



DISTRICT NEWS

NORTH WISCONSIN

‘In All Things’



LCMS/Frik M. Lunsford

God. He is the Lord — the Lord of all things, including our lives as followers of Him.

Some people may wonder is it worth all the time and effort to get our youth to such an event? Why have such a gathering? Some of the reasons are that Youth Gatherings:

- ▶ **PROCLAIM** the lordship of Jesus Christ and God’s saving grace to His people through Christ. In this setting, young people grow in their personal relationship with God and grow in their fellowship of Word and Sacrament in Christ’s church.
- ▶ **ARE A VEHICLE** by which the church reaches out to, cares for and affirms young people, both churched and unchurched.
- ▶ **EQUIP** youth and adults for ministry and vocational service in a variety of settings in their congregations, communities and world.
- ▶ **AFFIRM**, equip and support adults who work with young people.
- ▶ **CELEBRATE** the meaning of Christian joy in all of life’s situations, including transitions and crisis.

(Taken from Guiding Principles at lcmsgathering.com.)

Every night, all 20,000 attendees were inside Minute Maid Park, home of the Houston Astros. God’s Word was proclaimed in various ways and songs were sung. The mass gathering was the highlight of each day. LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison preached at the Divine Service, which included a youth choir and symphony. He told those in attendance, “You and Jesus are connected in Baptism, connected for

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Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck
North Wisconsin
District President

“When our youth group meets, I sometimes wonder if there are many other youth at our LCMS congregations. And then I showed up here and it is amazing. There are 20,000 at the mass events. I guess we are not alone. It is great to be with so many other youth!”

That was a comment from one of the youth that was in attendance at the LCMS Youth Gathering in Houston in early July.

In light of the pandemic, organizers had hoped for 14,000 attendees, but had to scramble as registrations kept coming in. The final tally was around 20,000 youth, leaders and volunteers arriving in the heat of a Houston summer — high 90s daily!

The theme of the gathering was “In All Things,” based on Col. 1:15-20. This passage was chosen because it proclaims, as clearly and densely as anywhere else in Scripture, Christ’s relationship to all things. In short, “Christ is all, and in all” (COL. 3:11). It proclaimed the supremacy of Christ as Lord and

Son of St. John ordained



Rev. Benjamin Ramthun was ordained into the Holy Ministry on June 19 at St. John Lutheran Church, Easton, his home congregation. Pastor Ramthun, a recent graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, was called as pastor to Our Savior, Escanaba, Mich., and was installed on June 26. Pictured are, from left (front row) Revs. John Stransky, Thomas Marcus, Benjamin Ramthun, Dwayne Lueck; (middle row) Michael Fox, Tim Smith; (back row) Ray Connor and Ryan Fehrmann.

Happy 30



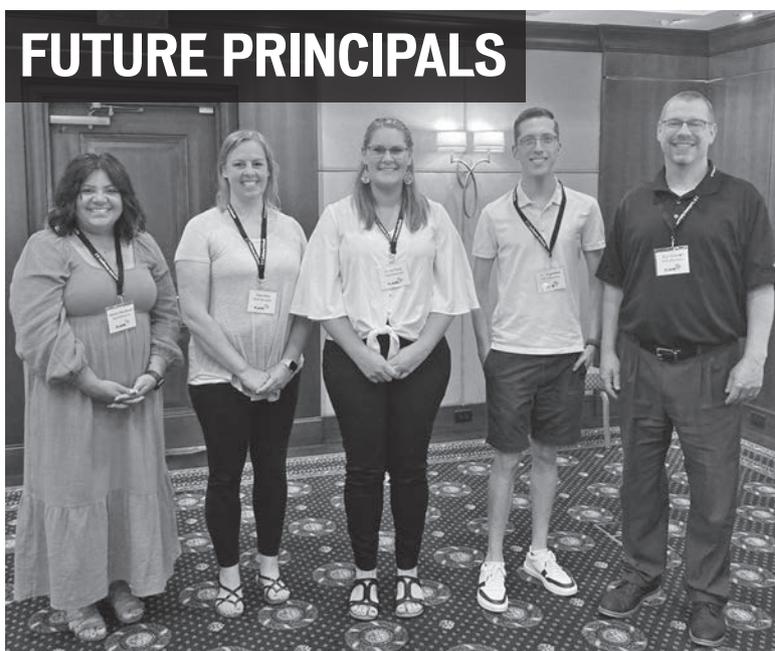
The congregations of St. Luke, Sherry, and St. John's, Auburndale, celebrated the 30th anniversary of the ordination of Rev. Mark Lundgren on July 24. He is pictured with Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck. "Very cool to have my church families celebrate the third 10-year anniversary of my ordination," Lundgren said. "President Lueck as guest preacher, the Lundgren Family Band supplying the music, a big luncheon afterward, and cake! Incredible people whom I am very, very blessed to serve."

