

February 2016

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

Volume IV, issue 1

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**“The Happenings” Newsletter**

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Editor: Caren Woods

Contributors: Pat Woods, Chair;  
Upcoming 2016 LCMC Northwest  
District “Gathering” material; “In The  
Spot Light: Christ Lutheran—Whitefish,  
Montana; Mission Trip St. Michael  
Lutheran of Ottawa Lake, MI to Faith  
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Your Money Go—Or Not; Welcome to  
Joy Lutheran of Billings, Montana, The  
Sassy Secretary

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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

## UPCOMING 2016 LCMC NORTHWEST DISTRICT “GATHERING”

This year’s gathering at Wenatchee, WA is an outreach to the area devastated by last year’s fires. Red Lion Inn has greeted and welcomed us to their facility for our enjoyment in our 2016 district annual gathering. Remember to register with them prior to April 8<sup>th</sup>, to receive our room discount and food service during the gathering.

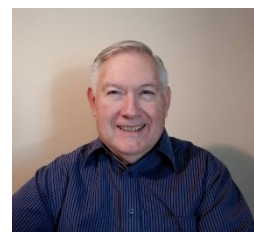
We have a great deal to consider this year; your input is more important than ever. Not only do we need to consider the social issues demanding we be silent, we need to consider how we can help each other, our congregations in difficult need, including local missions for Christ.

Just to list a few: Keith Aderhold, our long time web-master and newsletter creator will end his service with us at the end of the year for health reasons. Needless to say a big void will have to be filled. We desire our youth to be part of our district direction – do we use “Facebook” as part of the solution? Our district is so large, how can we consider local fellowships to start their own get together? On the same issue, some smaller congregations have a hard time financially to afford to attend the district’s annual gathering. What can we do to sponsor their attendance?

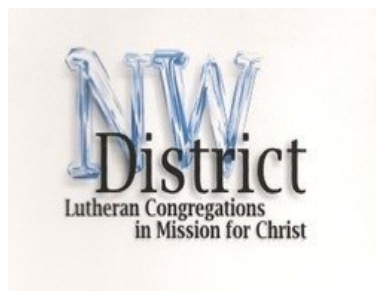
Please bring your own issues to the gathering so we can hear those things that should concern us all. We will have an open mike time to begin that discussion.

In His Loving Service,

Patrick Woods, Northwest District LCMC Chair  
USA—Canada



# "The Happenings" USA— Canada



## 2016 Northwest DISTRICT ANNUAL GATHERING

Red Lion Inn in Wenatchee, WA

April 15 & 16, 2016

Early Registration (before March 25<sup>th</sup>) \$50.00 per person

Early registration is very important this year. PLEASE register NOW!

\$55.00 per person after March 25 – April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Registration after April 8<sup>th</sup> or at the door does not include meals.

NAME: First: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

(no additional charge for children age 0 to 10yr.)

Need child care for **infant to 3 yrs**: Child's name and age: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail registration form to: Kathy Nida, PO Box 374, Brownsville, OR 97327

Copies of registration form on our website: [www.LCMC-NW.com](http://www.LCMC-NW.com)

**Choose two breakouts for yourself and two breakouts for your spouse:  
(M) for myself and (S) for spouse**

***"Learning how to be a first century church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century"***

**Break outs:** (Choose 3 breakouts. "Lead" with Denel Ingraham is 2 breakout sessions)

Answering the Call to "Leadership" – Pastor Steve Lien M\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_

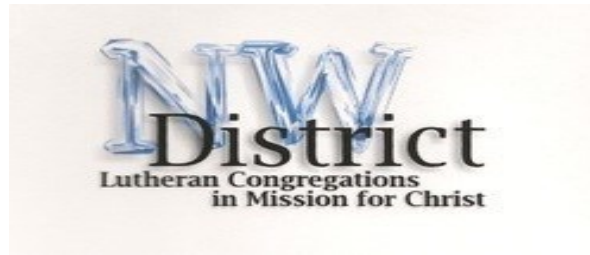
Answering the Call to "Witness" – Pastor Mark Vander Tuig M\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_

