

# **ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT**

## **LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD**

### **CONTENTS**

**2**

Report of the District President

**4**

District President Statistical Report

**15**

Board of Directors Chairman Report

**18**

Report of Congregational Services

**23**

Financial Report

**26**

Debt Assistance Program

**27**

Scholarship Grant Program

**28**

Report of Circuit Visitors

**46**

Rocky Mountain District LWML

**47**

School Ministry Committee

**48**

District Constitution Committee

District Life Coordinator

**49**

SOAR

**50**

Disability Ministry Task Force

Hispanic Task Force

**51**

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

**54**

2021 Rocky Mountain District Financial Audit

# REPORT OF THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Greetings in the name of our risen and ascended Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

It's been two millennia since the Lord Jesus completed his work on earth through His perfect life, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven to take his place at the right hand of God.

His final words spoken on earth exhorted his followers to be his witnesses, a call to go to the entire world. Ten days later, the promised Holy Spirit came. The good news of salvation through Christ emanated from Jerusalem to cities and regions throughout the Roman Empire.

Over the centuries, the Christian Church expanded around the world. By sending missionaries to other countries, the LCMS has participated in the growth of God's Kingdom.

Our own country has become a growing mission field; in fact, it's the third largest in the world. Each new generation that arises in the United States experiences a smaller percentage of Christians in the population.

For a period of time, the LCMS grew as new congregations were formed, especially in areas of significant population growth. Churches grew with new families who desired to be part of a congregation. Parents wanted their children to learn about Jesus.

A major shift in culture has taken place. A significant percentage of congregations in the Rocky Mountain District, the LCMS in general, and mainline denominations are declining in membership for a number of reasons. Contributing factors include changes in culture, demographics of communities, a declining fertility rate, and youth who leave small towns and rural areas for higher education or jobs and do not come back to their communities of origin.

There's yet one more reason. Frequently, congregations remain unengaged in their communities. Members commonly speak about reaching out to their neighbors, yet little action results.

To assist individuals and congregations, a District Focus (Know the Truth, Understand the Culture, Live the Faith) was adopted in 2018. The Rocky Mountain District was privileged to have Rev. David Buss (Assistant to the President) work specifically in this area for a year. The Focus depicts the work of the District and how we as individuals live as God's baptized children in the world.

The Lutheran Church, through its preaching and teaching, emphasizes the truth of God's Word. Our congregations, schools and childcare centers faithfully proclaim Jesus Christ, the One who is Truth, as the only way of salvation. Our people are encouraged to read and study Scripture individually, as well as to join in Bible studies, to "Know the Truth."

While our churches are bastions of truth, much of today's 21st century culture remains uninterested. We need to "understand the culture" that does not believe absolute truth exists, a culture that does not appreciate the value that Christians bring to society, or rarely heeds the church's voice regarding moral and ethical issues.

As God's baptized children, we live among people of all different walks of life. In our various vocations, we "live the faith." As family members, in the workplace, in school, and in our neighborhoods we rub shoulders with people who live, think, speak and vote differently than we do. As Christ has loved and served us, we love and serve one another. We pray that our interactions with them give rise to conversations where we are able to share the hope we have in Christ Jesus.

We have entered a time in history that identifies closely with the experiences of the early Christian Church. As Christians patterned their lives after Christ, pagans noted their love for their fellow human beings, Christians or pagans. Outsiders noted and commented how Christians lived, loved, cared for, and served others, which led to some becoming believers.

Is that how the church will grow in the future? I believe so. As we "live the faith," family members, neighbors, and co-workers will notice. We pray these encounters will lead to opportunities to share the good news of the One who is Truth, Jesus Christ.

# REPORT OF THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Mounting challenges face an increasing number of congregations in the Rocky Mountain District and throughout the LCMS: a decline in membership, the inability to support a full-time pastor which brings about an increase in dual parishes, and in some cases congregations close their doors. Additionally, a large percentage of clergy will be retiring in the next ten years. Seminary enrollment has declined. Fewer Lutheran teachers are available to staff our schools. Enrollment of students in our universities preparing for church work has declined.

These factors create concern for the future of our congregations and our Synod. Yet, Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church. We trust Him to provide workers in the Kingdom and to strengthen our lay people for their service in His Kingdom. Available on the Rocky Mountain District website ([www.rm.lcms.org](http://www.rm.lcms.org)) are Synod wide resources, “Set Apart to Serve,” to assist in recruitment of future church workers.

A traumatic change for the Church came as COVID-19 spread around the globe. Even before the coronavirus pandemic erupted in March, 2020, a significant number of congregations had experienced decline in worship attendance. Restrictions which limited the number of people in public gatherings exacerbated the trend. Not all congregations have rebounded to pre-COVID levels of attendance.

The pandemic surfaced the ingenuity and creativity of our church workers and lay people. In a very short time, the utilization of virtual technology enabled worship, Bible studies, meetings, and classroom instruction to take place online. As gathering restrictions lessened, not all have been able to return to in-person worship due to underlying health issues or comfort level.

As congregations continue hybrid worship (in-person and online) those who are not able to gather in-person benefit from hearing God’s Word and gathering virtually with the saints who do gather in person.

Because of the inability to make long range plans for gatherings such as Synod and District Conventions, the congregations of the LCMS voted by an overwhelming majority to delay Synod’s Convention to 2023. This gave Districts the opportunity to also delay their conventions a year, which the Rocky Mountain District Board of Directors chose to do. Consequently, elected three year positions became four year positions. It’s been a blessing to see willing servants add a year to their term.

An important action of the Board of Directors during these four years was to establish a “Rocky Mountain District Endowment Fund.” The primary source of funds include bequests, gifts from individuals, and funds from congregations that close. The Endowment Fund’s primary purpose will be to help finance “gospel gap ministry” as adopted by the Rocky Mountain District in its 2012 Convention. In this model, circuits collaborate to identify ministry gaps to reach the unchurched or underserved populations within their respective circuits. In some occasions, a circuit may see the need to prevent the loss of a ministry, which could produce a gospel gap.

Another meaningful move by the Board was to establish a “Rocky Mountain Partners in Mission Fund.” This gives individuals, congregations and groups the opportunity to contribute directly to the annual mission and ministry budget of the District. Of every dollar contributed, 100% goes directly to facilitate District ministry and missionaries. Contributions to this fund are meant to be above and beyond contributions to local congregations.

Since the 2018 Convention, the former District office building was sold and a smaller office was purchased at 88 Inverness Circle East (A210), Englewood, CO.

We give thanks to God as He continues to bless the work of our widespread Rocky Mountain District! We praise Him for the workers and lay people as we continue the work He has given us to do as summarized by our District Focus: Know the Truth, Understand the Culture, Live the Faith.

Rev. Roger Schlechte  
President, Rocky Mountain District

# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT ORDAINED AND INSTALLED**

**BENNETT, REV. ROBERT MARTY** (Ft Wayne) Ordained and installed Holy Trinity, Riverton, October 18, 2020 by Rev. David Fischer

**BOONE, REV. DAVID KERRY** (St. Louis) Ordained, Crosspoint, El Paso by Rev. Howard Patten and installed by Rev. Daniel Sattelmeier August 29, 2021

**BROWN, REV. KYLE EVERETT** (Ft Wayne) Ordained and installed, Grace/Our Savior, Hobbs/Lovington, June 23, 2019 by Rev. Jason Rust

**CHOUL, REV. PAUL RUOT** (St. Louis –EIT) Ordained and installed as Associate Pastor, St. John's, Salt Lake City, January 29, 2022 by Rev. David Fischer

**CLARKE, REV. JUSTIN CHRISTOPHER** (Ft Wayne) Ordained and installed, Christ, Murray, July 17, 2021 by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**OLSON, REV. JORDAN THOMAS** (Ft Wayne) Hope, Aurora, Ordained by Rev. John Hill and installed July 5, 2020 by Rev. Joseph Murphy

**PERRY, REV. ANDREW GENE** (St. Louis) Ordained and installed Associate Pastor, Crosspoint, El Paso July 18, 2021 by Rev. Gary Piepkorn

**RUSNAK, REV. JOSHUA W.** (St. Louis) Ordained and installed Associate Pastor, Rock of Ages, Colorado Springs, June 16, 2019 by Rev. Gary Rahe

**SCHALLER, REV. JORDAN EUGENE** (Ft Wayne) Ordained and installed, Faith in Christ, Albuquerque December 15, 2019 by Rev. Gary Piepkorn

**SCHEELE, REV. LUKE PAUL** (St. Louis) Ordained and installed, Trinity, Cortez, July 6, 2019 by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**SCHUETZLER, REV. MICHAEL JAMES** (St. Louis) Ordained by Rev. Roy Maack as Associate Pastor, Crosspoint, El Paso and installed by Rev. Daniel Sattelmeier August 22, 2021

**STEINER, REV. MICAH PAUL JOHN** (St. Louis) Ordained and installed, Our Father, Centennial. January 19, 2020 by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**TUELL, REV. JAMES A.** (Ft Wayne) Ordained and installed Immanuel, Englewood, October 6, 2019 by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**VANDERHYDE, REV. JOSHUA STEVEN** (St. Louis) Ordained and installed, Faith, Carbondale, July 7, 2018 by Rev. Mel Mertens

**WIDMER, REV. JOHN G** (Ft Wayne) Ordained and installed, Our Savior, Pagosa Springs, June 13, 2019 by Rev. Andrew Packer

**ZANDSTRA, REV. STEVEN CRAIG** (Zandstra) Ordained and installed, Grace, Cheyenne Wells, February 13, 2022 by Rev. Roger Schlechte

## **ORDAINED TRANSFERRED IN AND INSTALLED**

**BLAIR, REV. DAVID W** IIM Pastor, Bethlehem, Renton, WA, IIM Pastor to Holy Cross, Colorado Springs, October 20, 2021, by Rev. Dwight Hellmers

**BUSS, REV. DAVID M** Trinity, Baton Rouge, LA to Rocky Mountain District LCMS, Assistant to the President, Aurora, CO, September 1, 2020, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**CAVE, REV. ANDREW** Lamb of God, Lake Havasu City, AZ to Sr. Admin. Pastor, Mission, Las Cruces, NM, November 6, 2021, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**FIENE, REV. DR. JOHN** Emeritus, English District to University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder, August 8, 2021, by Rev. Gary Rahe

**HAHN, REV. TIMOTHY** Trinity/St John, Cissna Park/Onarga, IL to Immanuel, Haxtun, October 3, 2021, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**HAUTER, REV. ROBERT** St. Paul's, Kouts, IN to St. Peter's, Monte Vista, October 10, 2021, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**HOLT, REV. B. TYLER** St. Matthew, Concordia, MO to Immanuel, Roswell, Assoc. Pastor/Headmaster, May 29, 2022, by Rev. Gary Piepkorn

**KISTER, REV. THAINE** Trinity/Trinity, Bellingham/Cornell/Odessa, MN to Christ the King/Hope, Los Lunas/Socorro, June 08, 2019, by Rev. John Heffelfinger

**MACINA, REV. ROBERT D** Candidate, Texas District to Risen Christ, Arvada, October 14, 2018, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**MANZ, REV. MICHAEL J** Bethlehem, Greendale, IN to Shepherd of the Springs, Colorado Springs, November 25, 2018, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**MEISSNER, REV. DUANE PAUL** RSO Belize Mission Society, Texas District to Resurrection in the City, Denver, August 16, 2020, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**MOREJON, REV. JOHN BENITO** Candidate, Missouri District to Associate Pastor, San Pablo, El Pao, October 4, 2020, by Rev. Gary Piepkorn

**MORENO, REV. MARK CHRISTOPHER** Hope, Melbourne, FL to Family of Christ, Colorado Springs, April 7, 2019, by Rev. James Maxwell

**ODOM, REV. WESLIE** Beautiful Savior, Arlington, TX to Our Savior, Pagosa Springs, June 13, 2021, by Rev. Bror Erickson

**ROCKROHR, REV. PAUL** St. Luke's, Golden to LCMS Military Chaplain, Missouri District, April 14, 2019, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## **ORDAINED TRANSFERRED IN AND INSTALLED cont. ...**

