



DISTRICT NEWS

NORTH WISCONSIN

The Lord is with you!

“And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered, and encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in line of battle against the Philistines.”

1 Sam. 17:2

If I were to ask you where the Valley of Elah is located or what took place there, you may not know. But if I mentioned the names “David and Goliath,” you would know the story. What took place between David and Goliath took place in the Valley of Elah, located straight east of Bethlehem, David’s hometown.



Rev. Dwayne Lueck
North Wisconsin District President

The story is a familiar one. The Philistine and Israeli armies come face-to-face in the valley. Scripture calls Goliath a “champion.” He is over nine feet tall and we may call him a giant. Goliath challenges Israel to send its best man to fight him. The losers are to become servants to the winners. David is asked by his father to take some food to his three older brothers who are serving in King Saul’s army. David goes to his brothers, hears Goliath and takes on the champion. David said to Saul:

“The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said to David, “Go, and the LORD be with you!” 1 Sam. 17:37

You know the rest. David picks up five smooth stones and a sling:

“So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him.” 1 Sam 17:50

David was a self-confident individual who took total confidence in his Lord. David knew that if God was with him in protecting his father’s sheep, his Lord would also be with him to defeat this

blasphemous “champion.”

David had faith in his Lord. King Saul and none of his troops wanted to step forward. But this shepherd boy does step forward and, as we know, he went on to be the second king of Israel.

This is the same David who wrote:

“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.” Ps. 23.4

David did not just talk a good game, but he lived it and believed it. He defeated Goliath.

As we head into summer here in the Northwoods, we know that we need to enjoy it — as it doesn’t seem to last all that long. Just when the lake waters get warm and you can sit out at night, it seems as if the cool of fall sets in and the leaves start changing colors.

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“The Good News is God is with you just as He was with David. If you ever doubt that, take a look again at the cross of our Lord.”

St. John's celebrating **150 years**

St. John's Lutheran Church, Algoma, is celebrating its 150th anniversary. The congregation has planned a special service beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 30, with the Rev. Dr. John Nunes, president of Concordia College—New York, Bronxville, as preacher.



John Nunes

A reunion is scheduled for all confirmands of St. John's for Saturday, July 29, followed by a 6:30 p.m. concert with the United Voices of Praise Gospel Choir of Milwaukee.

St. John's is located at 9683 Church Road. Visit stjohnsalgoma.org.

Golfers wanted

Friends of the North Wisconsin District are encouraged to participate in the annual golf outing, this year at a new location! The event will be held July 31 at the Merrill Golf Club, located at 1604 O Day St. in Merrill.

For more information, visit nwdlcms.org.

CHURCH WORKERS: Make plans to attend conference

The Professional Church Worker Conference (PCWC) is held every three years to gather all the called workers of the district together. There is great value in being together, learning, worshipping, encouraging, networking and equipping!

The one-day event will be held Thursday, Oct. 26, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 6205 Alderson St., in Weston.

For more information, go to nwdlcms.org and scroll down to the item under "Events and Information."

FLAME participants announced

The Future Lutheran Administrators-Midwest Educators (FLAME) regional event at Concordia University, Ann Arbor, Mich., will prepare 35 people for leadership roles.

The following educators from the North Wisconsin District will attend:

- ▶ John Burns, Trinity Wauau
- ▶ Shannon Grosnick, Trinity, Wausau
- ▶ Heidi Pahnke, St. Paul, Luxemburg
- ▶ Karen Hansen, Zion, Wayside
- ▶ Lynnette Hansen, Immanuel, Wisconsin Rapids.

All Schools Summit is Aug. 11

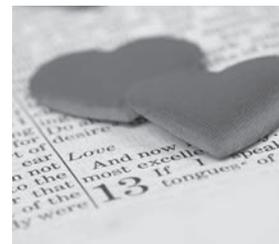
The second annual All Schools Summit will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bonduel, on Friday, Aug. 11.

Instructional leaders from Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, will create a collaborative environment focusing on best practice classroom management and building parent relationships.