New principals

Welcome to these new principals leading our schools in 2022-23:

- ▶ Rev. Bo Baumeister, Peace, Antigo
- ▶ Aaron Landgrave, St. Paul, Bonduel
- ▶ Duane Miller (*interim*), Pilgrim, Green Bay
- ▶ Kerrick Sawyer, Trinity, Green Bay
- ▶ Daren Catlin, St. John, Merrill
- ▶ Renee Hammond and Jill Helgerson (*interims*), Immanuel, Marshfield

FUTURE PRINCIPALS



Congratulations to these four district teachers who completed principal training during the Future Lutheran Administrators – Midwest Educators (FLAME) meeting at Concordia Ann Arbor in June. They are, from left, Sarina Randazzo (Celebration, Appleton), Tami Hinz (St. James, Shawano), Emily Ferg (St. Martin, Clintonville) and Tim Eigenfeld (Trinity, Wausau). At right is DJ Schult, North Wisconsin District education executive.

LWML



Fall is here!

Ah, September in the Northwoods! Crisp and clean air to enjoy. New beginnings for students. LWML district Fall Retreat at Camp Luther, zone rallies and convention planning.

As we ease into the 2022-24 district biennium, we will continue to support mission grants both district and national by collecting mite offerings. We will hold our zone rallies in September and October, which I like to think of as mini-conventions! Everyone is welcome to attend the rallies, which feature a mission speaker and/or a servant event, updates on district happenings and quite possibly some delicious food. The LWML fellowship is priceless!

Another amazing opportunity for everyone is to support the district LWML mission of sharing Jesus with the world. You can volunteer to help with the national LWML convention, which will be held in Milwaukee in June 2023, and hosted by our district along with South Wisconsin and Northern Illinois. There are a variety of jobs that can be completed before the convention begins and others that will be on-site. There is more information and a Call for Workers volunteer application form available at lwml-swd.org/events/other.



Joan Berquist
LWML District President

Wellness Corner

THE "REST" REMEDY

It's from an old TV show, "Father Knows Best," starring Robert Young, that I will borrow the title and apply it to the Bible. Our "Father" in heaven "knows best." In this article, the focus will be on what He knows "best" about "rest."



Rev. Dan Kohn
District Counselor

We begin with the first reference to "rest" following God's creation. After six days of creation, God "rested from all his work" (GEN. 2:2). Later, God applied the same for mankind — "Sabbath of rest" (EX. 31:15A). We are to "strive to enter this [God-directed] rest" (HEB. 4:10-11A). King David also appreciated the role of "rest." In Psalm 62 we find his repeated reference to finding "rest in God alone" (VS.1,5). This was a "rock"-solid rest, with God as a refuge. Herein, like David, we will "not be shaken" (V.6).

