



# The Happenings

## USA — Canada

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1

JUNE 2017

### From the Chairman

Each year the LCMC Northwest District has the pleasure of organizing a District Gathering at a host congregation within the district, a five-state area consisting of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana including the Western Provinces of Canada. For 2017 we gathered at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish, MT, a very beautiful and helpful

congregation. We again express our thanks and gratitude for all their assistance in making the 2017 Gathering such a success for all.

Each year we pledge to do better in organizing and content for the attendees of the Northwest District Gathering.

Our next Gathering is April 20 & 21 of 2018 and will be held at the Christ Community Church in Lebanon, OR. We look forward to gathering there. Please put the dates in your schedule and plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Each year several positions on the Northwest District Board become vacant, open to fill. Please be prayerful in how you may serve the Lord in your ministry. The District Board needs you. We are made up of pastors and laity (common people like me) seeking to honor the Lord in all we do. Be on the lookout for the "Board Information Form". May we serve the Lord with you should you decide to join the District Board.

**Pat Woods**  
NW District Board Chair



We are very thankful for all the time and commitment the following people gave in their specific positions in the Northwest District:

**Pr Murray Stanton**— Board Vice Chair  
**Barb Fagley**— Board Secretary  
**Mo Bessey**— District Coordinator  
**Keith Aderhold**— Webmaster  
**Caren Woods and Suzanne Robinson**—  
"The Happenings" Newsletter Editors



We welcome the following who are new to the Northwest District positions:

**Mot Hedges**— Board Member  
Richland Lutheran, Richland, WA

**Pr Paul Berthelot**— Board Member  
Richland Lutheran, Richland, WA

**Barb Fagley**— District Coordinator  
Faith Lutheran, Pierce, ID

**Steve Hruza**— Webmaster  
Christ Lutheran, Whitefish, MT

**Sheryl Westerhold**— Newsletter Editor  
Christ Community Lutheran, Lebanon, OR

# Rooted and Grounded in Christ's Love

## 2017 Northwest District Gathering Highlights



A huge **THANK YOU** to Christ Lutheran Church, Whitefish, MT for hosting this years LCMC Northwest District Gathering.

Their beautiful building easily accommodated the 108 guests who attended the Gathering April 28-29, 2017.



**Pr Stephen Lien, Coordinator for Pastoral Ministry** Led a Bible study with pastors & spouses Friday morning.



Special thanks to Pastor John & Grace Bent and their musicians for providing the worship music. It's always a blessing to worship and praise our Lord in song!

We also thank Doug Rawlings and John Olsen, from Alberta, Canada, for their inspirational music.

**Pr Dan Clites, Coordinator for Church Planting** Keynote speaker—“Climate Change: How you can be an agent to change the world!” and “SENT like Missiles!”



**Pr Sean Kelly, Trustee - Chair for LCMC National** Keynote speaker—“Dual-Threat Churches” and “Bringing Life to Your Leadership”



**“Strangers are friends you haven’t met yet.”**

These annual Northwest District Gatherings are great opportunities to meet other LCMC congregation members face-to-face. At this years gathering I made it a point to sit at mealtimes with people I had not met before. I enjoyed getting to know them and even though the physical miles separate our churches, these face-to-face conversations brought us even closer as sisters and brothers in Christ. Now my challenge to you: At our next gathering, introduce yourself to someone you haven’t met yet and see how the distance between our churches grows a little closer. You will be blessed.

**Sheryl Westerhold**  
NW District Newsletter Editor



Presenter for *Sparrows Nest* was **Mara Hanks**, Administrative Assistant.

Sparrow’s Nest is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring safe and supportive housing for homeless unaccompanied high school students in the Flathead Valley.

The LCMC Northwest District Gathering’s offering was matched by the NW District Council and given to the *Sparrows Nest of Northwest Montana*.

Gathering photos by **Pr Jeff Redlin**

## DISCIPLING *by* DESIGN

On Sunday, May 6, Ingrid Aderhold, Barb Fagley and Mo Bessey traveled to Omaha, NE for the Annual Leadership Conference on Discipleship. Calling all disciples to make new disciples.

