference Gathering (Rostered Leaders/SAMs) October 9, 2025 + Luther Park, Chetek

Lay School of Ministry October 10-11, 2025 + Chippewa Falls Lay School of Ministry

November 14-15, 2025 + Chippewa Falls

Lay School of MinistryDecember 12-13, 2025 + Chippewa Falls

Young Adult Cultural Immersion Retreat January 2-9, 2026 + Puerto Rico

Lay School of Ministry January 9-10, 2026 + Chippewa Falls

Winter Theological Event January 19, 2026

Lay School of Ministry
February 13-14, 2026 + Chippewa Falls

Lay School of Ministry
March 13-14, 2026 + Chippewa Falls

Rooted and Renewed March 21, 2026

Lay School of Ministry April 10-11, 2026 + Chippewa Falls

Synod Assembly 2026 April 25, 2026

Lay School of Ministry May 8-9, 2026 + Chippewa Falls