**PATTERSON, REV. JEFFREY** Zion, Willshire, OH to Shepherd o/t Springs, Colorado Springs, May 16, 2021, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**REEDER JR, REV. THOMAS** Apostles/St Luke's, Platteville/Richland Ctr, WI to Immanuel, Clovis, Dec. 1, 2019, by Rev. Gary Piepkorn

**ROBINSON, REV. ERIC** Candidate to Christ, Albuquerque, Feb. 27, 2022, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**ROETTJER, REV. ANDREW** Assoc. Pastor, St. Mark's, Houston, TX to Assoc. Pastor, Zion, Brighton, February 29, 2020, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**SHULTS, REV. NICHOLAS** St. Mark, Sunnyvale, CA to Bethany/Our Savior, Pueblo/Pueblo West October 24, 202, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**TURNER, REV. JOHN** Emeritus to Faith, Craig, May 22, 2021, by Rev. Melvin Mertens

**WAGNITZ, REV. MICHAEL** Candidate to Zion/Immanuel, Flagler/Arriba, October 28, 2018, by Rev. Gary Rahe

**WALSTON, REV. ROBERT** Assoc. Pastor, Christ, St. Louis, MO to Trinity, Franktown, CO, Feb. 06, 2022, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

## **ORDAINED CHANGES WITHIN THE DISTRICT AND INSTALLED**

**CARABOTTA, REV. ROBERT A** Mission, Las Cruces to Mount Calvary, Gunnison, August 30, 2020, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**DEGROOT, REV. ADAM J** Missionary-Other, Faith in Christ/St Andrew, Albuquerque/Albuquerque to Calvary, Rio Rancho, March 1, 2020, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**DYER, REV. DAVID L** Candidate to Associate Pastor, Bethlehem, Lakewood, March 15, 2020, by Rev. David Langewisch

**FRANK, REV. CARL** Christ Our Redeemer, Bennett to Mount Hope, Boulder, October 28, 2018, by Rev. Dwight Hellmers

**HALL, REV. DAVID** Candidate to Mount Hope, Boulder, April 28, 2019, by Rev. Gary Rahe

**HORMACHEA, REV. JUAN** Missionary Pastor, Cordero de Dios, Denver, July 16, 2019, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**KREPEL, REV. JOSHUA** Assoc. Pastor, Bethlehem, Delmar, NY to Sr. Admin. Pastor, Peace with Christ, Aurora, November 4, 2018 by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**LANGNESS, REV. RICHARD** Candidate to Beautiful Savior, Broomfield, March 6, 2022, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**LIETZAU, REV. ELISHA** Faith in Christ, Albuquerque to Wheat Ridge, Wheat Ridge, May 5, 2019, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**LUCERO, REV. DENNIS** Emeritus to Resurrection, Colorado Springs, February 28, 2021, by Rev. James Maxwell

**MCGURER, REV. LARRY** Associate Pastor, Peace, Arvada to Christ, Breckenridge, July 6, 2019, by Rev. Dwight Hellmers

**NAEEM, REV. GEORGE** RSO Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission to Christ Our Redeemer, Bennett, July 7, 2019, by Rev. Gary Rahe

**NEIDIGK, REV. DONALD H** Emeritus to Immanuel, Las Vegas, June 21, 2020, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**NORTON, REV. TIMOTHY** Missionary at Large, Lutheran Indian Ministries to Shepherd of the Valley, Navajo, June 15, 2021, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**SCHALLER, REV. JORDAN** currently called/installed Faith in Christ, Albuquerque to Redeemer, Albuquerque at formation Multi-Parish, March 20, 2022, by Rev. Roger Schlechte

**SCHLECHTE, REV. ROGER E** Resurrection in the City, Denver to President, Rocky Mountain District LCMS, June 16, 2018, by Rev. Matthew Harrison

**SCHMIDT, REV. EDWARD H** Candidate to St. Luke's, Golden, October 6, 2019, by Rev. Dwight Hellmers

**WESTBY, REV. CHARLES W** Candidate to Emmanuel, Rifle, December 23, 2018, by Rev. Mel Mertens

**WRIGHT, REV. KARL** Candidate to Immanuel/Immanuel, Artesia/Carlsbad, Feb. 9, 2020 by Rev. Roger Schlechte

## **ORDAINED CHANGE OF STATUS**

**BARTON, REV. THOMAS M** Grace/Trinity, Cheyenne Wells/Kit Carson to Candidate, August 7, 2018

**BUSS, REV. DAVID M** Executive Assistant to the President, RM District LCMS to Candidate, September 4, 2021

**KEOGH, REV. CHARLES L** Chaplain, LCMS Board of Mission Services, St Louis, MO to Emeritus, July 1, 2019

**MANZ, REV. MICHAEL JOSEPH** Shepherd of the Springs, Colorado Springs to Candidate, October 26, 2020

**MEYER, REV. RYAN W** Assoc. Pastor, Redeemer, Ft Collins to Candidate, November 29, 2018



# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## ORDAINED TRANSFERRED TO OTHER DISTRICTS

**BAUER, REV. STEVEN M** Emeritus to Northern Illinois District, May 3, 2021  
**BECKER, REV. DALE ANDREW** Faith, Buena Vista to Shepherd of the Hills, Georgetown, IN, May 14, 2021  
**BELTZ, REV. DEWYTH D** Emeritus to Texas District, September 25, 2021  
**BUSS, REV. DAVID** Candidate to Southern District, September 7, 2021  
**CARLSON, REV. PAUL ALLEN** Emeritus to North Wisconsin District, April 22, 2021  
**CATE, REV. WILLIAM C** Emeritus to Michigan District, July 3, 2019  
**CHOLAK, REV. STEVEN T** Assoc Pastor/Headmaster, Immanuel, Roswell to Asst. Pastor, Our Savior, Houston, TX, March 1, 2022  
**CUNDIFF, REV. QUINTIN M** Calvary, Rio Rancho to Trinity, Amherst, NE, October 15, 2019  
**DAVIS, REV. TIMOTHY P** Calvary, Wray to Trinity, Athens, GA, February 1, 2022  
**DESOTO, REV. KENNETH** Candidate to Southern District, September 1, 2018  
**DIETERICH, REV. JOEL T** Redeemer, Colorado Springs to Calvary, Parma, OH, September 1, 2019  
**DIMIT, REV. ANDREW W** Emeritus to Wyoming District, February 5, 2019  
**ECKELKAMP, REV. DR. MICHAEL** Sr. Pastor, St. John's, Denver to Exec. Dir of Ministry, Christ, Lincoln, NE, June 1, 2021  
**FERNANDEZ, REV. JAMES F** Redeemer, Denver to Hope, Melbourne, FL, September 1, 2020  
**\*GERDES, REV. CHRISTOPHER** Candidate to Nebraska District, May 12, 2022  
**GROTH, REV. THEODORE W** Asst. Pastor, Beautiful Savior, Broomfield to Trinity, Cedar Rapids, IA, Oct. 1, 2019  
**HAYES, REV. JOSHUA J** University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder to St. John, Palmer, KS, Jan. 1, 2020  
**HEIMBUCK, REV. JOSHUA J** Pastor, Holy Trinity, Logan to Pastor, Grace, Ashland, OR, December 1, 2021  
**HOLTMAN, REV. STEVEN D** Candidate to SELC District, September 7, 2021  
**KEOGH, REV. CHARLES L** Emeritus to Minnesota South District, February 19, 2020  
**KIRK, REV. ALSTON S** Emeritus to Texas District, April 9, 2019  
**KRAUSE, REV. JASON** Cross of Christ, Bountiful to Immanuel/Immanuel, Loup City/Merna, NE, September 16, 2019  
**LOESCHKE, REV. DAVID R** Emeritus to Michigan District, September 2, 2018.  
**MAANUM, REV. EDWARD** Bethany/Our Savior, Pueblo/Pueblo West to First, Knoxville, TN, May 1, 2020  
**MANZ, REV. MICHAEL** Candidate to Ohio District, November 20, 2020  
**MASON III, REV. JOHN S.** Emeritus to Florida Georgia District, January 17, 2022  
**MASTIC, REV. ANDREW** Associate Pastor, St. John's, Denver to Associate Pastor, Pathfinder, Ellisville, MO, February 7, 2022  
**MOREJON, REV. JOHN BENITO** Associate Pastor, San Pablo, El Paso to Associate Pastor, Trinity, Grand Island, NE, August 11, 2021  
**PAULSON, REV. JOHN R** Emeritus to Nebraska District, July 27, 2020  
**PECK, REV. KENT A** Wheat Ridge, Wheat Ridge to St John, Meade, KS, July 7, 2018  
**PLUMP, REV. JOHN T** Emeritus to Michigan District, November 21, 2021  
**RASMUSSEN, REV. CHRISTIAN** Assoc. Pastor, Zion, Brighton to Our Redeemer, Honolulu, HI, Sept. 3, 2018  
**ROSS, REV. ANDREW B** Sr. Admin Pastor, Bethlehem, Lakewood to Sr Pastor, Christ, Costa Mesa, CA, October 16, 2019  
**SCHAIBLEY, REV. ROBERT W** Emeritus to Texas District, July 12, 2018  
**SCHMIDT, REV. JOSHUA A** Assoc. Pastor, Lutheran Church Messiah, Grand Junction to Bethlehem, Monterey, CA, December 1, 2021  
**SCHULTZ, REV. JONATHAN G** Mt. Calvary, Estes Park to Senior Pastor, Trinity, Great Falls, MT, July 5, 2021  
**SKOV, REV. CLARE** Emeritus to Pacific Southwest District, February 1, 2019  
**SMALL, REV. TERRY S** Emeritus to Mid-South District, February 25, 2019  
**STEVENS, REV. ROBERT** Mt. Calvary, Gunnison to Crosspoint, Sahuarita, AZ, Oct. 14, 2018  
**STORCK, REV. TIMOTHY D** Trinity, Ft Morgan to Good Shepherd, Chesterfield, MI, Sept. 30, 2020  
**STULTS, REV. DONALD A** St. Peter's, Monte Vista to Zion, Snohomish, WA, June 3, 2021  
**WAGNITZ, REV. MICHAEL** Emeritus to Central Illinois District, May 14, 2021

# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## ORDAINED TRANSFERRED TO OTHER DISTRICTS

**WILLIAMS, REV. JEFF S** Good Shepherd, Leadville to Trinity, Slayton, MN, Jan. 1, 2020  
**WINTER SR., REV. FRANK E.** Emeritus to Central Illinois District, August 9, 2021  
**WOLFMUELLER, REV. CHARLES B** Hope, Aurora to St. Paul, Austin, TX, June 1, 2019

## OTHER ORDAINED TRANSFERRED TO ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

<b>ABRAM, REV. MARK H.</b>	Emeritus, Florida Georgia District, March 1, 2022
<b>BARNETT, REV. DOUGLASS B</b>	Emeritus, Pacific Southwest District, January 6, 2021
<b>BRONDOS, REV. JOEL A</b>	Emeritus, Northern Illinois District, October 8, 2019
<b>CARY, REV. BRYAN SCOTT</b>	Emeritus, Texas District, March 25, 2021
<b>CLAUSEN, REV. JULIUS B</b>	Emeritus, Calif.-Nevada-Hawaii District, Apr. 8, 2019
<b>DUGALL, REV. ROBIN JAY</b>	Emeritus, Northwest District, September 15, 2021
<b>FLANNERY, REV. MICHAEL L</b>	Emeritus, Montana District, November 2, 2018
<b>FUNKE, REV. KENNETH RAY</b>	Emeritus, Missouri District, August 3, 2018
<b>GERDES, REV. CHRISTOPHER E</b>	Candidate, Nebraska District, November 6, 2019
<b>GILKEY, REV. KRAIG BENNETT</b>	Emeritus, Northwest District, June 10, 2019
<b>GRAFF, REV. PAUL</b>	Emeritus, Minnesota South District, April 12, 2022
<b>HOLTMAN, REV. STEVEN D</b>	Candidate, Ohio District, October 26, 2020
<b>JANZEN, REV. MARK J</b>	Emeritus, South Wisconsin District, February 1, 2020
<b>LEARY, REV. KELLY J</b>	Candidate, South Wisconsin District, October 1, 2018
<b>SCHMIDT, REV. EDWARD H</b>	Candidate, Mid-South District, June 8, 2018
<b>SMITH, SR., REV. KELLY DALTON</b>	Candidate, Calif.-Nevada-Hawaii District, Feb. 1, 2019
<b>STOHLMANN, REV. PHILIP JAMES</b>	Candidate, Minnesota South District, July 30, 2019
<b>WOODWARD, REV. PETER CALVIN</b>	Emeritus, Calif.-Nevada-Hawaii District, July 16, 2019
<b>ZEHNDER, REV. MICHAEL J</b>	Candidate, Pacific Southwest District, Dec. 12, 2018