Through keynote speakers, group discussions, great lunches, round tables and partnership talks — we spent an awesome 3 days learning how to seek, gather, and teach both new and old disciples how to go out into the world and make disciples of all nations.

We were charged with finding unique ways that “we” could go out to make disciples.

It was truly fulfilling and it being my first conference, it was a thrilling experience!

**Barb Fagley**  
NW District Coordinator



### LCMC NW District **IGNITE** Youth Retreat

**Date:** Thu, October 19 - Sat, October 21

**Where:** Faith Lutheran Church 1300 Ferguson Dr. Great Falls, MT 59404

**What:** It is open to 8th through 12th graders.

Matthew 5:14-16 A weekend all built around IGNITING our hearts 4 Christ! Have you ever wondered how YOU can have an on fire relationship with Jesus? Does there seem to be a spark that needs to be rekindled? Come and join us, as we hear the message on how we can rekindle or IGNITE our lives 4 Jesus!

Christian recording artist Peder Eide is performing Friday night and there will also be 2 outstanding service projects.

Registration cost is \$75.00 And the first 50 kids get a free IGNITE Tee shirt!

Registrations are encouraged to be sent in by August 1 to Faith Lutheran Church, 1601 2nd Avenue N, Great Falls, MT, 59401.

Rooms are available at the Hampton Inn in Great Falls at a great reduced cost.

For schedule, registrations and other information please call **Travis Powers** at Faith Lutheran Church. **(406) 454-1309** or email him at **oneprayer@hotmail.com**. Be sure to check out the IGNITE Facebook page also!



## Meet Our Two Newest Members to the LCMC Northwest District

### Redeemer Lutheran Church — Dayton, Washington



Redeemer Lutheran is located in southeast Washington in the town of Dayton at the base of the Blue Mountains, [www.historicdayton.com](http://www.historicdayton.com).

Redeemer was started by a group of men who had come to Dayton from the Dakotas and Minnesota to work at a local pea canning company. The church was first incorporated in April of 1945 as a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. We have a congregation membership of 70.

Recent history is in 2014 our pastor of 38 years died suddenly. Since that time we have had pulpit support, changed from Missouri Synod to LCMC, joined the Northwest District and are now seeking a permanent pastor.

Redeemer's website is [www.redeemerdaytonwa.com](http://www.redeemerdaytonwa.com) and we have a Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/lcmcd Daytonwa/](https://www.facebook.com/lcmcd Daytonwa/)

Leadership of Redeemer is by church council made up of four elders, four trustees, a secretary, a treasurer and council chairperson.

Blessings,

**Susan Bell**

Redeemer Council Chairperson



## Welcome



### Grace Lutheran Church — Nashua, Montana

At the last quarterly Northwest District Board meeting we approved adding the congregation at Nashua, MT to our roster.

Grace Lutheran is a small congregation that formed in 2010 (formerly with Our Redeemer Lutheran, ELCA). They started by meeting at the Senior Citizen Center and then in 2016 they purchased a former ice cream parlor that is being remodeled for worship. Approximately 25 people worship weekly.

The area is mostly a farm community of German/Scandinavian background.

Grace Lutheran has a Women's Bible study; women who sew blankets for a women's health clinic; Confirmation class; and a mini VBS.

This congregation provides Welcome Baskets for newcomers to the community and help people with financial needs as able. They also partner with Samaritan's Purse with Christmas boxes and filling community needs as they arise.

Pastor Jeannie Bergstrom at Grace Lutheran is committed to sharing Biblical truths with parishioners who are committed to moving forward. Their primary goal is to spread God's true word.

Email: [nashuajean@hotmail.com](mailto:nashuajean@hotmail.com)



## Meet The New Pastors To The LCMC Northwest District

### Husband and Wife Team are Installed as Pastors at Joy Lutheran

Mark Fry, who played basketball professionally in Australia and Germany before attending seminary, and his wife, Wenda, are the new pastors at the congregation affiliated with the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.

Mark Fry has been called to be the church's lead pastor.