Answering the Call to "Lead – Church Leadership" – Denel Ingraham M\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_

Bible study based on 2 Peter 1:3 (4-8) – Pastor Fred Westerhold M\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_

Answering the Call to "Pray – In the Quietness" – Pastor James Robinson M\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_

**Dinner attendance Friday \_\_\_\_\_ (number) Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ (number)**



## **THE DATE IS APPROACHING FAST FOR LCMC 2016 NORTHWEST DISTRICT “GATHERING” APRIL 15-16, 2015**

Greetings to the LCMC pastors and congregations of the LCMC Northwest District (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Canada).

It is our pleasure to invite you to the 2016 LCMC Northwest District “Gathering” with Rev. Mark Vander Tuig and Rev. Dr. Steven Lien from the National LCMC office, to be held in Wenatchee, Washington at the Red Lion Inn.

Non-Northwest District members are welcome. If you are not a member of LCMC Northwest District, we encourage you to join your fellow LCMC brothers and sisters for a great time of worship, education and fellowship. If you want to become a member of the LCMC Northwest District—the membership is FREE! Just go to [www.lcmc-nw.com](http://www.lcmc-nw.com) and click on “Becoming a New Member”. There are membership forms there for individual, congregational and chapter memberships.

**WHERE:** Red Lion Inn in Wenatchee, Washington  
1225 N Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee, WA

**WHEN:** APRIL 15 & 16, 2016

Early registration is strongly encouraged. Room rate: \$134.00 per night with full breakfast.

**Phone:** (509) 663-0711 for reserving a room.

**COST:** Early Registration is very important this year.

Cost is \$50.00 (on or before March 25, 2016) per person

**After** March 25, 2016 the Registration Cost is \$55.00 per person

(This includes materials, and meals. Children FREE but must be registered)

For more information and registration visit our website at [www.lcmc-nw.com](http://www.lcmc-nw.com)  
or contact Shelly at 509-988-0824, Jeff at 541-405-6107, or Suzanne at 509-881-0611.

# “The Happenings” USA—Canada



## Northwest DISTRICT GATHERING APRIL 15-16, 2016

### “Answering the Call” 2 Peter 1:3 (4-8)

We will be offering a children's program this year (3yr. – 5<sup>th</sup> grade). The children will be learning “The Wordless Bible” and “How do we Pray?” Children will be excused after the praise and worship in the general sessions.

#### **Schedule: Friday**

10:00 AM – Noon pastors and spouses get together  
(Lunch on your own)

11:00 AM-3:00 PM - Registration

3:00 PM - Call to Order and Opening of NW District  
Meeting – Pat Woods, District Chair

3:30 PM – Praise and Worship  
Lead by “Crab Creek”

4:15 PM – Break

4:30 PM – Keynote Speaker – Pastor Steve Lien

5:45-6:45 PM - Dinner

7:00 PM - Q & A Open Mic with Mark & Steve  
Northwest District Council members

#### **Saturday –**

8:30-9:00AM coffee / registration

9:00 AM Praise and worship

9:30 AM – Business Meeting Opening  
Pat Woods, District Chairman

10:15 AM – Keynote Speaker  
Pastor Mark Vander Tuig

12:00 Noon – Lunch

12:45 PM – Washington Wild Fires Presentation

1:15 PM – Praise Music

1:30 PM – First Breakout

2:15 PM – Break

#### **Saturday Continued**

2:30 PM – Second Breakout

3:15 PM – Break

3:30 PM – Third Breakout

4:15 PM - Break

4:30 PM – Sharing and Q & A – Open Mic

5:00 PM – Business Meeting

5:45 PM - Dinner

6:30 PM – Closing Worship with Communion

7:30 PM – 2016 Gathering Benediction

#### **Key Note Speakers:**

Pastor Steve Lien – Answering the Call to  
“Leadership”