## ORDAINED RETIREMENTS

**BRAUNER, REV. DOUGLAS P** Holy Cross, Colorado Springs to Emeritus, April 1, 2022  
**BAUER, REV. STEVEN M** Candidate to Emeritus, April 4, 2021  
**BELTZ, REV. TERRY** Trinity, Franktown to Emeritus, January 11, 2021  
**BEYER, REV. JAY B** Candidate to Emeritus, January 5, 2022.  
**CAMERON, REV. PHILIP J** Risen Savior, Broomfield to Emeritus, March 1, 2022  
**CARLSON, REV. PAUL ALLEN** St. Mark's/Good Shepherd, Orem/Richfield to Emeritus, Aug. 1, 2020  
**CATE, REV. WILLIAM C** First, Salida to Emeritus, July 1, 2019  
**DIMIT, REV. ANDREW W** Immanuel/Immanuel, Artesia/Carlsbad to Emeritus, February 1, 2019  
**DYE SR., REV. LAWRENCE J** Candidate to Emeritus, January 11, 2019  
**FELDMANN, REV. DUANE S** Candidate to Emeritus, February 1, 2019  
**GROELING, REV. NEAL S** Christ, Albuquerque to Emeritus, August 16, 2021  
**HEFFELFINGER JR., REV. JOHN C** Redeemer, Albuquerque to Emeritus, March 16, 2022  
**HILLER, REV. MICHAEL JAMES** Peace with Christ, Aurora to Emeritus, June 1, 2018  
**JACKSON, REV. PAUL H** Candidate to Emeritus, August 7, 2018  
**JOHNSON JR., REV. FRANK E** Assoc. Pastor, Redeemer, Ft Collins to Emeritus, June 1, 2021  
**KIRK, REV. ALSTON S.** Family of Christ, Colorado Springs to Emeritus, April 8, 2019  
**LOESCHKE, REV. DAVID R.** Immanuel, Haxtun to Emeritus, September 1, 2018  
**MASON III, REV. JOHN S** Sr. Pastor, Our Savior, Albuquerque to Emeritus, September 1, 2021  
**MERTENS, REV. MELVIN J** Candidate to Emeritus, February 2, 2021  
**PRITCHARD, REV. GRIFFITH** Asst. Pastor, Trinity, Alamosa to Emeritus, January 2, 2014  
**REINER, REV. MARK W** Faith, Woodland Park to Emeritus, June 1, 2021  
**RHODE, REV. PAUL G** Eternal Savior, Lafayette to Emeritus, January 1, 2022  
**QUARLES, REV. PHILIP** Sangre de Cristo/Christ Our Savior, Taos/Angel Fire to Emeritus, July 1, 2021  
**ROHLWING, REV. DANIEL** Grace Fellowship, Gypsum to Emeritus, January 1, 2019  
**SATTELMEIER, REV. DANIEL** Crosspoint, El Paso to Emeritus, September 6, 2021  
**SCHROEDER, REV. ALBERT** Asst. Pastor, Immanuel, Loveland to Emeritus, July 1, 2018  
**THOMAS, REV. CRAIG** Mt Hope, Evergreen to Emeritus, November 1, 2018  
**WAGNITZ, REV. MICHAEL G** Zion, Flagler to Emeritus, April 1, 2021  
**YOUNG, REV. VICTOR PAUL** Our Savior, Commerce City to Emeritus, July 1, 2021.

# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## ORDAINED RESIGNATIONS/REMOVAL FROM THE LCMS CLERGY ROSTER

**BOHMER, REV. KARL E** January 13, 2020  
**HALL, REV. DAVID S** October 26, 2021  
**MEINZ, REV. JEFFREY E** August 23, 2020  
**MEYER, REV. RYAN** December 29, 2020  
**MROCH, REV. THOMAS P** July 9, 2020  
**OELTJEN, REV. ROBERT S** March 6, 2020  
**PIERSON, REV. RICHARD** November 18, 2021

## ORDAINED CALLED TO GLORY

**ALLMANN, REV. JOHN** February 2, 2022  
**CLAUSEN, REV. JULIUS B** December 8, 2021.  
**DAEKE, REV. DUANE** October 27, 2021  
**GORKLO, REV. JOHN P** July 29, 2019.  
**ISRAEL, REV. JOHN W** November 4, 2021  
**LEACH, REV. RONALD DAVID** April 5, 2020  
**PETERSEN, REV. JOHN M** January 9, 2020  
**ROHLWING, REV. DANIEL** March 16, 2019  
**RUIZ, REV. JOSE OVALLE** September 16, 2020  
**SCHUELEIN, REV. VIRGIL L** December 3, 2021  
**SKOV, REV. FREDERICK A** July 22, 2019  
**SCHRANK, REV. ROBERT** June 13, 2019  
**THUR, REV. GARY** November 30, 2021  
**WILLE, REV. WARREN H** August 3, 2019

## INITIAL MEMBERSHIP OF CONGREGATIONS

**Albuquerque, St. Andrew** September 29, 2019  
**Montrose, Christ** January 12, 2020

## CONGREGATIONS DISBANDED, DISSOLVED OR RESIGNED MEMBERSHIP IN LCMS

**Denver, Redeemer** March 1, 2021 (disbanded or dissolved)  
**Grants, Mt. Calvary** August 15, 2021 (disbanded or dissolved)  
**Hugo, Holy Cross** June 30, 2020 (disbanded or dissolved)  
**Kanab, Mt. Zion** December 31, 2018 (disbanded or dissolved)  
**Las Cruces, Faith** February 24, 2020 (disbanded or dissolved)  
**Orem, St. Mark** July 27, 2020 (disbanded or dissolved)  
**Truth or Consequences, St Johns** April 1, 2022 (disbanded or dissolved)  
**Walsenburg, Holy Cross** June 30, 2018 (disbanded or dissolved)



# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## **COMMISSIONED MINISTERS COMMISSIONED AND INSTALLED**

**ALBERS, KELLY A** (Seward) Zion, Brighton, Rev. Paul Albers, commission, Rev. David Schilling install, August 16, 2020

**BOCKELMAN, KELSEY L** (Seward) Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Rev. Paul Albers, October 1, 2019

**BROWN, BRITNI ANN** Deaconess (Fort Wayne) to Grace/Our Savior, Hobbs/Lovington, Rev. Gary Piepkorn, January 17, 2021

**CHOLAK, STEPHANIE A** (Austin) Immanuel, Roswell, Rev. Steven Cholak, Sept. 2, 2018

**\*DEVENCENTY, PAYTON J** DCE (Seward) Holy Cross, Colorado Springs, Rev. Douglas Brauner, September 8, 2019

**FISCHER, CALEB D** (Seward) Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, Rev. Nate Peregoy, August 12, 2021

**FULLER, KATERINA G** (Seward) Christ, Albuquerque, Rev. Neal Groeling, August 9, 2020

**HOEHNE, BETHANY ROSE** (Chicago) Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, Rev. Nate Peregoy, August 12, 2021

**HOWARD, MARCUS WORTH** (Irvine) Immanuel, Loveland, Rev. Glen Schlecht, Jan.23, 2022

**NOREM, RACHEL OLIVIA** (Seward) Trinity, Greeley, Rev. Kent Schnegelberger, Aug.15, 2021

**PALAZARRI, ALEXANDRA MARIE** DCE (Irvine) Summit of Peace, Thornton, Rev. Jeremy Jacoby, September 15, 2019

**PONTIFES, MATTHEW EIDAN** DCE (Austin) Gracious Savior, Edwards, Rev. Jason Haynes, August 19, 2018

**RUSERT, REBEKAH GRACE** (Seward) Trinity, St George, Rev. Nathan Rusert, commission, Rev. John Manweiler install, August 4, 2019

**RUSHMAN, CARLY R** (Seward) St. John's, Denver, Dr. Michael Eckelkamp, Sept. 16, 2018

**SCHLECHT, JONATHAN ERNEST** (Mequon) Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, Rev. Glen Schlecht commission August 26, 2019, Rev. Paul Albers install October 1, 2019

**SCHMIDT, KRISTIN E** DCE (Irvine) Epiphany, Castle Rock, Rev. Christopher Matthis, August 2, 2020

**SCHROEDER, NOLAN BRETT** (Seward) Immanuel, Albuquerque, Rev. Dustin Kear, August 28, 2018

**SEMANKO, MARTHA ELIZABETH** DCE (Chicago) Immanuel, Loveland, Rev. Glen Schlecht, August 9, 2020

**SHVETSOVA, ALLA** Deaconess (Ft Wayne) to Immanuel, Roswell, Rev. Steven Cholak, March 17, 2019

**SPITZ, SHELBY KAY** (Chicago) Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, Rev. Nate Peregoy, August 12, 2021

**WALLACE, LETHA** (Mequon) Lutheran Church Messiah, Grand Junction, Rev. Joshua Schmidt, August 27, 2019

**WEISER, JOSHUA RAY** DCE (Austin) Gracious Savior, Edwards, Rev. Jason Haynes, December, 1, 2019

**WENDORFF, EMMA M.** (Seward) Trinity, St George, Rev. John Manweiler, August 12, 2018

# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## COMMISSIONED MINISTERS TRANSFERRED IN AND INSTALLED

**BONGARD, STEPHANIE** LUMN, Inc., Milwaukee, WI to St. John's, Denver, Dr. Michael Eckelkamp, Sept. 16, 2018,  
**BRANDON, MICHAEL** LCMS OIM, Shanghai, China to Immanuel, Albuquerque, Rev. Dustin Kear, Aug. 30, 2020  
**CROMLEY, JOSHUA** DCE, Faith, Merritt, Island, FL to Peace, Arvada, Rev. Tim Lindeman, July 25, 2021  
**DAVIS, DR. JOAN** Candidate, Northwest District to Redeemer, Salt Lake City, Rev. Kevin Belter, August 12, 2018  
**DILLON, LORI A** Concordia Lutheran School, Omaha, NE to Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, Rev. Nate Peregoy, August 12, 2021  
**GREVE, TIMOTHY** Candidate, Central Illinois District to Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, Rev. Andrew Ross, August 9, 2018  
**HANSEN, DARREN** N. Valley Christian Academy, Phoenix, AZ to Shepherd of the Hills, Centennial, Dr. Bradley Stoltenow, August 26, 2018  
**HANSEN, LORI** N. Valley Christian Academy, Phoenix, AZ to Shepherd of the Hills, Centennial, Dr. Bradley Stoltenow, August 26, 2018  
**HISCHKE, MARTHA** Candidate, Southern Wisconsin District to Bethlehem, Lakewood, Rev. Andrew Ross, August 18, 2019  
**HOWE, KRISTEN** Crean HS, Irvine to Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, Rev. Paul Albers, October 1, 2019  
**KRISTOFIC, PATRICIA** Deaconess, Emeritus, English District to Redeemer, Salt Lake City, Rev. Kevin Belter, October 10, 2021  
**LEEDS, EMILY** Candidate, N. Wisconsin District to Our Father, Centennial, Rev. Scott Abel, June 27, 2021  
**LIMMER, COURTNEY** DCE, Peace, Eau Claire, WI to Our Father, Centennial, Rev. Nate Peregoy, April 26, 2019  
**MORGAN, KATIE** DCE, Christ, Overland Park, KS to Family of Christ, Colorado Springs, Rev. Mark Moreno, February 7, 2021  
**OLSEN, BRENDA** Lutheran School Association, Decatur, IL to Redeemer, Salt Lake City, Rev. Kevin Belter, August 11, 2019  
**ONNEN, TIMOTHY** Director of Church Ministries, Emeritus, Missouri District to Christ, Montrose, Rev. Roger Schlechte, January 3, 2022  
**OTTO, DEANNA** Candidate, Pacific Southwest District to Rock of Ages, Colorado Springs, Rev. James Maxwell, May 22, 2022  
**RAO, GRACE** Deaconess, Candidate, Missouri District to Deaconess/Teacher, Immanuel, Roswell, Rev. A. Brian Flamme, August 29, 2021  
**RIPKE, JUDITH** Candidate, Nebraska District to St. John's, Denver, Rev. Andrew Farhat, October 3, 2021  
**RUDZINSKI, AARON** Trinity, Seymour, IN to Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, Rev. Andrew Ross, August 9, 2018  
**RUDZINSKI, MARK** Immanuel, Seymour IN to Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, Rev. Nate Peregoy, August 12, 2021  
**SCHATZ, EMILY** DCE, Epiphany, Kenmore, WA to Shepherd of the Hills, Centennial, Dr. Bradley Stoltenow, August 26, 2018  
**SCHIELD, DANIEL** Immanuel, Lewiston, MN to Messiah, Grand Junction, Rev. Josh Schmidt, Aug. 5, 2018  
**SCHERMBECK, CASSANDRA** DCE, Faith, Georgetown, TX to Our Father, Centennial, Rev. Scott Abel, July 28, 2018  
**SCHROEDER, BETSY** Immanuel, Hankinson, ND to Redeemer, Salt Lake City, Rev. Kevin Belter, August 11, 2019  
**SWAFFORD, HANNAH** Prince of Peace, Carrollton, TX to Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Rev. Andrew Ross, August 9, 2018  
**TAYLOR, LISA J.** Reinstated, Candidate, Northern Illinois District to Bethlehem, Lakewood, Rev. David Langewisch, November 18, 2018  
**WEISHAAR, SARAH** DCE Shepherd o/t Lakes, Brighton, MI to Bethlehem, Lakewood, Rev. David Langewisch, August 1, 2021  
**WIEGAND, JON** Candidate, Florida-Georgia District to Trinity, St. George, Rev. John Manweiler, August 15, 2021  
**WOLF, TARA** DCE, King of Glory, Williamsburg, VA to Redeemer, Ft. Collins, Rev. Timothy Runtsch, February 23, 2020

# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## COMMISSIONED MINISTERS TRANSFERRED WITHIN THE DISTRICT AND INSTALLED

**ANDERSON, HEATHER** Grace, Sandy to Messiah, Grand Junction, Rev. Michael Redeker, July 12, 2020  
**BARTON, NICOLE** Candidate to Shepherd of the Hills, Dr. Bradley Stoltenow, August 26, 2018  
**BOWER, KRISTINE** Beautiful Savior, Broomfield to Mount Olive, Aurora, Rev. Glenn Kalthoff, July 29, 2018  
**BRANDON, CATHERINE** Candidate to Immanuel, Albuquerque, Rev. Dustin Kear, August 22, 2021  
**FISCHER, MELISSA** Candidate to Bethlehem, Lakewood, Rev. David Langewisch, October 3, 2021  
**GEISLER, EMILY** Candidate to Immanuel, Albuquerque, Rev. Dustin Kear, July 28, 2019  
**GROTHMAN, DARCI** Candidate to Mission, Las Cruces, Rev. Andrew Cave, January 23, 2022  
**MORRISON, DARREN** Candidate to Redeemer, Salt Lake City, Rev. Kevin Belter, August 9, 2020  
**NIERMAN, JOANNE** Candidate to Immanuel, Loveland, Rev. Glen Schlecht, August 16, 2020  
**PAULISON, ELINOR** Candidate to Peace with Christ, Aurora, Rev. Joshua Krepel, May 16, 2021  
**SKRAZNAS, ROBBIN** Candidate to Bethlehem, Lakewood, Rev. David Langewisch, Nov. 18, 2018  
**SMITH, ANNA C.** Candidate to Zion, Brighton, Rev. David Schilling, August 11, 2019  
**STEINBRENNER, LISA** Zion, Brighton to Bethlehem, Lakewood, Rev. Andrew Ross, August 18, 2019  
**WHITTINGTON, JOANNA** Candidate to Immanuel, Roswell, Rev. Stephen Cholak, Sept. 2, 2018

## COMMISSIONED MINISTERS TRANSFERRED TO THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

**BRONDOS, MARILYN** Emeritus, Northern Illinois District, October 8, 2019  
**CARLSEN, CHRISTINA** Emeritus, Northern Illinois District, March 29, 2022  
**CATTAU, CURT** Emeritus, Pacific Southwest District, April 5, 2021  
**CATTAU, RUTH** Emeritus, Pacific Southwest District, April 5, 2021  
**EMERLING, DR. BRADLEY** Candidate, Pacific Southwest District, July 17, 2019  
**GRAFF- EMERLING, GENEVIEVE** Missionary, LCMS OIM, St. Louis, July 16, 2019  
**HANNEMANN, LAUREN** Candidate, Texas District, February 20, 2019  
**JANZEN, GAYLE** Candidate, South Wisconsin District, January 6, 2019  
**JESSEN, CAROL** Emeritus, Northern Illinois District, April 12, 2022  
**KAISER, JOANNA** Candidate, Northern Illinois District, November 16, 2018  
**KASPAR, NEAL** Emeritus, Northern Illinois District, March 31, 2020  
**KIRSCHNER, CHRISTA** Candidate, Kansas District, July 19, 2018  
**KUNZE, TREVOR** Candidate, North Wisconsin District, March 11, 2019  
**OPEL, EDGAR** Emeritus, Michigan District, October 29, 2020  
**OTTO, DEANNA** Candidate, Pacific Southwest District, November 2, 2021  
**PAULISON, ELINOR** Director of Parish Music, Candidate, Northern Illinois, July 27, 2018  
**PEREGOY, SPENCER** Emeritus, California-Nevada-Hawaii District, July 1, 2018  
**PERRY, ANDREW** DCE, Reinstated- Candidate, Texas District, May 10, 2021  
**RISTOW, CAROLYN** Candidate, Texas District, January 7, 2019  
**RUDZINSKI, EMILIE** Candidate, Indiana District, August 8, 2018  
**\*SANDAU, WILLIAM** Emeritus, California-Nevada-Hawaii District, 4, 2022  
**SCHMIDT, KENNETH** Emeritus, Texas District, July 29, 2019  
**SCHMIDT, MARY** Candidate, Mid-South District, June, 1, 2018  
**SCHWARTZ, DEBRA** Candidate, Missouri District, December 21, 2021  
**SMITH, SARAH** Deaconess, Candidate, Ohio District, August 25, 2020  
**THIESSEN, MARY** DCE, Candidate, Minnesota South District, July 31, 2021  
**TUBANDT, NICOLE** DCE, Candidate, Kansas District, January 7, 2021  
**WACKER, DAVID** Emeritus, Missouri District, February 11, 2019  
**\*WITTE, DENNIS** Emeritus, Northern Illinois District, July 26, 2018  
**\*WITTROCK, YVONNE** Emeritus, Northwest District, January 11, 2022

**COMMISSIONED MINISTERS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER DISTRICTS**

**ARGUTO, PAMELA** Candidate to Immanuel, Plainview, MN, August 24, 2020

**AUSTIN, KATELIN** Candidate to Nebraska District, February 13, 2019

**BAUMANN, ANGELA** Immanuel, Albuquerque to St. Paul, Steven's Point, WI, June 30, 2020

**BLANCO, REBEKAH** Candidate to Nebraska District, August 9, 2018

**BRADLEY, TIMOTHY** Candidate to St. Paul's, Concordia, MO, July 11, 2019

**BRAUN, ANDREW** Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker to Milwaukee Lutheran High School, Milwaukee, WI, August 8, 2018

**CHAPLIN, REBECCA** Director of Family Life, Bethlehem, Lakewood, CO to Faith Community, Las Vegas, NV, March 14, 2021

**COTTER, EMILY** Immanuel, Albuquerque, NM to St. Paul's, Arlington, NE, July 12, 2018

**DEHOYOS, REBECCA** Candidate to Christ, Phoenix, AZ, January 20, 2019

**DOLDE, EMMA** Candidate to Ohio District, July 1, 2020

**ERICKSON, CHELSEA** Redeemer, Salt Lake City to Child of God, St. Peters, MO, June 01, 2019

**GREVE, TIMOTHY** Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker to Lutheran High School Association- North, Rochester Hills, MI, June 16, 2021

**GROTH, DAWN** Candidate to Iowa East District, October 1, 2019

**HAINER, DEBORAH** Candidate to St. John's, Mayville, WI, July 18, 2019

**HANDRICK, TIMOTHY** DCE, Immanuel, Loveland to St. John, Ocala, FL, July 29, 2019

**HANSEN, DARREN** Shepherd o/t Hills, Centennial to Rockford, Rockford, IL, July 29, 2020

**HANSEN, LORI** Shepherd o/t Hills, Centennial to Rockford, Rockford, IL, July 29, 2020

**HEINE, MELINDA** Emeritus to Southern District, May 9, 2018

**HINRICHS, THOMAS** Christ, Albuquerque to St. Peter, Macomb, MI, June 1, 2020

**HOBUS, STEVEN** Messiah, Grand Junction to Trinity, Atchison, KS, July 1, 2020

**HOEHNE, MATTHEW** Director of Worship, Our Father, Centennial to Trinity, Wausau, WI, July 31, 2020

**HORST, LEROY** Emeritus to Indiana District, December 10, 2021

**KEOGH, KATHYRN** Emeritus to Minnesota District, April 11, 2019

**KOEHLERT, KAREN** Immanuel, Albuquerque to St John, Kendallville, IN, July 16, 2018

**KOHN, DAWN** Emeritus to Indiana District, February 15, 2022

**LEE, KRISTIN** Zion, Brighton to Lutheran School Assoc. of Greater Seattle, Seattle, WA, July 16, 2018

**LEITNER, GEORGE** Emeritus to Texas District, January 14, 2020

**LEITNER, LINDA** Emeritus to Texas District, January 14, 2020

**LOSEY, VIRGIL** Emeritus to Texas District, May 27, 2020

**LOWE, AMANDA** DCE, Candidate to Prince of Peace, Carrollton, TX, November 13, 2018

**MARTIN, KERRY** Emeritus to Pacific Southwest District, February 8, 2022

**MATSON, REBECCA** Grace, Sandy to Trinity, Cedar Rapids, IA, July 12, 2018

**MAXSON, KAREN** Grace, Sandy to Holy Cross, Wichita, KS, June 1, 2020

**MCFALL, KATHLEEN** Emeritus to Pacific Southwest District, January 4, 2022

**MERRELL, LINDA** Emeritus to Missouri District, January 11, 2022

**MEYER, KARA** Zion, Brighton to Trinity, Cape Girardeau, MO, July 12, 2018

**NELSON, KATIE** Candidate to Kansas District, January 13, 2020

**NIEMAN, EMILEE** Candidate to Texas District, August 26, 2019

**PHILLIPS, SARAH** Grace, Sandy to Lamb of God, Las Vegas, NV, July 1, 2019

**POPPE, MOLLY** Candidate to Missouri District, August 23, 2018

**POPPE, NATHANAEL** Shepherd o/t Hills, Centennial to St. Paul's, Concordia, MO, July 12, 2016

**PTACNIK, REBEKAH** Candidate to Nebraska District, December 15, 2021

**RASMUSSEN, LISA** Candidate to Emmanuel, York, NE, August 8, 2018

**ROSS, SARAH** Candidate to Pacific Southwest District, January 21, 2020

**SCHATZ, EMILY** DCE, Shepherd o/t Hills, Centennial to Lutheran Church Webster Gardens, St. Louis, MO, June 16, 2021

**SCHLICHTING, ALBERT** Emeritus to Texas District, May 27, 2020

**SCHULT, PHILIP** Candidate to Martin Luther High School, Northrop, MN, Dec. 7, 2020

**SEIBARTH, PAMELA** Gethsemane, Northglenn to Holy Ghost, Monroe, MI, Jul. 16, 2018

# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## COMMISSIONED MINISTERS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER DISTRICTS cont...