Wenda Fry attended the same seminary that her husband did — Luther-Northwestern Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. — and has been "called and deployed" by Joy Lutheran Church. That means that she can continue her family counseling and wedding business through Joy's ministry. It'll be called "Joy Counseling."

Joy Lutheran Church is located in Billings, MT and is a member of our LCMC Northwest District.



**Pastors Mark and Wenda Fry**



# Welcome



### Conrad Lutheran Parish to Install New Pastor

Pastor Drew Nelson and his family were called to Conrad Lutheran Parish on May 1st, 2017. They will be serving both Pondera Valley and Golden West Lutheran Church and have already gotten off to quite the start. Besides participating in the local rodeo as an exhibition bull rider his first month here, Pastor Drew has already found a couple great fishing holes and shot numerous gophers. Kori Anne, his wife, stays



home, actively participating in the community with their two daughters Abigail, who is 3 years old, and Madelyn, who was just born in Great Falls on June 7th. Kori spends her free time writing and reading, hoping to soon publish her own work. Abigail believes she is a princess, loves horses and would ride everyday if she was able. Madelyn sleeps all day and eats all night. Most importantly they are both beautifully healthy. Their family thanks you for welcoming them to the area and to the Northwest District LCMC. They promise to serve here faithfully and prayerfully as they hope to remain for a very long time.



Pastor Drew Nelson's Installation Service will be Sunday, June 25, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

**Pastor Drew, Kori Anne, Abigail and Madelyn Nelson**



## Where Does Your Money Go — Or Not

The Northwest District is a geographic district of LCMC Congregations within the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and the Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

Membership in our district does not come automatically even if you are a member of the National LCMC Organization.

District membership must be applied for separately.

Our by-laws (section 3.01) states, "The purpose of the Northwest District is to support the common mission of its members to bear witness to the good news that sinners are put right with God by faith

**Dollars must purposely be directed to each organization separately.**

alone in Jesus Christ." It is the Board of the Northwest District who plans all of our District Meetings, keeps our District running smoothly and in turn the "Annual Gathering subcommittee" working through the Board, accomplishes all the necessary planning for our large Annual Gathering event. We voluntarily work throughout the year to accomplish these goals.

Donations from congregations, individuals and Gathering registration fees are used to keep our Website up and running; funding minor administrative cost; providing some support for our District Coordinator; and primarily to fund our annual Gathering. Our District Board works tirelessly, on a totally voluntary basis, to carry out these varied objectives. (Hint: We are always looking for new members to join the Board.)

We have had a couple District Board members ask about their church's contributions not showing up on the District's yearly report. After checking with their church's staff, it was determined that their contribution had been sent to the LCMC National office and not to the Northwest District of LCMC. The National LCMC level funds do not trickle down to our District level.

Dollars must purposely be directed to each organization separately.

Please feel free to contact myself or any board member if you have any questions or concerns about whether your designated dollars are going to the right place.

For the record, many churches and individuals do support us and we would certainly appreciate your

church considering the support of our District in any financial way possible.

The District Board has some funds that are available to assist congregations or individuals, in their needs and perhaps for specified disaster relief and other ministerial needs. At our District level, simply submit a specific written request to any Board member and it will be addressed at our next Board meeting. (You can submit in person, by e-mail or 'snail' mail.)

**Kathy Nida**

NW District Treasurer

Addresses are listed here:

Northwest District – LCMC  
Kathy Nida, Treasurer  
PO Box 374  
Brownsville, OR 97327

LCMC National  
Lutheran Congregations in  
Mission for Christ  
7000 Sheldon Road  
Canton, MI 48187-2753

## Be Safe & Have Fun Celebrating



## CAN YOU HELP?

Christ Community Lutheran Church, LCMC's Memorial Committee has been asked to create a pamphlet that will explain how people can designate funds in memory of loved ones. We also would like to include informa-

tion as to how families can incorporate gifts to Christ Community Lutheran Church in their wills and trusts. Rather than "reinvent the wheel" the committee is hoping that another church in our NW District might have such a document already in place and would be willing to share that with us. Would love to hear from you.

