



/ MAY 2021

# DISTRICT NEWS

## NORTH WISCONSIN



LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford



GETTING CHILDREN BACK IN CHURCH, RECRUITING PASTORS AND TEACHERS

## Time for a full-court press

What is a full-court press? It is a defensive tactic in basketball in which players cover their opponents everywhere on the court, rather than the norm, which is to begin defending when the opponents advance the ball past the half-court line. The goal of the full-court press is to create more opportunities for a turnover.

At the present time, I need your help in putting on a full-court press in two areas:

- ▶ Getting our children back in worship.
- ▶ Recruiting pastors and teachers.

The apostle Paul summed it up very well in Rom. 10:14-15:

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And



**Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck**  
North Wisconsin  
District President

how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

What Paul was stating is rather simple: People need to hear the Word of God in order to believe, and someone has to proclaim that saving message about Jesus.

In March 2020, the pandemic began to prevent us from gathering in worship. Congregations began to livestream services so people could worship at home. Last summer, the churches re-opened for in-person

worship. Members of our congregations returned, slowly but surely. At this time, the observation is that the two largest groups missing in worship are the elderly and young families.

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.  
— Eph. 6:4

Fathers, mothers, grandparents, aunts, uncles — we need to get our children back into worship. You know they need to be there and to hear about how Jesus loves them. They won't learn to behave unless we take them and model how to conduct ourselves.

John Wooden, the legendary UCLA basketball coach, said, "Being a role model is the most powerful form of educating."

"How are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?"

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# Teacher, student win prestigious awards

The Herb Kohl Educational Foundation has announced **Dian Schlichtmann**, a teacher at St. Paul Lutheran School, Stevens Point, as a Teacher Fellowship award winner. Dian also serves the district as an early childhood consultant.

An award in the amount of \$6,000 is made to both Dian and her school. Teacher Fellowship recipients are educators who have been chosen for their superior ability to inspire a love of learning in their students, their ability to motivate others and their leadership and service within and outside the classroom.

“Dian is a blessing to her classroom, her school, our district’s schools and to me,” said DJ Schult, North Wisconsin District education executive. “She is uniquely gifted with a joy for teaching, a passion for serving and a commitment to excellence. Well done!”

Congratulations also go to **Lydia Schult**, a Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School senior, on being awarded the competitive Herb Kohl Student Excellence Award.

The Herb Kohl Student Excellence Scholarship program recognizes student leadership, citizenship, school and community involvement and academic achievement. Lydia is the first district Lutheran high school student to receive the award since 2003. The award comes with a \$10,000 scholarship.



**Dian Schlichtmann**



**Lydia Schult**



## From vacancy to full-time pastor

Rev. Loren Zell was called to serve as vacancy pastor for St. Paul's, Amherst, starting in March 2020. In March 2021, he accepted the call from St. Paul's to be its full-time pastor. He grew up in West Bend and graduated from UW-Stevens Point in 1975. He then worked as a salesman in the iron and steel industry in southeast Wisconsin and central Illinois. He graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind., in 1994. He served congregations in Goldsboro, N.C., and Richardson and Littlefield, Texas, until he retired in 2016.

Pictured from left are Revs. Rex Rinne, Dr. Dwayne Lueck, Loren Zell, Jeff Smiles and Wayne Schwanke.

## MESSAGE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

“How are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?”

In order for our children to hear the Word of God, we need pastors and teachers in churches and classrooms.

In April, the two LCMS seminaries placed nearly 90 men to serve in LCMS parishes as pastors. There were over 120 congregations — the last number that I heard — requesting a seminarian. Therefore, we have some disappointed congregations that did not receive a pastor. There were close to 65 vicars receiving an assignment. This is the lowest number since the mid-1970s. Around 28 percent of our rostered school teachers were trained at one of our Concordia colleges and universities.

Many expect the pastor to be the chief recruiter of future pastors and teachers. The truth is we need the help and encouragement of mothers, fathers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, spouses and friends to encourage men and women to become pastors and teachers.

“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

A full-court press is used to put added pressure on the other team in hopes of getting the ball back. I want to encourage our team of believers to put the pressure on, to encourage our children to get back to worship and all of us to recruit future pastors and teachers.

Jesus said:

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

— Matt. 9:37-38

It is time to put on the full-court press!

# Almost time for convention

“Running the Race, Looking to Jesus” is the theme for the 39th Biennial LWML Convention, to be held June 24-27 in Lexington, Ky.

The theme is based on Heb. 12:1-2 (see in article below). As we look to Jesus, we run the race set before us and proclaim the joy of the Lord.

This convention logo is unique. The symbol, shaped like a horseshoe, incorporates the shape of the last letter of the Greek alphabet, Omega, referring to Rev. 22:13:

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

This symbol is so appropriate as horses are a large part of the Kentucky culture.



**Becky Haltaufderheid**  
LWML District President

The laurel wreath is given to winners of horse competitions. The laurel symbolizes the victory we have in Jesus Christ and the banner is a method of announcing an official proclamation.

The North Wisconsin District will be well represented with two busloads of attendees headed to Lexington. They will be greeted by rolling green hills and horse farms.