**STEVENS, NATHAN** Beautiful Savior, Broomfield to Christ, Greenfield, AZ, June 1, 2020  
**WALLACE, LETHA** Messiah, Grand Junction to Trinity, Fremont, NE, June 1, 2021  
**WARNER, STEPHANIE** DCE, Candidate to Texas District, January 25, 2022  
**WEINHOLD, RACHEL** DCE, Mt Olive, Aurora to Teacher, Immanuel, Lockwood, MO, July 16, 2018  
**WHEELER, TAYLOR** DCE, Trinity, Pueblo to Peace in Christ, Hermantown, MN, August 15, 2021  
**WISCHMEYER, DONALD** Emeritus to Missouri District, January 12, 2018  
**WISROTH, JESSE** Reinstated Candidate to Wyoming District, January 10, 2022  
**WITHEE, JANE** Candidate to South Dakota District, April 18, 2019

## COMMISSIONED MINISTERS TO CANDIDATE STATUS

**BLANCO, REBEKAH** Immanuel, Albuquerque to Candidate, August 1, 2018  
**BOERNKE, DEBRA** Christ, Murray to Candidate, July 1, 2019  
**BRADLEY, TIMOTHY** Shepherd o/t Hills, Centennial to Candidate, June 1, 2017  
**DOLDE, EMMA** Trinity, St. George to Candidate, June 1, 2020  
**HART, SUSAN** DCE, Bethesda Lutheran Community, Littleton to Candidate, September 5, 2020  
**LIPKE, KRISTEN** St. Peter's, Monte Vista to Candidate, July 1, 2020  
**LOWE, AMANDA** DCE, Grace Fellowship, Gypsum to Candidate, June 29, 2016  
**NILSSON, LIANNA** Zion, Brighton to Candidate, August 1, 2021  
**POPPE, MOLLY** DCE, Shepherd o/t Hills, Centennial to Candidate, July 2, 2021  
**RASMUSSEN, LISA** Shepherd o/t Hills, Centennial to Candidate, May 31, 2017  
**RHODE, KEVIN** Trinity, Ft. Morgan to Candidate, June 16, 2019  
**ROSS, SARAH** Peace, Arvada to Candidate, August 16, 2019  
**VANDERHYDE, DANIEL** Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker to Candidate, July 1, 2021  
**WHITTINGTON, JOANNA** Immanuel, Roswell to Candidate, May 30, 2019  
**WITHEE, JANE** Emmanuel, Rifle to Candidate, July 1, 2018



# PRESIDENT'S STATISTICAL REPORT

## **REINSTATED TO COMMISSIONED MINISTER ROSTER**

**WISROTH, JESSE** reinstated to candidate status to Wyoming District, November 2021

## **COMMISSIONED MINISTER RETIREMENTS**

**AHO, TIMOTHY** Candidate to Emeritus, January 10, 2022  
**ANGELL, PAUL** Immanuel, Albuquerque to Emeritus, August 1, 2020  
**DUENSING, PAUL** Candidate to Emeritus, February 5, 2022  
**EMAN, KIMBERLY** Candidate to Emeritus, January 8, 2019  
**HANDROCK, SARAH** Christ, Albuquerque to Emeritus, May 26, 2021  
**HISCHKE, KEVIN** DCE, Risen Savior, Broomfield to Emeritus, January 1, 2018  
**JOHNSON, JANET** Candidate to Emeritus, January 5, 2022  
**KOHN, DAWN** Candidate to Emeritus, January 28, 2022  
**LARRABEE, LINDA** Gethsemane, Northglenn to Emeritus, August 1, 2019  
**LARRABEE, LOREN** Colorado Lutheran High School Assoc., Parker to Emeritus, July 1, 2021  
**MARTIN, KERRY** Candidate to Emeritus, February 2, 2022  
**MCWILLIAMS, DAVID** Zion, Brighton to Emeritus, June 8, 2019  
**MEINEKE, DAVID** Candidate to Emeritus, June 22, 2021  
**MERRELL, LINDA** Candidate to Emeritus, January 3, 2022  
**MEYER, JULIET** Immanuel, Loveland to Emeritus, August 1, 2019  
**MILLER, ENID** Lutheran School Messiah, Grand Junction to Emeritus, July 1, 2018  
**OLSEN, LINDA** DCE, Our Father Centennial to Emeritus, December 31, 2017  
**SCHUETZ, GLORIA** Redeemer, Denver to Emeritus, August 1, 2018  
**SHOAF, SUSAN** Shepherd o/t Hills, Centennial to Emeritus, July 1, 2018  
**STIBRICH, JOANN** Mt Olive, Aurora to Emeritus, July 1, 2018  
**TODD, AUDREY** Candidate to Emeritus, July 25, 2021  
**WEGNER, PAULETTE** Peace, Arvada to Emeritus, June 1, 2018  
**WERNER, MICHAEL** Candidate to Emeritus, August 1, 2021

## **COMMISSIONED MINISTER RESIGNED/REMOVED FROM ROSTER**

**ALBERS, ALEX** February 1, 2020  
**ERMELING, DR. BRADLEY** January 6, 2020  
**HOWE, KRISTEN** August 11, 2020  
**LEMKE, JULIE** February 10, 2019  
**LOSSER, LORI** January 26, 2021  
**MARSHALL, GWEN** April 1, 2019  
**OTTE, LOREN** November 11, 2021  
**SCOTT, ALICIA** February 16, 2019  
**VAN-LANINGHAM, DOLORES** January 14, 2019

## **COMMISSIONED MINISTERS CALLED TO GLORY**

**CAULKINS, GARY** December 31, 2020  
**DIETERS, TROY** November 2, 2021  
**EBERHARD, BERNICE** December 11, 2017  
**KLATT, RICHARD** April 8, 2018  
**PROFT, MARLENE** December 13, 2016  
**ROLF, JOHN** October 25, 2021  
**SCHUETZ, LOIS** January 31, 2021  
**SCHULTZ, CHERYL** October 29, 2018  
**SENECHAL, JOHN** December 29, 2019  
**SHOAF, CHESTER** January 23, 2020  
**SNURKA, NANCY** September 24, 2021  
**WEIDNER, DON** August 10, 2021

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Delegates to the 2022 Convention of the Rocky Mountain District LCMS:

Our Lord Jesus Christ has given the work of His Church in this geographic area to the pastors, to the other church workers, and to the dedicated laypeople of the congregations of our Rocky Mountain District. The goal of this work is to be the Lord's instruments to preserve the faith of the saints by means of God's holy Word and Sacraments and to reach out to others who have yet to come to faith in Jesus Christ as the only Savior of the world. The Board of Directors of this District is to assist God's people in this great task by providing some structure and support for this work to be done as our Lord grants the means and opportunity to do it.

Since the Board of Directors is to carry out the policies and direction of the Convention, our Board attempted to address the concerns raised at the 2018 RMD Convention. Those resolutions which called for action on the part of the Board included the co-ordination of youth ministry within the District (2018-2-02); the setting of the next convention date in order to avoid Father's Day weekend (2018-2-05), the raising of the circuit visitor mileage rate allowance (2018-2-06), and the re-aligning of some of the Four Corners Circuit congregations (2018-2-07).

Because of the large distances in our District, the issue of the coordination of youth ministry was addressed to the Circuit Visitors. The Circuit Visitors can best co-ordinate the youth ministry among the congregations within their own circuits and best determine when youth events can occur between circuits outside of the annual District Youth Gathering. As requested, the dates for the 2022 District Convention were chosen to avoid the Father's Day weekend. The Circuit Visitor mileage rate was increased. Re-alignment for the Four Corners Circuit was approved and included in the revision of the current District Bylaws.

A major project of the quadrennium was for the Board to revise the current Bylaws. Our thanks is due the two attorneys on our Board, Damon Tobias and Chris Paulsen, who put in extra time to coordinate the revised Bylaws with the proper wording after suggestions were offered by the members of the Board. These new Bylaws then needed to be approved by the Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters before they could be presented to this convention.

Recognizing the opportunity for outreach with the Gospel, the Board voted to appoint a Hispanic Ministry Task Force consisting of three pastors and two laypersons. To support our biblical pro-life witness the Board appointed an RMD Life Coordinator. To raise awareness of those who struggle with disabilities, the Board appointed three pastors and two laypersons to the Disability Ministries Committee.

Recognizing that the congregational pledges to the District have diminished significantly in the past fifteen years and in order to better fund the annual mission and ministry within our District the Board established the Rocky Mountain Partners in Mission Fund to receive gifts from individuals and organizations. In order to sustain the long term stability of the District the Board also established the Rocky Mountain Endowment Fund for the receipt of proceeds from bequests, sale of property, and other gifts.

One of the resolutions of the 2018 District Convention (2018-1-08A) which had received the approval of 97% of the delegates, implored prayer and support for the campus ministry in our District. When major repairs became necessary for our campus ministry property on the campus of Colorado University, Boulder, the Board made the decision to fund those repairs rather than to sell the property. This valuable location is ideal for ministry to our LCMS students and for outreach to the campus community. Our thanks is due to the hours and hours spent by Pastor Paul Albers dealing with the architects, contractors, and Boulder County authorities. The renovated campus facility is now quite attractive and inviting. We request that pastors and other church workers encourage their college students to attend the University Lutheran Chapel while enrolled at CU Boulder.

Our Board attempted to help congregations and schools in their outreach by calling Pastor David Buss as the President's Assistant for District Focus. Pastor Buss visited many congregations, conferences, and circuit meeting to enable congregations to apply what it means to "Know the Truth, Understand the Culture, and Live the Faith" in their community outreach. He also assisted in upgrading our RMD website. Due to health concerns Pastor Buss felt it necessary to resign his call to our District after serving for one year.

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In order to economize as good stewards of the Lord's money the Board voted to sell our office building which had become too large for our reduced staff and to buy a smaller office facility. Some profit was realized in the sale of the old office building and purchase of the new office building. Our thanks to President Schlechte and Pastor Albers in managing the sale, purchase, and successful transfer to the new office complex. The Board also approved the hiring of Marla Gregory as our business manager. We are still seeking a qualified volunteer to serve as the District Treasurer. Because of Covid-19 concerns, as of May 2020 our Board met by Zoom conference rather than in person. This change made possible some savings on the money formerly spent for Board members' transportation, lodging, and meals in order to be physically present at the regular meetings.

Over the four-year period, a number of circuits were encouraged in their mission efforts by receiving grants from the Gospel Gap Paradigm. Grants were given to circuits in all four of the District's geographic areas. A checklist of steps to apply for the GGP grants was developed and is available to our Circuit Visitors and other pastors on the District website under "ministries" tab at the "gospel gap" location.

I must thank President Schlechte for his leadership on the Board and our Executive for Congregational Services, Pastor Paul Albers, for his tireless service to the Board in several capacities beyond his call. The Board's thanks is due to Monique Hjalmsquist, President Schlechte's administrative assistant, who has done a remarkable job of keeping track of a multitude of details and deadlines for the Board. I thank Kevin Grein, the Lutheran Church Extension Fund Vice President for our District, who has been instrumental in providing LCEF loans to many of our congregations and rostered church workers. It is through Kevin that LCEF moneys have been made available for our Gospel Gap grants, supplemental support to our conferences, and a number of mission projects.

I thank the members of the Board who have served faithfully for the entire four year term. This would include Pastors Gary Piepkorn, Gary Rahe, David Fischer, and Donal Widger as Board Secretary. Other members of the Board serving for the entire quadrennium include Duane Nyen, Polly Wegner, Damon Tobias, David Ling, Dr. E. Christian Kopff, and Chris Paulsen. We are grateful for those who also served a portion of the four-year term including Travis Goeglein, Cody Dodson, Al Koschmann, and Gary Brookshire. Our thanks are also due those pastors who served the Board as Assistant Secretary including Roger Wohletz, James Fernandez, and Mark Moreno.

May our gracious God continue to guide and bless our District in the future as He has in the past.

Your servant in Christ,  
Pastor Dwight D. Hellmers, Chairman  
The Rocky Mountain District Board of Directors LCMS

# GOSPEL GAP REPORT

## **Gospel Gap Report -June 2018 to June 2022**

It was at the Rocky Mountain District Convention of June 2012 that a resolution "To Adopt a Circuit-based Mission Model" (Resolution 2012-1-01B) was passed at the urging of District President Randall Golter. Because President Golter had written in his President's Report that "the circuits were to steward God's mission field by identifying gospel gaps, that is, places where the Word of Christ is not proclaimed, geographically or demographically" the District mission effort came to be known as the Gospel Gap Paradigm (GGP). Although money was budgeted for the GGP in 2012, it took some time to develop an efficient system. A revised application form was presented in 2017 and a guideline check list in 2020.

