



DISTRICT NEWS

NORTH WISCONSIN



Recently I attended a leadership meeting and the presenter said: “People get hired for their technical skills. People get fired for their behavior. Technical skills cannot overcome behavioral problems.”

Do you agree? What is your observation? So much depends on people and their attitude and heart. A person’s words and deeds are the true marks of one’s character.

Jesus said:

“For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not



Rev. Dwayne Lueck
North Wisconsin District President

gathered from thorn bushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.” — LUKE 6:43-45

The determining feature in a person is one’s inner nature, one’s heart. An evil heart can bring out evil and a good heart produces good things. Just know that the heart can change. Since the fall into sin, people by nature are born with hearts inclined toward evil, but Jesus came into the world to change sinful hearts. Whoever believes in Jesus will bring good fruit.

Jesus was the perfect God and man. He was a man of character and love — selfless love — who lived it. Jesus talked to His disciples about suffering and dying, saying:

“The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.” — LUKE 9.22

Then Jesus did what He said He would. We confess what He did:

“(Jesus Christ) suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.”

We are thankful for what Jesus did. It is the difference between life and death for those who believe in Him.

During May, we take time to especially give thanks for those who have shown love. May 12 is Mother’s Day. From *history.com*: “The clearest modern precedent for Mother’s Day is the early Christian festival known as ‘Mothering Sunday.’ Once a major tradition in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe, this celebration fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was originally seen as a time when the faithful would return to their ‘mother church’ — the main church in the vicinity of their home — for a special service.”

In America, it was “created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914. Jarvis would later denounce the holiday’s commercialization and spend the latter part of her life trying to remove it from the calendar.”

A powerful passage about a wife and mother is in Prov. 31:10-31. A loving, God-fearing mother not only teaches but raises a family.

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From left: Revs. Lueck, Schauder and Dregler.

Blessings in Shawano

On Sunday, March 10, **Rev. Steven Schauder** was installed as associate pastor of St. James Lutheran Church, Shawano. Rev. Mark Dregler, St. James senior pastor, served as preacher. Along with Rev. Dwayne Lueck, North Wisconsin District president, the staff of St. James church and school participated in the Rite of Installation.

Schauder graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1981. He has served parishes in Villa Park, Ill.; Odessa, Texas; and Rochester, Minn.

“I grew up at St. James, where my parents were life-long members,” Schauder said. “So I have, by the Lord’s grace, returned home to serve as pastor of the congregation and the people that I have always loved and now have been given the privilege of sharing God’s Word of grace and life with them.”

He has been married to Jane for 40 years and they have six adult children and eight grandchildren.

District welcomes new business manager

William (Bill) Jordan has been hired as the new Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) vice-president and district business manager. He replaces longtime servant Dennis Johnson, who recently retired. Bill will serve the district with all things LCEF as well as expand support to congregations in business, finance and stewardship.



Bill grew up in the LCMS. He was confirmed by his father, Rev. H. Wm. Jordan, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sheboygan. After graduating from Sheboygan Area Lutheran High School, he attended the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire for his undergraduate degree and the University of Notre Dame for his master’s degree in administration. Since 1992, Bill has held various roles in higher education marketing, recruitment and admissions, having most recently

served as director of Recruitment and Admissions at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Bill has been married to his wife, Gina, for 23 years, and they have three teenage sons: Samuel, Owen and Asher. He enjoys being a

husband and father who commits time to his family, which involves numerous sports and performing arts events, college visits and frozen pizzas. He is also an active musician, performing across central and northern Wisconsin with various jazz and R&B groups.

Bill and his family will continue to call Stevens Point home.

“For a while now, I’ve been searching for a position in which I can play a more direct role in building and supporting the church,” Bill said. “I’m so grateful that the Lord has seen fit to give me this opportunity. To God be the glory!”

FRUIT

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“She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:

‘Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.’

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.” (Prov. 31:37-30)

So on May 12, you are encouraged to honor your mother and she is to “be praised.”

May 27 is Memorial Day. It is a solemn day, a day to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation. As President Abraham Lincoln stated at Gettysburg: “That we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain — that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

In April we remembered the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and what He did for those who believe in Him. In May we take time to honor our mother and those who gave their lives so we can enjoy freedom in this country. These are people of character. You know them by their good fruit. For that we give thanks.

“People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.” — Theodore Roosevelt

Almost time for convention!



Becky Haltaufderheid
LWML District President

“In Praise to the LORD” is the theme of the 38th Biennial Convention of the LWML, to be held June 20-23 in Mobile, Ala.

We will be gathered at the Arthur R. Outlaw Convention Center — one of the premier convention centers in our country, located downtown on the Mobile River. I am very excited to be attending the convention at this facility. It has so much Southern flavor with its outdoor terraces, many large windows, and an area to walk and enjoy the view of river. I can see why this facility has won numerous architectural awards.

If you are planning on attending the convention, you will have opportunities to be involved in servant events and listen to many mission speakers and special luncheon speakers. You will be entertained by the VOICES of Mobile, a group of vocal ensemble students from the University of Mobile. You will get to see Joe Castillo tell powerful stories while he creates different scenes with sand to stimulate your mind, capture your eye and grip your heart. There will be Bible studies led by Donna Pyle, who has written many Bible-study series,



some of which we use in our district.