Registration information coming soon!

Hearts for Jesus: You can still help students in Baton Rouge

The North Wisconsin District has raised more than \$6,000 for Baton Rouge Lutheran



School! If you still have a gift for the Hearts for Jesus fund, please send your donations to the district office with HFJ on the memo line.

Thanks for supporting this important ministry during a difficult time.

MESSAGE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

But while we enjoy our summer, there are still those giants that stand in front of us. There are those things that we can't escape in the quiet moments. Sin does that to us in our world. Our giants may be a difficult relationship with our spouse or children. There can be the unexpected financial hit. There is the information from the doctor that we or a loved one don't want to hear. The list could go on and on. These situations in life test us. They confront us.

The words of David are the words we need to hear over and over again: "The

LORD who delivered me ... will deliver me."

He believed God would be with him in the future and would see him through his next battle. And God was with him. The Good News is God is with you just as He was with David. If you ever doubt that, take a look again at the cross of our Lord. God delivered big time. God sent His one and only Son — Jesus — to deliver us from sin, death and the devil. God delivered us from evil. Out of God's love for us He has delivered us.

David did kill Goliath because God was with him. Did David have everything go right for him in the future? Not always. He had a lot of family problems. Just

read through 1 and 2 Samuel. But that did not shake David's faith in the Lord, who was the Shepherd of his life. That same Shepherd is with you.

Finally, just before David faced Goliath, did you notice what Saul said?

"And Saul said to David, 'Go, and the LORD be with you!'" **1 Sam. 17-37**

That is my wish for you — the Lord be with you. Believe those words. Believe and trust in the Lord who has been with you in the past and will continue to be with you in the future. When you believe it, when you put your trust in your Lord who has delivered you, you will have a great summer.

Mission in the Big Apple

Nine students from Peace Lutheran Campus Center, Stevens Point, and two longtime supporters of campus ministry spent their spring break on a mission trip in New York City.

The service the team provided at Martin Luther School, Maspeth, Queens, was received with great enthusiasm by the headmaster, Randal Gast, as they scrubbed, scapped and cleaned various parts of the building. The same was true of the Rev. Dr. Johnson Rethinasamy, pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Whitestone, Queens, as they sorted, cleaned and helped organize parts of the fellowship hall and school. What a blessing it was for the team to offer them encouragement through the ministry of service.

Another major task for the team was the opportunity to help conduct a canvass for St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Staten Island, under the Rev. Philip Sawyerene. As the team ventured out into the neighborhood, they did so with anxious hearts waiting for doors to be opened and hearts to hear their invitations to the Good News. Even though hundreds of doors remained closed, new



Those that made the trip to New York were, from left (front row) Mitchell Beilke, Melissa Wood, Anna Lutz, Andrew Friend; (back row) Ida Frizzell, Johan Aulwes, Colin Welch, Sierra Mathieu, Emily Hammann, Scott West and Kaylie Cartwright.

faces appeared within hours to speak with Sawyerene.

This mission team learned so much from the experience in New York City. They are confident that the Lord is ready and waiting for those who don't yet know Him, and that He is waiting for each of

them, His baptized children, to share His Gospel message with New Yorkers and those back home. What a blessing it was for this team to tell others that Jesus is alive and well in New York.

Visit our website

Resources are always being added to the District Resources website.

You will find the new colloquy grant application for teachers wanting to take the coursework required to become rostered, as well as a new school board orientation document.

Check for these and other items at nwdlcms.org.



Send news to:

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 ▶ selleks@gmail.com or
 ▶ 3177 State Hwy. 66
 Rosholt, WI 54473-9529



The deadline for the **August** issue is **June 17**.