During the last four years a number of circuits have benefited from the GGP funds in initiating ministries and in maintaining them in areas Christ needed to be proclaimed with Word and Sacraments. During this quadrennium (2018-2022) those circuits making applications to the GGP and receiving funds have included Denver NE, Denver SW, Four Corners, Pike's Peak, Sandia North, Sandia South, Rocky Flats, and Utah. GGP grants have varied from \$1450.00 to \$21,000. The total GGP funds given during the quadrennium was \$181,708.00 with an average of \$11,357.00 per request. The total requested was not always the total given.

An important point to remember in requesting funds is that it is to be a circuit function rather than a congregation function. It needs to begin with a circuit forum attended by pastors and lay representatives. The congregations of the circuit normally should fund a majority of the project with the District funding a minority amount. The GGP guidelines are available on the District website. The time to submit a GGP application is from January 1 to April 1 of each calendar year. We encourage all circuits to find a "gospel gap" within their own circuit and apply for the help which the GGP can provide that Christ may be proclaimed more and more.

Our thanks to Lutheran Church Extension Fund which has provided most of the GGP funding in the last few years.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Dwight Hellmers, Chairman  
Rocky Mountain District Board of Directors

# CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

Grace, mercy, and peace are yours in Jesus!

Focused in our work by the words *Know the Truth, Understand the Culture, and Live the Faith*, our District's Educational efforts continued their Calling to educate, nurture, develop and catechize our youth.

Our District is richly blessed through the ministries of faithful DCE's who nurture the faith of children, youth, and families. During the triennium our DCE's hosted the National DCE Conference (NADCE), participated in the design and delivery of our Educators Conferences, worked to host a District Youth Gathering (which unfortunately was canceled due to COVID restrictions) all while faithfully serving their congregations. It's a remarkable privilege to serve alongside this creative, passionate, and supportive group.

Providing critical ministry leadership within our congregations and jointly for the District's efforts are those serving in capacities of Directors of Youth, Christian education, Family Ministry, Child Ministry, Music Ministry, Adult Ministries, and Camp ministry. In all, more than 40 men and women faithfully serve the church in both general and specialized roles! Many of these people serve the District as well, including leadership roles in monthly Affinity Group gatherings. While COVID greatly impacted their work, these men and women quickly adapted strategies and by God's grace ministry continued.

Lutheran education is a significant part of our heritage. By God's grace many of our congregations continue operating Early Childhood centers and elementary schools and still others support the ministry of our Lutheran High. A quick review of enrollment and other statistics reveals the great challenges and opportunities. Our educators maintain a servant-hearted focus as they proclaim the Gospel message in a clear manner to students and families.

During the last triennium the following schools/centers closed ministry operations:

Gethsemane – Northglenn, CO  
Holy Cross - Highlands Ranch, CO  
Messiah – Longmont, CO  
Redeemer – Denver, CO  
St Peter - Monte Vista, CO  
Trinity – Denver, CO

We rejoice that God's name is proclaimed in 26 Early Childhood Centers, 22 elementary schools (most of which have ECC programs) and one high school spread throughout the District.

It has been a joy to watch how quickly administrators, Directors and teachers adapted multiple times to the ever-changing demands and restrictions brought on by COVID restrictions. Please know that the physical and emotional toll on our brothers and sisters was and is extreme. Their exhaustion is real. While at the 2021-2022 school year found most of our schools reasonably back to pre-COVID routines, the toll on our workers remains. I must say that I have been extremely impressed and overwhelmingly thankful for the determination, flexibility, creativity, and perseverance of the people who serve in our schools and Early Childhood Centers! In His goodness, God has even caused much growth for many of our schools through the pandemic! Because of the tender care, hard work, and Christian love expressed to both students and families, our reputation grew, and the public became aware of Lutheran Education. Many new families have enrolled their children!

Mrs. Marla Gregory joined the District staff as Bookkeeper in the fall of 2020. She is an excellent addition allowing me to shift nearly all financial matters to her desk. Over the next year she will continue to take on responsibilities for contracts, conferences, and daily office matters. The District's Financial reports are included in this Workbook and I encourage your prayerful, careful review and analysis of congregational giving and District allocation of funds. Also available for your review is a report of the 2021 Audit which was conducted last Fall.

This year marks the 15th Anniversary of Ms. Monique Hjalmsquist's service in the District Office! She serves as Assistant to the President and me. I am so thankful for her selfless ministry and servant heart! Please find opportunity during the Convention to tell her thanks!



# CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

Finally, as has been reported many times during the triennium, a significant amount of time, energy and money went into the project on our Boulder property. In early 2019 a significant roof leak exposed the terrible, unsalvageable condition of the circa 1915 “house” portion of the building. After careful evaluation by a few architects and contractors, the Board of Directors concluded that the radically high estimate of rebuilding the structure was prohibitive. A company that has worked with other Districts’ campus properties visited and offered a contract to purchase the property, create a student center and worship space, and allow the congregation and District to lease space back for a nominal amount. The Board declined the offer which left deconstruction of the house and rebuilding the north wall as the only option. After working through the city’s historical preservation Board for nearly a year, we received permits and work began in earnest in 2021. The following pages provide Summary and Detail reports of expenses and the resources allocated by the Board of Directors for the project. I am happy to report that the project was completed on time and just under budget estimates. New landscaping and a number of small exterior projects completed the property renovations.

In Christ,  
Pastor Paul Albers  
Executive for Congregational Services

# CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

## Summary Report

### University Lutheran Chapel/Folsom St. Boulder Property Costs

#### Spending by Year

2019 (Fiscal Year February 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020) .....	\$32,432.88
2020 (Fiscal Year February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021) .....	\$185,445.85
2021 (Fiscal Year February 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022) .....	\$319,457.69
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$537,336.42</b>

#### Sources of Funding

LCEF Operating Results (Accrued) .....	\$266,707.86
Congregational Receipts.....	\$149,741.61
Other Funds Sale of properties - former congregations .....	\$114,986.95
Designated Donations.....	\$5,900.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$537,336.42</b>

# CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

## Detail Report :

### University Lutheran Chapel/Folsom St. Boulder Property Costs

#### Part 1: Construction Cost by Year

**2019** **\$32,432.88**

*Fiscal Year February 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020*

Highlights: Between April of 2019 to January 2020, most of the cost incurred was a result of architectural and legal services. The architectural fees with Rodwin totaled \$28,289.88. The legal fees amounted to \$4,144.00

**2020** **\$185,445.85**

*Fiscal Year February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021*

Highlights: Beginning in March of 2020, a \$15,000 retainer was paid to SkyCastle for construction and abatement services. Rodwin did pre-design work and handled coordination with the city of Boulder, including getting demolition approval. Rodwin handled permitting and project management for the demolition of the existing residence portion of the building, as well as modifications to the existing chapel. Asbestos abatement cost \$42,024.44. In November of 2020, the costs of permits to date were \$12,702.39. Deconstruction costs were \$25,000.

**2021** **\$319,457.69**

*Fiscal Year February 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022*

Highlights: February costs were \$28,586 for the completion of deconstruction, excavation, masonry, and plumbing. March costs of \$34,069.22 covered removal of snow and rubble from the excavation site, chimney repair, and structural fill. In May the bill was \$73,358.42, with a large part of the cost due to the concrete foundation and masonry work. At the time of this report, the latest bill arrived in September. The largest expenditures of the \$47,843.65 bill covered \$30,302.28 in landscaping cost, \$10,023.48 in profit and overhead, and other miscellaneous items.

#### Summary of Construction Cost by Year

2019 (Fiscal Year February 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020)	\$32,432.88
2020 (Fiscal Year February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021)	\$185,445.85
2021 (Fiscal Year February 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022)	\$319,457.69

**Total** ..... **\$537,336.42**

# CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

## Part 2: Sources of Funding

### **LCEF Operating Results (Accrued and reallocated by the Board of Directors)**

**\$266,707.86**

In 2019, funding for ULC construction came exclusively from LCEF Operating Results with a total of \$32,432.88. In 2020, \$62,237.12 were used for ULC, while in 2021, \$204,470.74 were expended. The LCEF Operating (accrued funds) were exhausted by July 7, 2021.

### **Congregational Receipts**

**\$149,741.61**

Funds from congregational receipts making up the District's general operating funds, were used extensively during 2020. Beginning in June, these funds were directed to both SkyCastle and Rodwin architecture for the final phase of Asbestos abatement, demolition, architecture, structural investigation and building permits.

### **Other Funds (Redeemer-Denver, Holy Cross-Hugo)**

**\$114,986.95**

When the property for Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Hugo was sold, the proceeds (\$38,600) were used to finance construction work at University Lutheran Chapel as directed by the Board. These funds covered additional bills (\$15,950.32) from Rodwin in early March of 2021. In April, SkyCastle construction costs (\$22,649.68) were also covered by the Hugo sale proceeds. In July, \$40,000 from the closed congregation at Redeemer-Denver was allocated to cover additional ULC construction costs. These funds were exhausted by early October 2021.

### **Designated Donations**

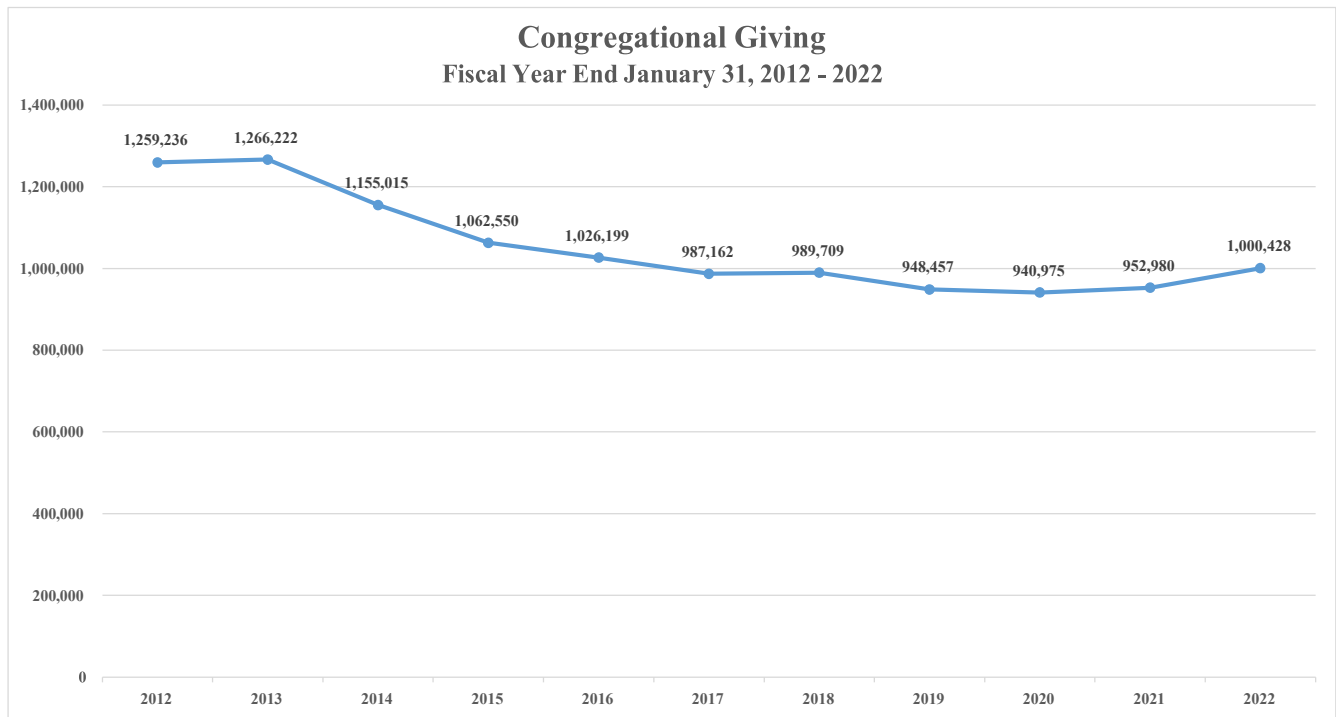
**\$5,900.00**

In November 2020 Eternal Savior Lutheran Church in Lafayette, Colorado contributed \$4,900 specifically for ULC Maintenance and Repairs. In December of 2020, Eternal Savior sent a second donation of \$1,000 for ULC Maintenance and Repairs. In November 2020, these funds were used to pay for legal services related to ULC Maintenance and Repairs (\$1,086.00) and SkyCastle costs (\$3,814.00). In February 2021, funds were used (\$1,000) for Skycastle expenses.

