



# DISTRICT NEWS

## NORTH WISCONSIN

# *We are family*

“**M**att is smart, organized and has a great vision for the path forward for our team,” said Packers’ General Manager Brian Gutekunst. “His values and personality fit the culture of our organization. He has a tremendous ability to build relationships on multiple levels, which is a very important aspect in leading a football team.”



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

very similar to what congregations look for in their pastors and church workers. They want someone with good people skills, good values and a good personality to be able to shepherd a congregation, classroom or youth group. They want someone to tell them about Jesus and that He loves and cares for them. As our district mission statement — and many congregation mission statements from around the district

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The “Matt” referred to is Matt LaFleur, the Green Bay Packers 15th head coach. He is 39, married to BreAnne, and they have two sons, Luke and Ty. He is a native of Michigan and even coached at Northern Michigan University in our district. He sounds like a great guy. But the bottom line for a Packer fan: “He better win and get the Pack back into the playoffs. (Aaron) Rogers is getting old.”

What the Packers wanted in the new guy was someone to help move the team forward successfully. A man with good values, personality and good people and leadership skills. It would also help if he knows something about football.

What the Packers were looking for is



LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford



LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford

# God's mercy at LAMP

More than 3,000 women and men gathered June 20-23 for the 38th Biennial Convention of the LWML Mobile, Ala. We were there "In Praise to the LORD!" for all the blessings He provides us and we in turn are able to share with others all over the world.



**Becky Haltaufderheid**  
LWML District President

Eighteen delegates from North Wisconsin District prayed for and, along with other delegates, chose to fund 21 of the 31 proposed mission grants for the 2019-21 biennium. For complete information, visit [lwml.org/mission-grants](http://lwml.org/mission-grants).

One of the mission grants I would like to focus on is "God's Grace for This Generation" - LAMP Ministry Inc.

Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP) has ministered to residents in remote areas of northern Canada since 1970 through the ministry of pastors, missionary pilots and short- and long-term mission minded volunteers. Each year, over 5,000



children, youth and adults have been impacted through VBS, Bible studies and witnessing.

These northern areas consist of villages that can only be reached by aircraft or seasonal roads. Currently, 1 million indigenous people live in these areas, with about half of them under the age of 14. Statistics show that more than 15 percent of these children and youth will actually take their own lives out of despair and hopelessness. This is alarming and not easy for us to understand. We live in areas where we can travel anywhere at any time by car, bicycle, bus, plane or train. We do not have the social isolation from family and friends that these villagers experience, nor are our children restricted in their school choices.

The children in these areas have limited access to biblical education. They are hungry to hear that Jesus loves

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# WORKERS

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— states: "vigorously make known the love of Christ." That is the bottom line. Winning people for Jesus.

Therefore, it is the job of Coach LaFleur and his coaching staff to take a team of players and put them together using their various gifts and talents in an organized way to carry out a plan for winning football. The congregation has many people and so it is the task of the called workers to work together on a strategy and plan with the leaders on how to get ministry done in a way that brings honor and glory to God.

All of us, church workers and members alike, share the same concerns. Somehow, somehow, we want to know that we are loved and cared for by Jesus through life. All of us need someone we can confide in and talk to when life brings great joy or throws a wrench our way.

A worker wellness survey was conducted in 2017 with LCMS professional church workers to help determine the areas that needed to be addressed ([lcms.org/wellness](http://lcms.org/wellness)). Here are just a few of the results:

- ▶ 34 percent of teachers and 45 percent of pastors stated that they lack pastoral care.
- ▶ 24 percent have been told by a professional that they suffer from anxiety or depression.
- ▶ 55 percent have experienced stress from financial concerns.

Church workers experience the same difficulties in life as any other individual.

Paul told the Corinthians:

"You are the body of Christ and individually members of it." — 1 Cor 12.27

A pastor prays for God's people under his spiritual care and God's people need to pray for their pastor and other called workers in their congregation. We need to pray for one another. We need to share the love of Christ with each other. Church workers and members alike are in this ministry and world together. To quote Sister Sledge: "We are family!" May God bless your family.



LAMP volunteers drove for two days to reach Kitamaat Village in northern British Columbia, Canada, and serve this community. They enjoy the crafts as much as the children!

# Q&A

**Colin Welch** graduated from the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point with a General Resource Management degree and was an active participant at Peace Lutheran Campus Center. He answered questions about his time at Peace.

**How were you involved at Peace over the years?**

I was involved in everything Peace had to offer the past four years, and then some. Since I started at Peace, I have been to Baton Rouge, Houston, New York and Panama City, Fla., on mission trips. To sum it up in a sentence, if it happened between 2015-19, I was there!

**Describe your first time at Peace. What was it like? What do you remember thinking and feeling as a new student in a new worshipping community?**

All throughout my childhood, I was a homebody. I didn't hang out with people much or leave home, so coming to college really scared me. The first thing I remember walking through the doors was being greeted by a dude wearing a rubber-duckie tie. I didn't say much that first Sunday, but my interaction



**Mission and service trips were a significant part of Colin Welch's time at Peace Campus Center.**

with the rubber-duckie tie fellow kept me coming back. That guy would go on to become my best friend, and I have the honor of standing in his wedding this summer.

**As you reflect back over your years of being involved at Peace how have you been blessed by this ministry?**

The blessings are too many to count! Peace has always been there for me the last four years. I am blessed by the

friends I have made, and the relationships that will last a lifetime.