We are still in this pandemic and social distancing will be practiced on the bus and at the convention. The Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center is able to hold 20,000 people, which will help keep attendees and delegates safely distanced.

New to this convention is delegates will vote electronically for the mission grant goal and the grants to fund. The results of the voting will be revealed at the convention. There will also be



a virtual Photo Finish Mission Walk in addition to the mission walk held in Lexington.

That means you can walk at home or in your neighborhood and take a “selfie” or a picture of you and your friends

during the walk. Of course, you will want to sport your fascinator hat and your favorite LWML racing clothes. Send that photo in to LWML by June 4, along with your pledges, and we will see you on the big screen in Lexington! Your pledges will be added to the total amount of pledges received for mission walk and announced at the convention. If you are unable to attend the convention, it will be livestreamed at [lwml.org/2021-convention](http://lwml.org/2021-convention).

I hope to see you in Lexington as we run the race and look to Jesus as the founder and perfecter of our faith. He endured the cross so we would win and receive the gift of eternal life.

## The Counseling CONNECTION

### A legacy of love

It is our contribution to this world. It is applied to the present day and is cumulative over our lifetime. I am talking about our legacy. It is defined as “our personal impact on the world.” Uniquely ours — as God planned it to be. That last phrase is pivotal. It implies that God has a role in our legacy lived.

It begins with our creation. God personally fashions us on purpose, for purpose.



**Rev. Dan Kohn**  
District Counselor

Our personality, talents and passions are all variables. There is only one “man in the mirror” called “you.”

The timing of our presence on earth was also factored in. Yes, we were placed on earth “for such a time as this.” Our legacy lies within the “dash” between our DOB (Date Of Birth) and DOD (Date Of Death). What is your little line worth?

The Bible is filled with legacy stories. Hebrews 11 gives one list of men and women whose legacy was that of “faith” heroes. Would your spiritual resume qualify you for this noteworthy list? God played a role in all of these lives. They were chosen to leave their legacy.

May the words of Heb. 12:1-2 cheer us on in fulfilling of our legacy:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Jesus is a model of faith, hope and love — the “holy trichotomy” as the apostle Paul records it (1 Cor. 13:13a). He highlights the last word, “love,” as the most significant (v.13b).

So may it be said of each of us: “There is one who walked with Jesus as a model. He/she was one whose L-O-V-E was defined as Lord Our Very Essence.”

Contact me at [revkohn@gmail.com](mailto:revkohn@gmail.com) or 715-610-2400.



# Celebrating 75 years

Camp Luther, Three Lakes, is celebrating 75 years of God's provision and ministry in 2021! We invite you to join us for our Anniversary Celebration Kickoff event at 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 9, on Facebook ([facebook.com/CampLutherWI](https://facebook.com/CampLutherWI)). We will also dedicate the new Community Center during this event.

Additionally, we invite congregations and individuals to celebrate God's work through Camp Luther throughout the year. Please join with others in these prayers of thanksgiving and praise:

Heavenly Father, Lord of creation, artist of the outdoors, of laughter, beauty and joy. We are amazed as we look back over 75 years of ministry at Camp Luther!

For the group of leaders who organized the purchase and construction of this camp, what a testimony to see how the glory of Jesus has been passed from their generations all the way to ours and those coming after.

When we see smiling faces, mini-vans full of enthusiastic campers, first timers and regulars, we are witnesses to the amazing work of the Holy Spirit burning in their hearts and ours! More than we could imagine, you continue to bless those who come to camp to have fun, to volunteer, to serve on staff, and even just to get a breath of fresh air.

This is a wonderful camp of your handiwork, an example of your ability to grow your kingdom and strengthen your people. Continue to richly shower your gifts of the outdoors, of laughter and beauty and joy to all who cross over the bridge, or kayak underneath it! We love you God, and we pray you would show us your ability to do more than we could measure, ask, or imagine with Camp Luther this summer and for years to come! Hallelujah, Amen!

Lord God, you bless your church with so many gifts - and today we give special thanks for the gift of the outdoors, the beauty of nature and our opportunities to explore, enjoy, and be surrounded by others. Camp Luther has been a shining light of Jesus' glory for generations! Seventy-five years of the

Spirit's powerful work in the hearts of staff, campers, volunteers, families, and visitors - all this a blessing and joy to remember.

The generations of families and friends who have walked through the trees, paddled on the lake, and sang around the campfire create a truly awesome number of witnesses to the love of our God! You have shown us you are able to take a couple hundred acres of empty land up north and turn it into a glorious place of worship and growth for Christians young and old.

Continue to use Camp Luther for your purposes, for building up all people, for training your children to serve your church and your world.

All this we ask in the powerful and glorious name of your Son, Jesus, Amen!

*(Thank you to John Karolus for writing these prayers for this special occasion. John is a former summer and seasonal staff member of Camp Luther. He graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 2020 and is now working as the director of Digital Mission for Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Ariz.)*



Every Kid  
to Camp

June 18,  
2021

Camp Luther  
Golf Classic

- Hole Sponsorship
- Play Golf with Friends
- All monies provide first time trips to Camp at no cost to families.



Northwood  
Country  
Club

[campluther.com/golf](https://campluther.com/golf)

GOLF FOUR KIDS!