### **Summary of Construction Sources of Funding**

LCEF Operating Results (Accrued).....	\$266,707.86
Congregational Receipts .....	\$149,741.61
Other Funds (Redeemer, Hugo) .....	\$114,986.95
Designated Donations .....	\$5,900.00

**Total..... \$537,336.42**





# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Rocky Mountain District Congregational Giving by Circuit Fiscal Year End January 31 for 2019 – 2021 Triennium

<b>Denver Northeast Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Gethsemane - Northglenn	0	239	239
Zion - Brighton	64,009	50,398	50,724
Our Savior - Commerce City	100	0	0
Cordero de Dios - Denver	500	200	0
Faith Lutheran - Denver	1,500	1,500	500
Resurrection in the City - Denver	4,200	0	10,000
Mt Zion - Denver	2,400	2,400	2,200
St Andrew - Denver	0	0	0
Grace - Hudson	0	1,000	0
Summit of Peace - Thornton	0	0	0
Christ Our Redeemer - Bennett	2,500	1,000	1,000
<b>Denver Northeast Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$75,209</b>	<b>\$56,737</b>	<b>\$64,663</b>

<b>Denver Southeast Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Hope - Aurora	12,000	12,000	12,000
Mt Olive - Aurora	18,252	13,964	10,212
Peace With Christ - Aurora	4,847	4,797	5,428
Epiphany - Castle Rock	10,290	8,910	9,000
Mt Zion - Castle Rock	1,500	1,500	1,500
Our Father - Centennial	34,000	34,000	34,000
Christ - Denver	16,004	16,004	16,006
University Hills - Denver	1,200	1,200	1,200
Elizabeth - Christ Our Saviour	0	0	0
Trinity - Franktown	12,000	12,000	12,100
Grace - Parker	0	0	0
Acts Church - Aurora	0	0	0
<b>Denver Southeast Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$110,093</b>	<b>\$104,375</b>	<b>\$101,446</b>

<b>Eastern High Plains Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Immanuel - Arriba	500	500	675
Trinity - Burlington	3,000	0	0
Grace - Cheyenne Wells	1,000	1,125	1,400
Zion - Flagler	1,310	1,890	865
Trinity - Genoa	600	600	2,100
Holy Cross - Hugo	0	0	0
Trinity - Kit Carson	0	0	0
Grace - Lamar	0	0	0
<b>Eastern High Plains Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$6,410</b>	<b>\$4,115</b>	<b>\$5,040</b>

<b>Northeast Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Trinity - Akron	300	310	300
St Paul - Amherst	8,100	8,000	8,000
Trinity - Ft. Morgan	6,000	6,000	6,000
Immanuel - Haxtun	0	0	0
Zion - Holyoke	50,856	56,484	58,176
St Paul's - Julesburg	8,625	7,500	7,500
First English - Sterling	1,393	1,670	390
Trinity - Sterling	14,851	14,715	14,551
St Paul - Venango	1,200	1,200	1,200
Calvary - Wray	17,176	16,620	15,593
St John's - Yuma	16,161	16,918	17,279
Zion Ev. - Big Springs	7,105	1,000	1,000
<b>Northeast Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$131,767</b>	<b>\$130,417</b>	<b>\$129,989</b>

<b>Pikes Peak Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Faith - Buena Vista	3,300	3,800	2,750
Family of Christ - Monument	0	1,000	500
Holy Cross - CO Sprgs	20,549	21,321	20,898
Immanuel - CO Sprgs	2,000	2,217	2,000
Redeemer - CO Sprgs	9,697	24,559	26,346
Resurrection - CO Sprgs	1,200	1,200	1,300
Rock of Ages - CO Sprgs	28,800	28,800	28,800
Family of Faith - Falcon	2,000	172	550
Good Shepherd - Leadville	0	0	0
First - Salida	0	0	0
Faith - Woodland Park	11,067	9,280	10,507
<b>Pikes Peak Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$78,613</b>	<b>\$92,349</b>	<b>\$93,651</b>

<b>Denver Northwest Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
King of Kings - Arvada	0	0	0
Peace - Arvada	36,012	41,623	70,431
Risen Christ - Arvada	1,000	1,000	1,000
Shepherd of the Rockies - Bailey	3,325	4,000	2,145
Christ - Breckenridge	250	225	2,400
Mt Hope - Evergreen	0	0	0
St Luke's - Golden	2,600	2,600	1,950
New Hope - Golden	0	0	200
Bethlehem - Lakewood	0	0	100
Concordia - Lakewood	4,125	4,875	3,450
Wheat Ridge - Wheat Ridge	12,000	12,526	12,000
<b>Denver Northwest Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$59,312</b>	<b>\$66,849</b>	<b>\$93,676</b>

<b>Denver Southwest Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Shepherd of the Hills - Centennial	5,500	8,250	11,458
Redeemer - Denver	0	0	1,000
St John's - Denver	0	1,100	1,600
Trinity - Denver	1,000	1,000	0
Immanuel - Englewood	4,000	4,000	4,000
Holy Cross - Highlands Ranch	10,000	9,583	15,000
Ascension - Littleton	27,685	22,319	24,639
Hosanna - Littleton	0	0	0
<b>Denver Southwest Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$48,185</b>	<b>\$46,252</b>	<b>\$57,697</b>

<b>Four Corners Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Trinity - Cortez	0	0	1,500
St Paul - Durango	9,000	9,250	11,000
Zion - Farmington	15,167	12,833	2,497
Trinity - Gallup	1,955	2,485	3,580
Shepherd of the Valley - Navajo	15	0	100
Shepherd of the Desert - Page	0	0	0
Our Savior - Pagosa Springs	1,624	1,631	1,941
<b>Four Corners Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$27,761</b>	<b>\$26,199</b>	<b>\$20,618</b>

<b>Long's Peak Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Mt Calvary - Estes Park	13,450	14,050	16,840
Peace With Christ - Ft. Collins	13,660	22,592	17,153
Redeemer - Ft. Collins	15,000	15,000	15,000
St John's - Ft. Collins	6,000	6,500	5,500
Gloria Christi - Greeley	1,000	1,000	375
Trinity - Greeley	20,233	20,729	10,811
Faith - Johnstown	2,500	3,000	2,500
Immanuel - Loveland	0	0	0
Mt Olive - Loveland	12,650	13,233	12,463
<b>Long's Peak Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$84,493</b>	<b>\$96,104</b>	<b>\$80,642</b>

<b>Pecos Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Immanuel - Carlsbad	2,000	2,650	2,650
Immanuel - Clovis	3,845	4,827	4,995
Immanuel - Artesia	0	0	0
Grace - Hobbs	3,000	0	3,000
Our Savior - Lovington	1,200	1,300	1,200
Faith in Christ - Portales	903	150	0
Immanuel - Roswell	6,000	6,000	6,000
Shepherd of the Hills - Ruidoso	2,000	0	2,500
<b>Pecos Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$18,948</b>	<b>\$14,927</b>	<b>\$20,345</b>

<b>Rio Grande Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Trinity - Alamogordo	18,549	17,409	18,309
Redeemer - Deming	0	0	0
Ascension - El Paso	17,654	18,297	17,522
Cross Point - El Paso	13,000	11,206	5,500
Grace - El Paso	0	0	0
San Pablo - El Paso	0	0	618
Zion - El Paso	750	750	1,000
Mission - Las Cruces	13,200	12,100	12,500
Messiah - Silver City	0	0	0
St Johns - Truth/Consequences	0	0	0
Faith - Las Cruces	0	1,100	0
<b>Rio Grande Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$63,153</b>	<b>\$60,862</b>	<b>\$55,449</b>

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Rocky Mountain District Congregational Giving by Circuit Fiscal Year End January 31 for 2019 – 2021 Triennium

<b>Rocky Flats Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Mt Hope - Boulder	9,000	9,750	9,413
Mt Zion - Boulder	6,000	0	0
Beautiful Savior - Broomfield	136	392	0
Risen Savior - Broomfield	1,100	3,208	6,000
Mt Calvary - Ft. Lupton	15,201	13,925	14,421
Eternal Savior - Lafayette	15,000	16,167	14,167
Christ Our Savior - Longmont	3,000	5,000	3,750
Messiah - Longmont	0	0	0
<b>Rocky Flats Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$49,437</b>	<b>\$48,442</b>	<b>\$47,751</b>

<b>Sandia South Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Immanuel - Albuquerque	33,000	36,000	33,000
Our Savior - Albuquerque	600	600	120
Redeemer - Albuquerque	0	12,166	505
Mt Calvary - Grants	300	300	300
Christ the King - Los Lunas	0	0	0
Calvary - Rio Rancho	1,000	1,000	1,085
Hope - Socorro	500	500	500
<b>Sandia South Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$35,400</b>	<b>\$50,566</b>	<b>\$35,510</b>

<b>Utah Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Cross of Christ - Bountiful	2,283	1,000	833
Trinity - Cedar City	600	800	200
Trinity - Layton	0	0	0
Mt Zion - Kanab	100	239	0
Holy Trinity - Logan	8,800	8,800	8,800
Christ - Murray	0	0	0
St Paul - Ogden	11,000	11,000	10,083
St Mark's - Provo	0	0	0
Good Shepherd - Richfield	0	0	0
Redeemer - Salt Lake City	8,000	0	8,000
St John - Salt Lake City	3,500	0	0
Grace - Sandy	0	700	1,300
Trinity - St. George	8,002	8,004	8,542
First - Tooele	0	0	0
Grace - Moab	0	0	0
Holy Trinity - Riverton	3,275	6,793	10,313
<b>Utah Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$45,560</b>	<b>\$37,336</b>	<b>\$48,071</b>

<b>Sandia North Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Christ - Albuquerque	11,075	8,972	8,991
Faith in Christ - Albuquerque	3,600	3,600	3,600
Grace - Albuquerque	9,000	9,250	11,000
Christ Our Savior - Angel Fire	0	0	0
Prince of Peace - Cedar Crest	0	0	0
Good Shepherd - Edgewood	19,431	19,104	17,603
Immanuel - Las Vegas	0	1,800	0
Immanuel - Santa Fe	6,050	6,650	7,200
Immanuel - Springer	0	0	0
Sangre de Cristo - Taos	0	0	1,000
Redeemer - Los Alamos	2,400	2,400	2,520
<b>Sandia North Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$51,556</b>	<b>\$51,776</b>	<b>\$51,914</b>

<b>Sangre de Cristo Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Trinity - Alamosa	0	0	3,000
St John - Canon City	7,500	8,770	9,843
Trinity - La Junta	0	0	0
St Peter - Monte Vista	2,966	1,984	1,800
Bethany - Pueblo	1,200	1,200	1,200
Trinity - Pueblo	6,308	5,000	5,000
Our Savior's - Pueblo West	4,750	4,750	3,750
St Peter's - Rocky Ford	0	0	0
Grace - Sugar City	0	0	0
Hope - Westcliffe	0	0	0
<b>Sangre de Cristo Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$22,724</b>	<b>\$21,704</b>	<b>\$24,593</b>

<b>Western Circuit</b>	<b>FYE 2019</b>	<b>FYE 2020</b>	<b>FYE 2021</b>
Faith - Carbondale	2,500	0	0
Faith - Craig	1,689	1,046	1,540
Redeemer - Delta	16,500	9,900	8,100
Gracious Savior - Edwards	0	0	0
Messiah - Grand Junction	972	0	15,099
Mt Calvary - Gunnison	0	3,000	0
Christ - Montrose	0	3,000	0
Hope - Montrose	0	0	0
Immanuel - Paonia	1,000	1,000	0
Emmanuel - Rifle	8,700	8,700	7,975
Concordia - Steamboat Springs	5,250	5,250	5,250
Our Savior - Vernal	2,750	0	1,000
Grace Fellowship - Gypsum	250	250	250
<b>Western Circuit Totals</b>	<b>\$39,611</b>	<b>\$32,146</b>	<b>\$39,214</b>

# DEBT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Educational debt is an issue that impacts pastors and other church workers. Pastors can accrue significant debt from undergraduate and seminary study. This can add financial stress to a pastor's ministry and impact the length of his stay at a particular congregation.

