



The Happenings

USA — Canada

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 1

MARCH 2020

From the Chairperson



Dear Members of the NW District:

Greetings to you from Odessa Washington! I hope and pray that the year 2020 is starting out well for all of you!

Today's devotional Bible verses have really hit spot-on for my page this time! Isn't it amazing how God works that way?

Psalms 139:23-24 say, "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns see if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way."

This is my last newsletter article and also my last year on the District board. I have served for six years. It has been an honor to be

a part of an amazing group of pastors and lay people. I have grown, been tested, and been challenged in more ways than I could have ever imagined. I have met so many awesome people in our District.

One of the great things we did when I came on board was to assign board members to churches so that we would pray for them weekly. Through that I met and talked with many that I had been praying for over the year. We then would change them yearly. I was blessed to pray for many of you!! I witnessed answered PRAYER!!!!!! How COOL is that!!

The Gatherings have been a highlight!! It is a time of great renewal of faith, fellowship, and good food!! This year it will be at Peace Lutheran in Post Falls, Idaho, May 1 and 2. Mark your calendar!! I hope to see you there!!

Our Lord Jesus has been leading us!! He knows our hearts, He knows our every need, and He loves us!!

Peace to all of you!!

Shelly Hauge
LCMC Northwest District Chair

LCMC Northwest District Council

Executive Committee

Shelly Hauge, Chair

Pr Eric Hullstrom, Vice Chair

Mary Stubblefield, Secretary

Mot Hedges, Treasurer

Board Members

Pr Paul Berthelot

Elvin Borg

Bruce Grohn

Carol Ann Buelow

Pr Joe Beal

Pr Drew Nelson

District Coordinator

Interim, Maureen Bessey

Website Master

Steve Hruza

Editor of *The Happenings*

Sheryl Westerhold

**Check out our
Website!**

www.lcmc-nw.com



LCMC Northwest District Gathering

May 1–2, 2020

**Peace Lutheran Church
Post Falls, Idaho**

The theme: **“Small and Mighty”**

The theme verse: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Keynote speakers:

Sandy Miller: Sandy is Pastor of First Lutheran Church in Hope, Minnesota, and is also on the LCMC Ministry Board.

Perry Fruhling: Perry is the LCMC Coordinator of Pastoral Ministries.



Sing Unto the Lord

You're invited to join the Mass Choir in singing at Opening and Closing Worship on Saturday, May 2, 2020 at the NW District Gathering in Post Falls, Idaho.

Our rehearsal is scheduled for late Friday morning (10:00-12:00) prior to the Official start of the Gathering. Here's your chance to serve the Lord with gladness and with singing!

If you would like to join the choir, please note your interest and what part (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) you sing when completing your registration form, so we can get your music ordered. There is no fee for participation.



Carol Ann Buelow
Emmanuel Lutheran
Walla Walla, WA

New Board Members Needed in 2020

The LCMC-NW Board is in need of new members. Two current board members will reach the end of their term limits in May in conjunction with our Annual Gathering and will need to be replaced. Additionally another member has resigned.

Please prayerfully consider serving on this board to represent our LCMC Churches in the Northwest.

A term is 3 years with a limit of two terms. We meet 4 times per year in varying locations with January meeting over the internet, so no travel is involved for that meeting.

If you are interested, please contact any board member listed here.

NW District Board Members:

Shelly Hauge
Shelly.hauge@yahoo.com

Pastor Eric Hullstrom
grillmaster89@gmail.com

Mary Stubblefield
manwdist@gmail.com

Mot Hedges
motleyhedges@charter.net

Pastor Paul Berthelot
pjberthe@aol.com

Bruce Grohn
bggrohn@yahoo.com

Elvin Borg
elvingilbertborg@gmail.com

Pastor Joe Beal
pastor@servelacey.org

Carol Ann Buelow
buelow@aol.com

Pastor Drew Nelson
dsnbygrace@gmail.com

LCMC-NW.com – Please check your listing

As you probably know, the website not only has information about the LCMC, but it also lists all the current members for the Northwest District.

I want to be sure that the information on the “District Members” page is accurate and up to date. Each member’s listing can have the following information displayed:

- 1 photo of the Church
- Church Name
- Physical Address
- Mailing Address
- Senior Pastor
- Associate Pastor
- Lay or Interim Pastor
- Church Phone
- Email Address
- Link to your Website



Steve Hrusa
NW District
Webmaster

Please check your current listing to see if the information needs to be updated. It would be great to have a photo for each member’s listing. Perhaps you want to change the one that’s there to a newer one or you realize that your listing has none and want to have one added.