We will honor the overseas missionaries, both current and past, and recognize them for their service with a special reception.

We will also recognize the LWML women serving in the armed forces, active and veterans. They will be given a special ribbon for their convention badges so that all convention attendees will be able to recognize them for their service to our country.

There will be a special table in the registration area for those in these two groups to visit. If you or someone you know fits into either of these categories, please ask them to stop by these tables so they can be thanked for their service to the LWML and our country.

The North Wisconsin District will be well represented at the convention this year. We are sending 18 delegates, three Young Woman Representatives, a Heart to Heart Sister

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The Counseling CONNECTION

Really healed

John gives us a view of Jesus’ earlier ministry that involved two sources of water. Jesus met the sinful Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well (John 4:6-7). There He shared “a spring of water welling up to eternal life” as He revealed Himself as her Savior (v. 14, 26).



Rev. Dan Kohn
District Counselor

In another encounter, Jesus went to a pool called Bethesda (v. 5:2). There He met a man who had been an invalid for 38 years. Jesus posed a pivotal question,

“Do you want to be healed?” (v. 6b).

The question may appear as rhetorical, holding a clean answer. We will let this question provide direction for the center of this article.

“Do you want to be healed?” This is a question that could be asked of anyone in need, a desperate need that holds no human solution. Such a needy soul needs to look to the One who offers “living water” (v. 4:10b).

I am reminded of the 12 Steps of Alcohol Anonymous. Here are the first steps in paraphrase:

1. I admit my life is in crisis and I can’t fix it.
2. Accept that God offers hope and healing.
3. Turn my life to receive the plan He

alone offers.

Like the man at the pool, there was a need to accept the healing plan that Jesus offered: “Jesus said to him, ‘Get up, take up your bed, and walk.’ And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked” (v. 8-9a).

Our Triune God gives us life. Jesus expanded this: “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10b). Yes, we come when our life is in crisis, seeking the healing and wholeness He offers.

Too many of us are challenged by Jesus’ pivotal question. We minimize the extent of the crisis. We presume to have a personal solution. We may rely on the human option for years, as was true of the invalid Jesus encountered.

Jesus doesn’t change His question for you: “Do you want to be healed?”

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

Stevens Point teacher wins prestigious Kohl award

Erin Mehlberg, teacher at St. Paul Lutheran School, Stevens Point, has been selected for a Kohl Foundation Teacher Fellowship award.



Winners were selected from a competitive field of applicants from across the state and represent the best and brightest in kindergarten through 12th-grade schools. Teacher Fellowship award recipients each received \$6,000, and \$6,000 for each of their schools.

Erin was recognized at a reception in April. Herb Kohl attended the ceremony to present the award, along with board members and staff of Wisconsin Council for Religious and Independent Schools (WCRIS).

“This is not only a symbol of the hard work and effort of our teachers, but a symbol of what our schools can achieve,” said Sharon Schmeling, WCRIS executive director. Congratulations. Erin!

Hurry! ...

Student grant application is due **May 15**



Financial support from the North Wisconsin District is available to all students who are attending an LCMS college/university or seminary and preparing for full-time church work.

Aid is granted for one school year, half for the fall semester and half for the spring. The student must carry a credit load that is considered full-time. A new application must be filed each year.

Contact your school's financial aid office to get the district financial aid application and return it to your school before May 15. More information and the application can be found at nwdlcms.org. Click “Financial Resources” and scroll down to “Financial Aid.”

Minneapolis, here we come!

The **LCMS 2019 National Rural & Small Town Mission Conference** will be held Nov. 14–16 at the Doubletree by Hilton Bloomington-Minneapolis South.

The blessings and challenges facing rural and small-town congregations today will be addressed. Congregations will be encouraged to cultivate ways to become healthy churches, eager to

bear witness for Christ, able to show mercy to those in need in communities and develop a robust life together with fellow members.

For more information, including speakers and session topics (which includes a special track for youth ministry), registration, costs, lodging, continuing education credits and more, visit lcms.org/rstm/conference.



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(to attend leadership training) and our junior pastoral counselor. We have a full bus along with numerous other men and women who have planned to fly to Mobile.

Early Friday morning, our own Karol Selle will lead a Bible study on the new publication *A Missionary, Me?* You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear her words of inspiration.

Past President Mary Harrington is on the ballot for the Nominations Committee. Deaconess Betty Knapp of Zone 2 is on the ballot for vice-president of Special Focus Ministries. Jan Struck will be serving as the Humorous Interrupter. Sharon Niemann, who takes care of our LWML store, authored a mission grant proposal for Lutheran Bible Translators that was selected to be on the ballot.

North Wisconsin District will be well represented! It's going to be a great convention as we gather “In Praise to the LORD!”

Blessed to serve!

CAMP LUTHER

Upcoming events

May 10-12

Spring Workbee Weekends

May 20-23

Men's Fishing & Golf Retreat

May 24-27

Memorial Day Family Retreat

More information about these events can be found at campluther.com.

Send news to:

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