Pastor Mark Vander Tuig – Answering The Call to  
“Witness”

#### **Break outs:**

Denel Ingraham – Answering the Call to “Lead”-  
Church Leadership

Pastor James Robinson – Answering the Call to  
“Pray”- “In the Quietness”

Pastor Fred Westerhold– Answering the Call to  
“Know”- Bible Study – 2 Peter 1:3-8

Children's Ministry – Suzanne Robinson  
During General session and breakouts



# IN THE SPOT LIGHT



# Christ Lutheran Church

# Whitefish, Montana

In 2009, Christ Lutheran Church joined the [Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ \(LCMC\)](#) whose mission more accurately reflects the congregation.

The vision of those early Whitefish pioneers, whose Christian faith, fortitude, prayers, and sacrifice, laid the foundation for the present mission and ministry of Christ Lutheran Church. This vision and their attributes are still vibrantly alive among the people of this church. We invite you to join us as we continue to: ***“Take the light of Christ into the world!”***

At Christ Lutheran Church we are about proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ through: Living Worship, Growing Faith, Serving Fellowship, and Sending Saints. We are pleased that you are taking the time to check us out online. If you haven't already visited us in person, we hope that you will make that your next step.

You can expect friendly faces and greetings when you enter our facility. If you have any questions about where to go or where something can be found, don't hesitate to ask any of our greeters, ushers, or anyone else for that matter. You will find Christ Lutheran Church to be a very friendly and welcoming place to consider the claims and teaching of Jesus.

Our atmosphere is casual. You can come as you are, or you can dress up if you feel more comfortable, that's fine also. We worship God through the reading of the Bible, prayer, and the singing of a variety of music including hymns that have been updated, as well as many popular praise songs. Our pastors provide challenging messages that connect the Bible with real life application.

**Sunday Worship Times:**      **9:00 AM Worship Service**      **10:00 AM Coffee Cup Fellowship**  
    **10:30 AM Worship Service & Education Hour**

**We welcome you each Sunday to meet Pastor John Bent and Pastor Ralph Boyer and also the congregation of Christ Lutheran Church.**

To contact us — 5150 River Lakes Parkway, Whitefish, MT 59937 • 406-862-2615



Reprinted from LCMC Newsletter

## Mission: Idaho

### St. Michael Lutheran Church, Ottawa Lake, MI

By: Rev. Mark Gibbs

Senior Pastor, St. Michael Lutheran Church

Several years ago, an article in *By the Word* caught the attention of Keith Holmes, Chair of the Social Ministry Board at St. Michael Lutheran Church, an LCMC congregation in Ottawa Lake, Michigan. The article was written by Pastor Ingrid Aderhold, who serves as pastor at Faith Lutheran Church, Pierce, Idaho. She described the difficulties and struggles of being the Church in a small mountain community, and invited other congregations to partner with Faith as it strives to serve its community. Keith made contact with Pastor Ingrid and a new relationship was born between St. Michael and Faith.

After that first contact, St. Michael adopted Faith as its “mission congregation” and has provided periodic financial assistance through its quarterly Mission Sunday special collections. St. Michael has also shared surplus Sunday school materials, an electronic keyboard and other miscellaneous items for Faith to use in its ministry.

In September 2014, Keith and his wife, Jean, stopped in at Faith for Sunday worship while on vacation. Out of this visit was born the idea of St. Michael sending a mission team to Pierce, Idaho, to provide real “flesh and blood” help and to get to know the folks there a little better. Throughout the fall of 2014 and winter of 2015, the St. Michael Social Ministry Board worked with St. Michael’s youth pastor, Pastor Judy Gill, to assemble a team of missionaries in preparation for an 8-day mission trip in July, 2015. The St. Michael congregation raised enough money so each participant only had to chip in \$100 each to participate in the trip! In addition, enough money was raised to supply Faith with a \$1,000 cash gift and \$500 in Home Depot gift cards to buy supplies for the various repair and remodel projects planned for the mission trip.