STATE YOUTH GATHERING

Highlights

- ◆ Speakers from the NYG
- ◆ Candlelight worship at Trinity Lutheran Church, WI Dells
- ◆ Lock-in at the Kalahari waterpark on Saturday evening
- ◆ Sunday morning youth group Bible studies

NOVEMBER 3-5, 2017



Registration: \$90
 Online registration available in August

Hotel:
 Friday Night—\$139
 Saturday Night—\$149
 (standard room sleeps 4)

Theme Verse: Hebrews 1:1-4

**Kalahari Resort and Convention Center
 Wisconsin Dells**

Details will be posted on the District websites.

North Wisconsin District ▪ South Wisconsin District
nwdlcms.org swdlcms.org

Questions? Contact Robin (mueller@swd.lcms.org), Chris (cody@swd.lcms.org) or DJ (dj@nwdlcms.org)

The counseling CONNECTION

Overcomers!

He was on that “least likely to be chosen” list. His credentials, though impressive, were on the “wrong side of the ledger.”

This man’s name was Saul. He was a Pharisee who had appointed himself as a “one-man-army” out to destroy Christ’s growing church.

Then Christ’s personal intervention came (Acts 9:3-6). Saul’s new destiny was filled with unique significance and unparalleled suffering. He was called to be Christ’s messenger to the Gentile nation and he would suffer much in the name of Christ (vs. 15-16).



Rev. Dan Kohn
District Counselor

Both proved true. He was renamed Paul and His Christ-centered ministry was remarkable, as was his suffering. This included his frequent imprisonment (2 Cor. 11:23) for the sake of Christ (for a full suffering list, see vs. 22-28).

It was from one of those imprisonments that Paul penned his letter to the believers in Philippi. It could be referred to as a treatise for overcomers — finding “joy” (referenced 16 times) in the midst of the “jolts” of ministry.

One section of this letter especially holds this special emphasis:

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” (4:4-6)

In these three verses we find a summary of “prescriptions” for overcomers. We could outline them under three “Ps”

1. Praise in Christ;
2. Seeking the Presence of Christ; and,
3. Prayers to Christ.

This “antidote” holds a remarkable “prognosis” — “And the peace of God, which transcends all human understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” (vs. 7)

And then Paul tops it off with a final “P,” which can be summarized as “Pure” thinking centered on Christ (vs. 8).

Herein lays a timeless remedy for Christ’s servants. Building these four elements into one’s ministry can still promote that deep, abiding “peace” Christ specializes in. Healthy ministers benefit from a regular “dose” of all four “prescriptions.”

Contact me when I can help: 715-610-2400 or revkohn@gmail.com.

Celebrate!

The 37th Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League will be held June 22-25 in Albuquerque, N.M. The convention theme is “Jesus Christ Above All,” and is based on Phil. 2:9:

“Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name.”

And I can’t wait! The days of convention are a time of worship, praise, celebration, fellowship and opportunity to:

- ▶ meet LWML sisters from around the nation and the world;
- ▶ hear missionaries share their stories



Mary Harrington
LWML District President

and how our mission mite offerings have helped them; and,

- ▶ vote for new officers who will guide our organization and a new mission goal, and to choose the mission grant proposals.

We will also celebrate the 75th anniversary of our organization and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Each part of the convention has purpose, and one that has come to have special meaning for me is the mission flag presentation. Young Woman Representatives and Heart to Heart sisters carry the flags from each of the nations where mission projects have received financial and prayer support. The number of flags has increased to 45 with the addition of Lebanon and Israel.

Mite money from our district is sent to fund projects and missionaries in other nations too. This biennium we are funding a mission grant in support

of a project in Beaudouin, Haiti — the digging of wells so people of the region and children at the orphanage will have an opportunity to receive clean water for their physical needs. They will also have the opportunity to hear the Word of God and receive spiritual water from the local Lutheran congregation.

I invite you to join me as a member of LWML. You’ll be glad you did. Your mite offerings and prayers will have an impact around the world.

Be a blessing!

Order commemorative shirt

LWML is celebrating its 75th anniversary, and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. As a fundraiser for mission projects, the LWML is offering commemorative T-shirts. Check out the shirt, and order at nwdlwml.org/LWML%20Shirts.pdf.