In any case, if you want to update your listing, please click on the “online form” link on the District Members page. This will submit the information to myself (the webmaster). I will then apply the requested update to your listing and email you when completed so you can review it.



Bruce Grohn
Christ Community
Lebanon, OR

WANT TO BE PART OF A "HERE I AM, SEND ME, SEND ME" EXPERIENCE?

From talking to people who have gone on Mission Trips and from my own experience, what a person quickly learns is that though we go to help others, many times, we receive much more than we give.

Churches throughout our LCMC NW District have mission efforts and connections and are doing wonderful work. After all, the 4th word in our title is “MISSION”!

If you or your congregation would like to be part of a Mission Trip and aren't sure or don't know which mission experience would be the best fit for you, consider the following:

Samaritan's Purse www.samaritanspurse.org

World Medical Mission, United States Disaster Relief, Operation Christmas Child, (In the USA, this group enters areas that have had damage from floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes. Tasks include construction, clean up, shelter, food and health supply distribution.)

Lutheran Indian Ministries www.lutheranindianministries.org

Ministry sites from Arizona to Montana, Alaska and Canada
(Mission experiences include Vacation Bible School, supplies, and construction.)

Foundation For His Ministry www.ffhm.org

Orphanages, schools, health outreach, seminaries, are located at Baja, Sinaloa, and Oaxaca.
(Tasks include construction, outreach to farm workers, and support at facilities.)

LCMS – Lutheran Disaster Response in Puerto Rico www.lcms.org/puerto-rico-relief

Two church communities in the southwestern side of Puerto Rico (Mayaguez and Ponce) which are in the recent earthquake. Assessment is still taking place and there are still ongoing tremors.

Information about these and other mission organizations will be available at our Northwest District Gathering, May 1-2, in Post Falls, Idaho. [Stop by the Missions Table for more information!](#)

As of Saturday, Feb. 15, 2020, Samaritan's Purse put out a call for volunteers to help with Umatilla flood victims.

Project Description: Volunteers will be assisting homeowners affected by a recent flooding. Volunteers will assist with mud-outs and debris cleanup. Go to the following link for more information:

<https://www.spvolunteer.org/project-response/228>



Interim District Coordinator Update

Greetings,

As the Northwest District transitions to the future, we are in the process of evaluating our needs. At present, we have identified a need to have persons qualified as a coach to handle Call Committee Training and Conflict Resolution. We are also looking at our present job description for District Coordinator and evaluating whether the current description still meets our needs within the District.

At our Gathering in May this year, we will be asking congregations for their input regarding the potential areas of guidance as well as interest in the positions of Call Committee and Conflict Resolution. LCMC National has been providing training for coaches within these two programs.

This training will be ongoing as the Association identifies concerns within our Association, both domestically and internationally. Many of our current-serving pastors will be retiring in the next few years and congregations will be faced with the call process and perhaps conflict identifying the direction God is calling them pres-

ently and in the future. Discernment is best met honestly and proactively by prayer and supplication.

Many of you know, Reverend Mark Vander Tuig will be retiring this year and both the Board of Trustees and Board of Ministry, along with staff, have been preparing for the next phase of LCMC direction.

Please join me as we pray for the future Service Coordinator for LCMC as well as our own District Coordinator post.

Moe Bessey,
Interim District Coordinator

LCMC Service Coordinator Opportunity Profile (Mark Vander Tuig's position)

The Opportunity

The Opportunity Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (www.lcmc.net) is seeking to call a new Service Coordinator. This is an exceptional and rare opportunity for a dynamic and experienced leader to join with a large, healthy, well-prepared association of congregations to love, lead, and inspire them toward the next season of missional impact.

The Association

Established in the fall of 2000, LCMC is a worldwide association with 767 congregations in the US with 185 congregations outside of the US. We are an association of churches committed to being: 1. Free in Christ 2. Accountable to one another 3. Rooted in the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions 4. Committed to working together to fulfill Christ's great commission.

The Big Idea

The incoming Service Coordinator will view the various components of the association with fresh eyes. He or she will work with staff and congregational leaders to engage strategies or innovations that will catalyze fresh momentum that inspires LCMC to the next level of Kingdom influence and impact.