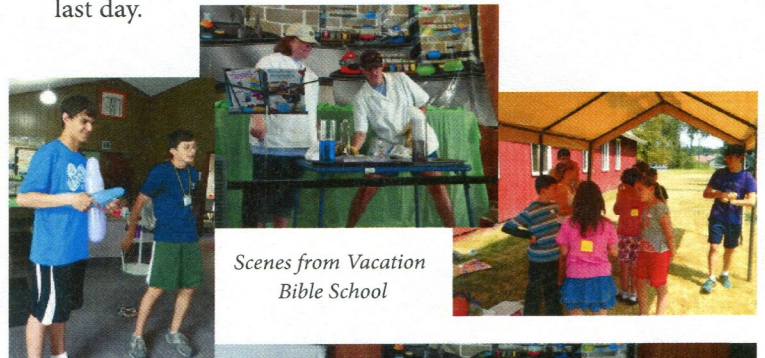
Bright and early on Saturday, July 4, the St. Michael mission team, comprised of people ages 15 to 77, flew out of Detroit to Salt Lake City and then on to Lewiston, Idaho, where they were met by Pastor Ingrid. In two rented SUV’s, we followed Pastor Ingrid up and over the mountains to Pierce. Ten members of our team stayed



St. Michael mission team

with a Faith Lutheran family in their large country home, and the other three members stayed in a rented cabin in Pierce. Pastor Mark Gibbs, St. Michael’s, provided the Sunday message at Faith’s morning worship on July 5, followed by a potluck meal provided by Faith and a planning session for the upcoming week of ministry.

The biggest project by far was assisting Faith with their Vacation Bible School. Together, Faith and St. Michael folks provided singing, classes, skits, crafts, snacks and games for over 20 children each morning from 9 to noon during the week. What a wonderful experience to share the Good News of Jesus with these eager youngsters—strangers to us the first day, good friends by the last day.



Scenes from Vacation  
Bible School

Photos:  
Tina Calhoon &  
Sharon Rueter







Team members at work on various projects



Our afternoons were taken up with various remodeling projects around the Faith Lutheran Church building: hanging horizontal blinds on windows, installing a dropped ceiling in the pastor's office, scraping and painting a wood-burning stove, landscaping in front of the church building, cleaning and organizing storage closets, and assembling/installing an 8' x 8' door for a storage shed attached to the side of the church. The work was hard and hot (temperatures peaked at 104° on Wednesday!), but enjoyable and rewarding.

During our entire stay, Faith Lutheran graced us with awesome hospitality. The congregation provided all our meals, hosted a cookout in our honor at a local park,

and took us on several tours of the many scenic spots in the area. It was a joy to live in their midst and experience the best of Christian fellowship with them!

But alas, the time came to return home. On Saturday morning, July 11, the St. Michael mission team drove to Lewiston, took a 6-hour boat trip up the Snake River, stayed overnight in a motel, attended Sunday services at Trinity Lutheran Church, and then flew home Sunday afternoon. We arrived home exhausted, exhilarated, humbled and inspired! It is amazing what God can do with just a few faithful people seeking to do His will. Thank you, Faith Lutheran Church, Pierce, Idaho. We are blessed to know you and call you friends!



**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 -- Northwest District WebMaster



**Faith Lutheran Church  
Pierce, Idaho**

## Help Wanted?

We are currently looking for  
volunteers for the 2017 LCMC  
Northwest District “Gathering”  
Planning Committee

# “The Happenings” USA— Canada



## 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 and British Columbia. 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) state “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 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 sub-committee” 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, again 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 of 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 LCMC Northwest District. 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 if 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 special needs and perhaps for specified disaster relief. Additionally the National level has Disaster Relief funds available and funds for other ministerial needs. Look for that on their Website. At our District level, simply submit a very 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.)