We dare not overlook Jesus' invitation for rest:

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give rest."
MATT. 11:28

Here the "rest" is two-fold. First, our Savior, Christ takes on our burden of

sin. He bore our sin on His shoulders on the cross. Second, when we appreciate that Christ is our source of care and comfort, we can find relief and rest through Him. We can rely on Him as our "good shepherd" (JOHN 10:11,14).

Ultimately, as saints in heaven, we will "rest from [our] labors" (REV. 14:13B). This will be the perfect rest we have longed for on earth. All our trials and tribulation will soon be over.

For now we are encouraged by God to seek and find "rest." Our labors are to lead to "rest." Such a respite is meant to revive and promote resiliency for what lies ahead. We have extra bounce for the bumps on the road ahead.

We close with one last reference to God and His energizing provision:

"He [God] gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youth grow tired and weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." IS. 40:29-31

In God we find R-E-S-T: **R**enewing **E**nergy for **S**ustained **T**riumph!

Contact me at revkohn@gmail.com or 715-610-2400.



LOUIS/ERIK M. LINDSFOED



LCMS/Erik M. Lumsford

Back to school

School is in session across the Synod! LCMS schools serve over 150,000 children in early childhood programs through grade 12 in over 1,900 schools nationwide and three schools internationally.

The national theme is “Making Disciples for Life”:

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” **MATT. 28:18-20**

God bless our teachers, principals, students, families and all those supporting our Lutheran schools.



‘LET US KEEP AWAKE’

Rev. Heath Curtis, coordinator for LCMS Stewardship Ministry, makes a presentation during the *MDFL* Initial Gathering in 2020.

LCMS/Erik M. Lumsford

MDFL Fall Conference

It’s time to make your plans to attend the *Making Disciples for Life* (*MDFL*) Fall Conference, set for Oct. 10–12 at the LCMS International Center in St. Louis. In-person and online attendance options are available.

People today are influenced by many errant worldviews. This *MDFL* conference will focus on providing resources that equip Lutherans to faithfully share God’s Word — a Word desperately needed by people who have been deceived by the world’s false teachings.

The conference theme, “Let Us Keep Awake,” is based on 1 Thess. 5:6: “So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.”

Presentations will revolve around three primary themes:

- ▶ Awake as witnesses;
- ▶ Awake for our slumbering neighbors; and
- ▶ Confessing Christ in a world asleep.

The in-person portion of the conference is limited to 100 participants. The \$69 per person registration cost includes meals and snacks.

Online participation is unlimited. The \$29 fee may be used by an individual, couple, family or group.

For both in-person and online registration, participants will have access to recorded sessions for 60 days after the conference ends.

Visit lcms.org/making-disciples-conference for more information and to register.

MESSAGE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

eternity. Can you be certain of eternal life? Absolutely certain.”

A large event like this is very similar to what happens when we gather in worship every week. We gather to hear God’s Word proclaimed, we sing, we receive the Lord’s Supper, we grow in our relationship with our Lord and are reassured of our His love for us. It is also good to gather with fellow worshipers and support each other in our fellowship. It is good to know you are not alone; that there are other Christian brothers and sisters in our lives.

Cheryl and I were privileged to be a part of the North Wisconsin contingent that traveled by car, van, bus and plane. Many of our district youth and leaders met with the South Wisconsin District attendees on Friday night at the aquarium. It was great to be together with so many from up north and the UP.

A big word of thanks to all who supported the youth that made the trip. It took a lot of effort, planning and money. Hopefully, an event like this will encourage some of those youth to be full-time church workers or leaders of their congregation.

If you had youth that attended, be sure to ask them what they took away from

the gathering. Then gather with them in worship at your home church and feed on God’s Word. Enjoy the fellowship with fellow believers. Invite the unchurched to join you. There they will hear along with you that Christ is with us “In All Things!”

Share your news with us!

Please send submissions to Karol Selle at selleks@gmail.com. You may also mail your submissions to Karol at 3177 State Hwy. 66; Rosholt, WI 54473. Please ensure photos sent electronically are high resolution.