

July 2015

**THIS IS THE ONLY OFFICIAL  
 NEWSLETTER FOR THE LCMC  
 NORTHWEST DISTRICT**

Volume III, issue 3

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**Thank You Calvary Lutheran for supporting our Annual Northwest District LCMC Gathering for 2015**



Calvary Lutheran of Kalispell, Montana provided a place for fellowship

and worship for the five northwestern states (which includes Alaska) and three Western Canadian Provinces. There were 90 attendees for this Annual Northwest District “Gathering”.

We wish to thank the servers for the Friday night dinner and the Saturday afternoon lunch and dinner. All were well attended.

The KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dan Fox from Lutheran Community Services of Spokane, Washington. Speaking on “Rally the Community Around Mental Illness” with a break-out

session entitled “Mental Health First Aid” The three-day gathering began on Friday April 17<sup>th</sup> with a Pastors’ study beginning at 10 am. What a pleasure to see our Lord working in the Pastors’ lives and in His churches. It was well received and the message challenged us to listen to the Holy Spirit as we live in a world confused by peace and war.

April 18<sup>th</sup>, Saturday’s meeting began with Northwest District business and council needs. The official Business Meeting ended Saturday Evening.

On Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday Service was at 10:00 am followed by potluck dinner after the service.

Patrick Woods,  
 LCMC Northwest District Council Chair.

**“The Happenings”**

**Newsletter**

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Contributors:

**Pat Woods, Pr. Paul Braafladt, Pr Warren Baker, Cathy Nichol, LCMC 2015 Annual Convention—Frisco Texas**

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 (contact form is included on website)

“For it is by grace you have been saved through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9



## A First for Puget Sound Congregation

Reprinted from LCMC Newsletter

By: Rev. Dr. Paul Braafladt, Ret.

This is not your ordinary church. The community building is rented and has excellent worship space. The chancel furniture (all handcrafted) is set up each Sunday and neatly packed and hauled away in a special trailer after each service. One could easily imagine the ancient Hebrews moving from place to place in the wilderness, relying on their organized manpower to set up the Tabernacle wherever they found themselves.

But Living Word congregation at Puyallup, Washington, is on the move in other ways. It's quite unusual too. Their first pastor, Rev. Gary Jepsen, retired last January 1st. He was much loved in the congregation. Finding a new pastor would not be a walk in the park. After their initial search and hopes had been dashed, they decided to look for an Interim Pastor. They explored the matter, took applications and with little hesitation looked to their own membership. And there he was, Dr. Jay Thompson, a man who had faithfully taught the adult class every Sunday. He too was much loved.

He happened to be a theological professor at Faith Seminary in Tacoma. His expertise was history, especially Reformation and church history, along with Greek. He is now Professor of Church History and Exegesis and represents Faith Seminary to the LCMC.

But it takes more than a fine education and teaching talents to lead the Lord's flock. Jay knew this, of course. And with God's leading he had been preparing for pastoral ministry over several years. Five years earlier Jay asked for and received a Certification Interview. He was approved without hesitation to serve as an LCMC pastor.

That was significant not just for him but for LCMC members here in Western Washington. Why? Out here, in un-believer land, this has never happened before. On March 22nd Jay Thompson became the first newly-ordained certified LCMC pastor to serve the mission field that baldly defines us in the Puget Sound area. Certainly, he was the first to serve the same congregation where he and his family were already members.

Talked about the Call of God! There is much joy at Living Word Lutheran Church in Puyallup! Pastor Thompson will serve them until they and that person God is preparing for them. Surely, the Lord will till the soil of their hearts and minds and lead them to that pastor who receives and accepts their Call on a permanent basis.

Thanks be to God! Thank God for God!

## Congregation & Clergy Directory Update

Stay connected! Help us keep our records accurate and up-to-date. Please take a moment to review your congregation—(www.lcmc.net/congregations) and your profile (www.lcmc.net/pastors).

Need to make changes? Locate the update forms for congregations and clergy on the LCMC website, (click on Documents, then Applications & Forms then Update Contact Information and select the appropriate form). Submit the completed form(s) to the LCMC office.

Questions? Contact Cathy Nichol: cathy@LCMC.net or 734.788.7476



Beyond the River Academy offers a new class on **Intentional Interim Ministry!**

For details, contact:  
**Pastor Warren Baker**  
 birders1and2@gmail.com  
 712.330.2018

## Calls/Deployments to Intentional Interim Ministry

### Pastor Joan Scheffler



Front, l-r: Pastors Kevin Weeks, Joan Scheffler, Craig Nelson and Warren Baker

Back, l-r: Pastors Rusty Bailey, Martha Nelson, and John Nelson

Pastor Joan Scheffler was called by St Paul’s Lutheran Church, Franklin Grove, IL, and deployed by them into Intentional Interim Ministry on May 17, 2015. Pastor Rusty Bailey presided. Pastor Joan is a 2015 graduate the Interim Ministry course at Beyond the River Academy. Her daughter, the church council president, placed the stole. Joan and her husband, Jerry, have 4 children and 10 grandchildren.

Submitted by Pastor Warren Baker

### Pastor Gary Truitt



l-r: Pastors Ingrid Aderhold, Gary Truitt, Greg Worsh and Warren Baker

Pastor Gary Truitt was called by Faith Lutheran Church Pierce, ID, and deployed by them into Intentional Interim Ministry on April 26, 2015. Pastor Ingrid Aderhold presided at the service. Pastor Gary is a 2015 graduate of the Interim Ministry course at Beyond the River Academy.

Submitted by Pastor Warren Baker

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the LCMC Northwest District



**Your Northwest District Council:**

- Pat Woods—Chair - (Executive Committee)
- Murray Stanton—Vice Chair —(Executive Committee)
- Barbara Fagley—Secretary—(Executive Committee)
- Kathy Nida –Treasurer -(Executive Committee)
- Denel Ingraham
- Jeff Redlin
- Lon Roberts
- Suzanne Robinson
- Shelly Hauge
- Mary Stubblefield
- Maureen (Moe) Bessey—District Coordinator
- Keith Aderhold—District Web Master

## Our Newest Congregation Members to the LCMC Northwest District

I like to take this moment to welcome Christ Lutheran Church of Whitefish, Montana and Valier Lutheran Church of Valier, Montana as our newest congregation members to the LCMC Northwest District.

Pat Woods  
LCMC Northwest District Chair

If you or your congregation would like to have information added to the next LCMC Northwest District "The Happenings" please submit to: [lcmc-nw.com/contact/](http://lcmc-nw.com/contact/)

**News From**

[Valhalla Evangelical Lutheran Church](#)

Valhalla Center,  
Alberta Canada

Pastor Ella Loberg will be retiring at the end of September 2015.

The church has begun their call process and have been in contact with Pastor Warren Baker with the Shalom Ministry Team for help with a Interim Pastor during this period.

Don't miss LCMC

## 15th Annual Gathering

### October 4-7, 2015

Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center

7600 John Q Hammons Drive

Frisco, TX 75034

Theme: Our DNA

Watch for more info on the LCMC website:

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