Addresses are listed below:

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

National Office - LCMC  
700 Sheldon Road  
Canton, MI 48178



## Welcome to Joy Lutheran Church of Billings, Montana.



Welcome to Joy Lutheran Church from Billings, Montana. This LCMC church was formed in 2011 with about 15 members meeting in homes and has grown into a congregation of 40. Bud Veis, a founding member, originally served as a contract pastor. With their growth, and after a search for space, they worked out a "shared use" agreement with a Seventh Day Adventist church. They were provided a large room to use as their sanctuary and started out with a few donated hymnals, a mishmash of pews and a large table with liturgical colored tablecloths serving as an altar. When Bud Veis and his wife attended an LCMC gathering, friends told them of free pews that were available. They ended up traveling to Belgrade, Montana to pick up pews. Looking on Craig's list for other things they saw a church for sale in Minot, North Dakota. They called to inquire if furnishings were also available. Again God gifted them through Hjerdal Lutheran which had closed in

2011 and had been sold. They again traveled to pick up candle holders, a Bible stand, offering plates, and a beautiful 116 year old altar with an oil painting of Christ as the central panel. The gifting friends had affixed an engraved metal placard saying, in part, "to our friends in Christ at Joy Lutheran, we rejoice with you in our risen Lord and Savior...August 2014". They have since hired an intern pastor, Kim Stephens, who will be with them for 8-9 months. Firmly grounded in scripture, this small fledgling congregation reaches out to help many community efforts such as Friendship House, Purses for Abused Women, and Tumbleweed Homeless Teens. They also host fundraisers to help with rescue mission, family services and school supplies. What a shining example of how God recognizes our needs and provides for us.

Submitted by: Mary Stubblefield, Board Member

Church Address is: **3200 Broadwater Ave ( Billings, Adventist Church Building).** Phone: **(406) 656-6831**



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

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

**CONSIDER A NORTHWEST  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
POSITION ??**

# “The Happenings” USA— Canada



## NOTES FROM THE “SASSY” SECRETARY

( The title above may need a brief explanation. ) At our last Board Meeting the Board decided that the secretary should submit brief bullets that reflect our agenda and the business we discuss at our quarterly meetings. Well - if you know me, you know that I’m the quiet, serious, sober and stately one in the group. (Not!) So as a regular contributor to the newsletter, I decided I needed an “Official Headliner”. I’ll take suggestions at the Wenatchee Annual Gathering if you think it’s too strong.

- \* Opened with devotions and a social get-together for dinner

- \* President Woods focused his remarks on discussion of our Newsletter release schedule, the future of our website and what it may look like, updating our District logo, the Gathering Committee rotation, the Annual Gathering agenda, and what we have left to do to prepare for the Gathering. Pat also notes that membership as an LCMC congregation does not automatically make you or your congregation a member in the Northwest District.

- \* Minutes presented, new forms used were approved, and Incorporation renewal was noted.

- \* Treasurer report presented - she notes \$10,367 available in Assistant Funds

- \* Member questions arise about contributions to LCMC National, and why doesn’t that trickle down to the District. Treasurer Nida will put an article with an explanation in the next Newsletter.

- \* Exec. Committee committed to documenting all “Continuing Resolutions”.

- \* We reviewed the gross cost of the gathering and discussed the registration fees of the “exhibitors”, and the space they will need.

- \* The Northwest District **is not** a 501-C-3 organization. This statement is to be removed from the website.

- \* Discussion regarding our free will offering and who it may be designated to.

- \* Website control and accessibility to be held by both the Web Master and a designated Board Member.

- \* Policy written regarding queries about pastoral lists and release of ongoing call process information. Our policy conforms to the LCMC National policy. All properly received inquiries will be directed to the National Organization.

- \* District Council to facilitate discussions about “Local Fellowship Gatherings” hosted by local congregations. We appreciate the “Hands and Feet of Christ” evidenced at both the pastoral and lay level.

- \* Three members of the council are finishing their terms. District Council is praying for new members to volunteer to step up.