You can reach me at

**debbania@centurylink.net 541.401.2981**

Thank you,

**Ardis Debban**

Memorial Committee

Christ Community Lutheran Church



### April 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**The 2018 LCMC Northwest District Gathering will be held at Christ Community Lutheran Church in Lebanon, Oregon.**

The Gathering Committee includes:

Shelly Hauge, Kathy Nida, Mary Stubblefield, and Sheryl Westerhold.

As planning unfolds, you will be updated through this quarterly newsletter, the NW District website: [www.lcmc-nw.com](http://www.lcmc-nw.com) and other mailings.

**Check out our Website!**  
**[www.lcmc-nw.com](http://www.lcmc-nw.com)**



### News for "The Happenings"

If you or your congregation would like to include information to the next LCMC Northwest District newsletter, *The Happenings*, please submit it to Sheryl Westerhold at her email address: **orygunsaw@gmail.com**



### LCMC 17th Annual National Gathering

**Date:** October 8-11, 2017

**Theme:** "We Confess Our Faith"

**Location:** Hilton Minneapolis  
1001 S Marquette Ave  
Minneapolis, MN 55403

For more information go to LCMC's website at:

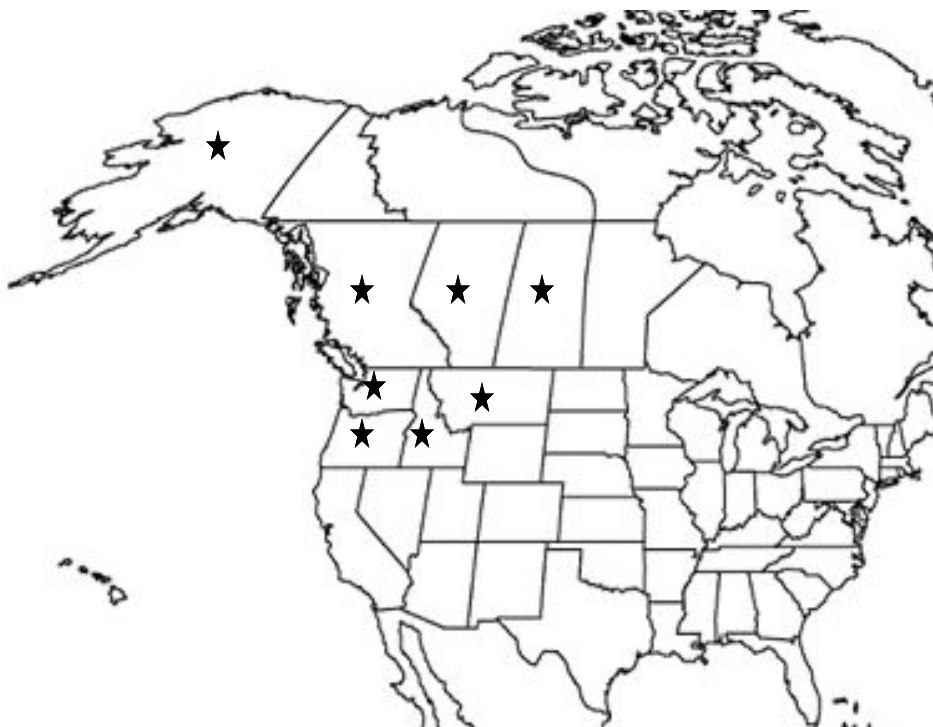
**[www.lcmc.net](http://www.lcmc.net)**



There are **84** LCMC congregations in the Northwest District and **50** of those congregations are Members of the Northwest District.

## LCMC Northwest District includes. . .

Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Canadian Provinces (British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan).



## LCMC Northwest District Board

### Executive Committee

**Pat Woods**, Chair

**Pr Jeff Redlin**, Vice Chair

**Mary Stubblefield**, Secretary

**Kathy Nida**, Treasurer

### Board Members

**Pr Paul Berthelot**

**Shelly Hauge**

**Mot Hedges**

**Pr Eric Hullstrom**

**Denel Ingraham**

**Suzanne Robinson**

**Dr Lee Wicklund**

**Barb Fagley**  
District Coordinator

