

SET APART TO SERVE

LCMS CHURCH WORK RECRUITMENT



Report to the Synod President

and other significant collaborators and stakeholders

The Office of LCMS Pastoral Education – Rev. Dr. James A. Baneck

January 2022

Key Summary Points this Month

1. Work continues with LCMS Mission Advancement
2. Several events are scheduled for SAS planning, collaboration, and promotion

Mission Advancement and Budget

- Standing Partnership and Baneck met with LCMS Senior Mission Advocate Manager, John Lewis, to discuss grant funding criteria and to start building a timeline and deliverables for integrating SAS into the development team's work, which include grant applications, resources for mission advocacy, and visibility and cross links where contributors may discover SAS as an opportunity for direct donation.
- Baneck is preparing the FY23 SAS budget, which includes writing an SAS Schwan grant.

CTSFW Symposia

Baneck will host an SAS display table at the CTSFW Symposia January 18–20. This will be a time to promote SAS to pastors, laity, professors and students. SAS promotional materials and swag will also be made available.

Collaboration with Concordia Publishing House

On Thursday, January 27, representatives from LCMS Pastoral Education, LCMS Communications, and Standing Partnership will meet at Concordia Publishing House with those who oversee Sunday School, VBS, Lutheran schools, catechism curriculum, youth ministry, religion curriculum, worship resources, and others to discuss the integration of SAS with CPH materials.

CUS and Seminary Church Work Directors Gathering

LCMS Pastoral Education and Standing Partnership will host a CUS and Seminary Church Work Directors Gathering, January 31-February 1 at the LCMS International Center. Approximately two representatives from each institution will be attending, including pre-seminary directors, church work directors and university presidents. The agenda will include an update on *Set Apart to Serve*, co-creation exercises, and assignments for continued collaboration and partnership. While at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne for the Symposia, January 18-20, the comment was made, that within memory, this is the first time of bringing all these directors together in one place, or at least it's been a long time since it's been done.

In February

- February 17–19 – Baneck will present during a break-out session and hosting an SAS display table at the Best Practices conference in Phoenix.
- February 20–22 – Baneck will present and host an SAS display at the NLOMA Conference in Arden, North Carolina.
- February 23 – Baneck and Standing Partnership will present SAS to the Council of Presidents in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- February 28 – Standing Partnership will update the subject matter experts and discuss their next assignment.

Research

Each month, I will include a piece of information we gathered from our research done by Aslanian Market Research (*EducationDynamics*), LCMS Rosters and Statistics or others.

The survey question below was answered in 2020 by current LCMS church workers. This measures what church workers are talking about (or not talking about) to the children in their congregation concerning their own church work vocation.

This insight helped us understand how we might:

- Encourage and resource our church workers to talk about the joys of church work, and
- Communicate a more positive narrative about choosing church work as a life-long vocation and who most influenced them.

Do you talk about church work with the children in your congregation and school?				
	Regularly	Sometimes	Occasionally	Never
Have you discussed...	%	%	%	%
How you selected your career/vocation	6.8	33	44.7	15.5
Why you became a church worker	7.7	40.8	39.3	12.2
Who (on earth) was the biggest source of motivation and inspiration to come a church worker	7.9	28.5	44.4	19.3
What are the characteristics of successful church workers, what gifts they have, what gifts they are trying to develop	11.3	37.4	35.2	16
What gives them joy	19.1	40.6	30.9	9.5
What is their biggest challenge in their role	30.1	37.5	24.8	7.5