**In what areas would you say that you have grown the most while at Peace?**

In confidence. I am a much better public speaker than I was four years ago. My confidence in my leadership abilities grew as well. Peace has been a place where I can expand my God-given talents with the support of fellow Christians.

**What are your greatest words of advice for other students?**

Never say no. Don't let fear hold you back from doing anything. Put your trust in God and you will be blessed a thousand times over.

**Would you say that Peace has helped you grow in your faith while at UWSP? How so?**

Peace has helped my faith grow more than anything else in my life. I have learned what it means to be a Lutheran and a Christian. I have dived into scripture headfirst through Bible studies. I have learned trust through mission trips. Peace was there for me during some of the hardest times of my life.

**Would you be willing to advocate for the support of Peace in the next community the Lord places you? Why?**

Yes, because I want others to be blessed the way I have been for many more years to come.

## HURRY: RSTM conference registration ends Sept. 15

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

Keynote speakers include Rev. Todd Kollbaum, RSTM director and Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil, executive director for Spiritual Care, Doxology. Rev. Robert Zagore, executive director, LCMS Office of National Mission, will lead the theme Bible study of the conference based on Heb. 12:1b-2a.

Breakout topics include dealing with addictions, mental health, young adults in ministry, bi-vocational pastors, stewardship, community engagement, partnering with Lutheran Early Resonse Teams (LERT), online education and many other topics affecting our rural and small-town congregations. There is something planned for everyone ... from layperson to pastor, student to teacher!

To register visit: [lcms.org/rstm/conference](http://lcms.org/rstm/conference). Registration ends Sept. 15.



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## LAMP

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them and that there is hope in His saving grace. The mission grant of \$100,000 will be used to expand LAMP's full-time staff of missionary pilots and to recruit and train 100 to 200 more volunteer missionaries committed to serving the indigenous people for a minimum of five years. As you place your mite offerings in your mite box this month, pray for the indigenous people and LAMP ministry, that those who are in despair may be blessed by the message of God's saving grace provided by those He has called to serve.

In Rom. 10:14-15, we read:

“How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent?”

As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

If God has called you to help this generation, please visit LAMP Ministry, Inc. at [lampministry.org](http://lampministry.org) to see how you can be involved.

As you read this, our district LWML board has already met at Camp Luther, followed by the LWML Fall Retreat. What a blessing this is every year. We are able to connect with our sisters in Christ from all over the North Wisconsin District to be in God's Word, fellowship, service, and to enjoy the surroundings of Camp Luther.

I'm praying you will be blessed as the summer winds down and fall — and fall rallies — begin. As I look forward to meeting women at the rallies, I am always amazed how God paints the landscape around me in beautiful reds, oranges and yellows!

Blessed to be able to serve you.

## Rinehard honored at Our Savior's

On July 21, members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Morgan Siding, had a surprise waiting for their pastor, **Rev. Dr. Roy Rinehard**, and his wife, Carol — a Pastor Appreciation. After a picnic lunch, parishioners thanked Pastor Rinehard for his 38 years of service.

Pastor Rinehard began his ministry at Our Savior's in August 1981. Carol has taught Sunday school for many years. Also, Pastor Rinehard is serving the shut-ins for St. James Lutheran Church, Shawano.

## Women's retreat at Camp Luther

Ladies ... Sept. 21-23 is the weekend just for you! Leave the pressures of work, home and life behind for a refreshing and renewing weekend!

This weekend is designed to draw you closer to God and to each other. Don't miss out on this opportunity to connect with old friends, make some new ones and grow in your faith! Visit [campluther.com/adult-events](http://campluther.com/adult-events) (scroll down) for more information and to register.

## The Counseling CONNECTION

# Ministry complexity

Ministry is complicated. The complexity is increasing. There is an inverse relationship — as church membership decreases, ministry stress increases.

Jesus understands. He faced the same reality in His role as an itinerant rabbi. Matthew 14 shares a fitting portrayal.

Jesus faced an emotional crisis. He learned that John, His relative and messenger had been arrested and subsequently executed (vs. 3-12). Jesus' response was to find a “solitary place”



**Rev. Dan Kohn**  
District Counselor

(vs. 13a). Jesus needed some alone time, away from ministry demands.

The crowd lacked understanding. Jesus' private, personal needs would have to be put on hold. They sought Him out, bringing their demands with them.

It was time for compassion — shared with the multitude of needy souls (vs. 14). Jesus' heart was stretched as He intermingled miracles and ministry,

And then there was the practical concern (and distraction) — providing a meal for the physically hungry (vs. 15). Jesus was drained but still seized the opportunity to perform a miracle.

More than 5,000 were fully fed with “five loaves and two fish” (vs. 17-20a,

21). And Jesus threw in a second miracle for good measure — the disciples collected 12 baskets full of broken pieces (vs. 20b).

Finally, it was time to dismiss the crowd (vs. 23a). It was alone time again (vs. 23b) for renewal.

These are the lessons we can glean here from the Master:

- ▶ We do not fully control our ministry, nor should we let it control us.
- ▶ The demands in ministry are varied and complex.
- ▶ Jesus was a non-anxious presence amidst the demands.
- ▶ Personal renewal time is a priority in ministry.
- ▶ Love is at the core of meeting people's needs in ministry.

Placing Christ at the center positions us to overcome the complexity of ministry. This is what He modeled for us.

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