Position Overview

The purpose of the Service Coordinator, along with LCMC staff and The Board of Trustees is to support and encourage congregations, leaders, and pastors for the work of ministry, to engage in mission, and to find their role in fulfilling the Great Commission. As the Chief of Staff the Service Coordinator is to offer vision and leadership for the association. The Service Coordinator will seek opportunities and resources to train and equip people; develop and expand the association and its networks (ie. districts, fellowships, and emerging groups); and represent LCMC, as directed by the Board of Trustees, in relationships with other Lutheran church bodies, both domestically and internationally.

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LCMC Service Coordinator Opportunity Profile *continued from page 4***Preferred Outcomes of the First Year**

- Identify the networks within the association that are currently accomplishing the vision and replicate their success within LCMC.
- Facilitate the development of common theological language for mission that respects the Lutheran diversity of this association.
- Facilitate the emerging vision and assemble the team.

Responsibilities and Duties

- Provide leadership and vision for the direction of the association in consultation with the Board of Trustees.
- Willing and able to travel as needed.
- Attend all meetings of the Board of Trustees and participating in discussion (provide voice, but no vote).
- Represent and communicate LCMC's mission and purpose to congregations.
- Promote relationships and accountability by representing LCMC and engaging local congregations, pastors, and interested parties.
- Train and equip regional "ambassadors" to help communicate LCMC's vision and purpose, expanding our reach and influence.
- Encourage the development of and participation in networks (districts and fellowships).
- Support, encourage, and train District Coordinators and network leaders.
- Facilitate an annual meeting of District Coordinators and network leaders.
- Represent LCMC in conversation with other Lutheran church bodies (domestic as well as international) as directed by the Board of Trustees.
- Supervise, develop, and support the work of LCMC's staff.
- Respond to congregation and individual requests and questions in a timely fashion.
- Emcee the Annual Gathering of LCMC congregations.
- Provide a general session report to the attendees at the Annual Gathering.
- Assist potential congregations through the process of membership.
- Provide new congregations with a working knowledge of the association.

The Candidate**Core Competencies**

- Personal credibility
- Responds appropriately to constructive feedback
- Models mutual accountability
- Effectively communicates vision
- Creates ownership of ministry goals
- Possesses strong interpersonal skills
- Establishes effective systems
- Maintains a clear focus on The Great Commission
- Execute strategic plans

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LCMC Service Coordinator Opportunity Profile *continued from page 5*

Preferred Candidate Qualifications

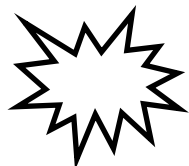
- A member in good-standing on LCMC's clergy list.
- Master of Divinity degree.
- Clear alignment with Lutheran theology and doctrine as described in the LCMC website <http://www.lcmc.net/statement-of-faith/231>.
- Significant pastoral leadership experience that includes quality preaching, teaching, and communicating in a larger context.
- Ten years ministry experience with multiple years of senior leadership in a staff setting.
- Technologically proficient in multiple digital platforms and applications of the internet.

Inquiry Process

If, after reading this description, you are called to apply for the Service Coordinator position with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ and you feel you meet the qualifications for the role, you are invited to submit the following information for consideration in PDF format only:

- A cover letter
- Resume or CV

Please submit your information to: info@lcmc.net



Pre-Retirement Retreat for Pastors and Spouses in the LCMC October 7-9, 2020

Basically, in conversations with many Pastors, I sense that there is a need for a Pre-Retirement Retreat in the LCMC. Last summer I surveyed all the retired LCMC Pastors, and the categories of this retreat reflect their feedback when I asked them, "What do you know now that you wished you knew before you retired?"

- Caring for your faith life in retirement
- Respecting Pastoral Protocol
- Change of Identity when you retire
- Future Serving Opportunities
- and yes, the most often stated....Finances in Retirement

I selected Camp Okoboji in NW Iowa for 3 reasons.

1. It is a 3 hour drive from our next Annual Gathering this fall.
2. I knew Rod Quanbeck would be terrific to work with as the director of the camp.
3. I wanted this event to have a retreat feel to it, versus classes.

Retreat cost:

If Registration is by June 30, 2020 it is \$100 for the Pastor and \$50 for the spouse.

Note: due to a gift, the first 10 spouses can come for free if registered by June 30th.

If Registration is after June 30, 2020, then it is \$125 for the Pastor and \$100 for the spouse. Plus, if you would prefer to have a cabin instead of being in the lodge, that is an extra \$75.

I pray that this serves a number of Pastors and spouses and helps them better prepare for the years ahead. No minimum age to attend.

Peace,
John
Senior Pastor John P. Nelson
Hosanna! Lutheran Church LCMC, St. Charles, IL

To Register, call:

Chris Baugh
1.800.OKOBOJI