

North Dakota District LCMS

Message in the Pew

May 2020

Military Chaplains

The LCMS military chaplains deliver Christ's mercy through their words and service, providing much-needed spiritual care for His people in unique and challenging environments. While they are non-combatants, chaplains still eat, sleep, train, work and exercise with their flock, both in combat and with troops.

LCMS chaplains are eager to bear witness to Christ and His forgiveness, coming alongside people of all faiths or no faith: listening to what burdens hearts, praying for troubled souls and asking Christ's mercy for all. Please pray for our chaplains and our military, past and present.



Congregations' Status

St. Peter, Belfield and Redeemer, Grassy Butte: vacancy (served by Rev. Anthony Ahrendt and Rev. Michael Wolters)

Peace, Barney and Trinity, Great Bend: Pastor-elect Brock Schmeling to serve. Installation TBA. (served by Rev. Matthew Tooman).

Zion, Claire City and Zion, Brown Valley, MN: Pastor-elect Nathanael Biberdorf to serve. Installation TBA. (served by MN North District.)

Trinity, Tolley: vacancy (served by Rev. Joel Brandvold.)

Our Savior, Minot: Pastor-elect Brian Doel to serve as Associate Pastor. Installation TBA.

Bethel and Shepherd of the Valley, Bismarck: Pastor-elect Justin Woodside to serve as Assisting Pastor. Installation TBA.

Zion, Bismarck: Vicar-elect Benjamin Ramthun to serve.

Seminary Students from ND Placed

Pastor-elect Jonathan Jahnke (son of Rev. Clark and Susan Jahnke, West Fargo) to serve as Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Fort Dodge, IA.

Vicar-elect Caleb Worrall (son of Rev. Bernie and Carolyn Worrall, Fargo) to serve at St. John, Dublin, OH.

Your servant in Christ,
ND District President
Rev. Arie Bertsch

Pastors and DCE'S

Rev. Michael Giddings, Crosspointe, Fargo, is considering a call to the South Dakota District as the Missionary-At-Large and Chaplain at Sioux Falls Lutheran School.

NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT LCMS

Financial Information

April 2020

INCOME

Congregational Mission Giving	\$56,310.82
Synodical Pledge (35%)	(19,708.79)
Other Gifts	1,288.25
Total left for District Missions, Expenses	\$37,890.28

EXPENSES:

Local Missions and Committee Activities: (Includes Wittenberg Chapel, Life Skills & Transition Center, Deaf Ministry, Youth)	\$11,069.99
Congregational Support (Includes General Operations, District President, Business Manager, Board of Directors)	29,022.79
1-1-1 Mission Giving	(2,142.80)
Current gifts given for these missions	(1,836.00)
International Missions	
Christ's Care for Children – Kenya (\$10,000)	0.00
Chile Mission (\$25,000)	\$0.00
(These missions were voted on by the District Convention. They will be paid quarterly as funds are available)	

Net Expenses	\$36,113.98
NET OPERATING INCOME FOR APRIL	\$1,776.30
Funds Given in the Past used for Current Expenses	\$400.00
YTD NET LOSS	(\$20,667.52)

Congregational giving was very low for April—which was expected. The good news is expenses are also down, so the month ended in the black. Giving is hard when worship services are virtual. If your congregation does not already participate in an online giving program and would like to, please consider LCEF's Joyful Response which is provided at no cost to your congregation.

Gifts from individuals and congregations designated for our international missions are sent on at the end of each fiscal quarter. Those amounts are not included in income or expense totals. YTD designated gifts for international missions as of April 30, 2020:

Christ's Care for Children – Kenya	\$250.00
Chile Partnership	\$1250.00

Please contact Tami Ulland at lcms.nd.busman@gmail.com or call 701-293-9001 if you have more questions.

Please pray for your church, our ND District and international missions. Support as you are able with momentary donations.