The potential for significant debt may also deter otherwise qualified men from studying for the pastoral ministry. Although both seminaries of the LCMS announced in 2018 that they will now cover 100% of the tuition for church-work students, there are still non-tuition expenses such as housing and food, insurance, books, supplies, and fees.

Since 1998, the Rocky Mountain District's Debt Assistance Program (DAP) has assisted District pastors with their educational debt. In the last four years, \$12,519 was distributed to 17 pastors in 2018, \$14,511 was distributed to 13 pastors in 2019, \$16,663 was distributed to 8 pastors in 2020, and \$18,591 to 17 pastors in 2021.

The average educational debt of the program changes from year to year. Previous applicants that re-apply to the program see their debts decrease, while the addition of new pastors to the program can increase the overall program average. The average educational debt per applicant was \$20,280 in 2019, \$17,879 in 2020 and \$23,835 in 2021.

Due to gifts and interest, the endowment fund balance, which stood at \$438,951 on 1/31/2018, increased to \$445,982 on 1/31/2019, and \$448,232 on 1/31/2020. Due to economic conditions which adversely affected investments, the fund contracted to \$444,008 on 1/31/2021.

During the last four years since the last District Convention, we thank God for His blessings through the faithful donations of Gordon and Karen Wagner, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, congregational women's groups; and finally, all the personal individual donors, who help the Rocky Mountain District assist the pastors of today and tomorrow.

# SCHOLARSHIP GRANT REPORT

The Rocky Mountain District is blessed to provide tuition assistance in the form of grants, to students who are members of the district, attending any Concordia University or Seminary. Tuition assistance is primarily made through endowment funding from generous families and individuals who name the Rocky Mountain District Scholarship Fund as benefactor. Tuition assistance is primarily for applicants whose academic studies are in areas where they become future church workers; pastors, educators, DCE's and similar professions. Grants are typically awarded in July prior to the academic year.

## **Academic Year 2018 – 2019**

Grants Sent to Both Seminaries: \$31,690

Grants Sent to Various Concordia Universities: \$11,629

## **Academic Year 2019 – 2020**

Grants Sent to Both Seminaries: \$35,880

Grants Sent to Various Concordia Universities: \$ 11,814

## **Academic Year 2020 – 2021**

Grants Sent to Both Seminaries: \$28,990

Grants Sent to Various Concordia Universities: \$10,464

## **Academic Year 2021 – 2022**

Grants Sent to Both Seminaries: \$34,358

Grants Sent to Various Concordia Universities: \$7,752

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 1—PECOS

Over the last four years there have been many changes in the Pecos Circuit, and yet the circuit is still characterized by the pastors' camaraderie, the churches' faithfulness to the Scriptures and confessions, and the circuit's desire to see Christ's church thrive in the eastern part of New Mexico.

Like other circuits, the churches in the Pecos Circuit worked diligently to keep the doors of the churches open during the Covid-19 pandemic. With just a few exceptions, the Divine Service with Holy Communion was provided to the saints in eastern New Mexico without hinderance. This was made possible by the quality conversations between pastors and congregations, the bold leadership of the pastors and elders, and the passion to continue to share the Gospel in all its fullness with the saints and communities being served. Praise be to God!

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Clovis: In 2019, the saints in Clovis welcomed Pastor Thomas Reeder Jr. as their new pastor after an extended time of vacancy. Pr. Reeder faithfully serves the saints in Clovis.

Faith in Christ Lutheran Church, Portales: While no extensive changes have occurred, Pastor Gary Piepkorn continues to faithfully serve the saints in Portales.

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, Roswell: After 7 years of faithful service as Head Master and Pastor, Pastor Cholak took a call to Houston, Texas as Assistant Pastor at Our Savior Lutheran Church. After a few short months of vacancy, the saints in Roswell called Pastor Tyler Holt who was installed as Associate Pastor and Head Master May 29, 2022. We celebrate with the saints in Roswell for the faithful service and excellent leadership of Pastor Flamme, who with the elders and school board, did a fantastic job. Over the last 3 years, Immanuel Lutheran School has hosted an in-service day for its teachers. The pastors in the Pecos Circuit served as instructors for which much thanks is given.

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Ruidoso: The most notable change at Shepherd of the Hills is its significant change in lay leadership in the last 3 years. We give thanks for the raising up of faithful men and women, who boldly step into these vital roles of the congregation for its earthly operation and ministry development. Pastor Rust continues to faithfully serve the saints in Ruidoso and visitors from all over.

Grace Lutheran Church, Hobbs and Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lovington: After a vacancy period, the saints in both places called Pastor Kyle Brown from the Seminary. Pastor Brown was ordained and installed on June 23, 2019. Deaconess Brittni Brown was called and commissioned on January 17, 2021. Pastor and Mrs. Brown continue to faithfully serve the saints in Hobbs and Lovington.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Carlsbad and Artesia: After an extended vacancy, the saints in Carlsbad and Artesia called Pastor Karl Wright, who was installed on February 9, 2020. The church in Carlsbad has established a new mission statement: "We are a Christian family, growing on God's Word and sharing the love of Jesus Christ." Pastor Wright continues to faithfully serve these congregations.

Pecos Circuit Forum 2022: Pastor Rust was elected as circuit visitor. Pastor Flamme led a discussion on the Formula of Concord. Two overtures were discussed and submitted to the district.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Rev. Jason S. Rust  
Pecos Circuit Visitor  
Shepherd of the Hills, Ruidoso, NM

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 2—DENVER NORTHWEST

Over the past four years the Denver Northwest circuit pastors have been trying to meet regularly each month at different churches within the circuit. Because of COVID there was about 6 months that we did not meet, as each of the churches in the circuit were working through their unique situations to adapt to the COVID environment. Some of the churches kept their regular services or offered more services with fewer people. Others used the outdoors to offer their services in the parking lot or other open air environments. Many of the churches in the circuit podcasted their services, which resulted in the spread of the Gospel to more people than before. In July, August and September of 2020 the Denver Northwest Circuit tried zoom meetings to get the pastors together and share the ways they were dealing with the COVID situation. The zoom meetings were not well attended so we began meeting again each month in churches that allowed us to meet in their building. For the last year the pastors of the circuit returned to meeting at different churches each month and participated in a worship service, a lunch and Bible Study time, a Book of Concord study, with time for talking about circuit business and general conversation with one another.

During the past four years the Denver Northwest has received three new pastors into the circuit churches. The Salt of the Earth Ministry that has been the Denver Northwest Circuit mission outreach to the unchurched to build missional communities has become more focused in Summit County and has changed its name to Summit Missions. Rev. Larry McGurer, the missionary at large for this mission endeavor, has become the full time pastor of Christ Lutheran in Breckenridge. Each of the churches in our circuit have also been involved in other various mission activities even though there have been more restrictions and precautions being taken to stop the COVID virus from spreading, while trying to spread the Gospel in their community.

At this time we have two congregations in the Denver Northwest Circuit without a full time pastor. One of them is in the process of calling a full time pastor while the other is only able to afford a part time pastors at this time. Peace Lutheran is also in the process of calling a head pastor, as Rev. David Ahlman is going to retire this year. Each of the congregations of Denver Northwest have made adjustments throughout the past four years in dealing with their COVID situations and the economic and social problems of their ministry, while trying to proclaim the truth of God's Word in ways that will reach out to the unique people in their area of the Denver Northwest circuit, which covers Northwest Denver and the mountains all the way to Leadville.

Rev. Pete Scheele  
Denver Northwest Circuit Visitor  
Shepherd of the Rockies, Bailey, CO

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 3—DENVER SOUTHWEST

**Ascension Lutheran Church in Littleton, Colorado**, has seen quite a few changes to staff, facility, and congregation in the last four years. The retirements of Administrative Assistant, Kathie Harvey; Director of Education and Youth, Kathy Johnson; and Custodian, Jim Mullane, concluded long-term faithful ministries at Ascension. Beginning in 2020 and concluding in 2021 the congregation renovated the Educational Wing of our building, the first major renovation since it was originally built in 1956. The education and music ministries, our preschool and administrative offices will benefit from this remodeling project.

As this year of 2022 begins some new faces will help lead us in various areas of ministry and service. Stephanie Roettjer is our Director of Christian Education, Dawn Munson serves as our Administrative Assistant, and a variety of folks help with property management. The congregational membership seems to be in change, but we have seen many new faces worshipping and serving our Lord in many capacities. God has been good to this place in these years.

Submitted by Pastor John Larson- Ascension Lutheran, Littleton, CO

### **Holy Cross (not submitted)**

Rev. Bruce Skelton  
Highlands Ranch, CO

### **Hosannah (not submitted)**

Rev. Greg Peters  
Littleton, CO

### **Immanuel Lutheran Church**

During the past four years God has richly blessed the saints of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church in Englewood, Colorado, by the offering of the Lord's Supper during each Divine Service beginning in 2018; the relaunching of Sunday School and the retirement of all debt in 2018; the call and installation of a full-time pastor in 2019; the relaunching of youth confirmation classes in 2020; and the formation of a church choir in 2021. In 2022, Immanuel will confirm its first youth since 2008.

Submitted by Pastor Jim Tuell- Immanuel, Englewood, CO

### **Redeemer Lutheran**

Closed 2021

### **Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**

The joys and blessings of service dedicated to our Lord Jesus have continually proved abundant in the life of Shepherd of the Hills these past four years. While there have been many challenges and hardships, along with the impact of the COVID pandemic, Shepherd of the Hills gives thanks to God for the gifts bestowed on our congregation.

2019 was a year of reckoning for Shepherd of the Hills Christian School going into the COVID pandemic in March of 2020. No longer was our day-school viable from a financial perspective despite the nearly \$1M injected into the school over the course of the previous eight years out of congregational reserves. The congregation of Shepherd of the Hills voted to close the day-school in mid-January, 2020. Sadness and the feeling of defeat over the loss of the school was only intensified by the COVID shutdown. Yet, the blessing our congregation received was the opportunity to use the pandemic time to consider new innovations to our governance structure, a review of our financial practices, the upgrade of our technology, and other considerations. Shepherd reviewed policies and processes as we prepared for the post-COVID time. We communed our congregation in small groups and had the opportunity to visit with our members in ways we never would have if not for the pandemic. The realization of not being able to be together for Divine Service, Bible study, and the simplest things like coffee and goodies reminded us all of the gift of fellowship "in-person" that was so easy to take-for-granted previously.

The last four years also marked the retirement s of long-time staff members at Shepherd beginning in the fall of 2021. Shepherd was blessed with a new Accountant,



# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 3—DENVER SOUTHWEST—Cont...

Business Administrator, Office Assistant, Director of Buildings and Grounds along with a new assistant. We also said goodbye to our DCE who we seek to replace. Once again, God has blessed us with wonderfully talented and dedicated people to fill all of these posts. We praise God for these blessings. As we slowly emerge from the pandemic it is evident God has sustained our congregation by His Word and blessed Sacraments.

2021 saw the development of Shepherd's third Strategic Plan since 2008. In that plan we are looking to engage our membership on a deeper basis, develop a culture of personal evangelism, continue and grow our support of missions, and manage the resource of our building. Shepherd's Early Learning Center is a high priority as we seek to witness the Gospel to pre-school age kids and their families. The management of all of life and life's resources to the glory of God is our desire and we are excited for the opportunities and challenges ahead in 2022 and beyond.

Throughout the past four years the hard challenges Shepherd has faced have been met with the good gifts and great blessings God has promised. The Gospel always gives hope and optimism and we look forward in excited anticipation for what God will do next at Shepherd of the Hills.

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Brad Stoltenow;  
Rev. Greg Zillinger -Shepherd of the Hills, Centennial, CO  
Denver, CO

Rev. Greg Zillinger  
Denver Southwest Circuit  
Shepherd of the Hills- Centennial, CO

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 4—LONG'S PEAK

The Longs Peak circuit consists of nine congregations in the northern front range of Colorado.

Faith, Johnstown (Pr. Brandon Ross)  
Gloria Christi, Greeley (Pr. Steve Weiss)  
Immanuel, Loveland (Pr. Glen Schlecht)  
Mt. Calvary, Estes Park (Vacant - Calling)  
Mt. Olive, Loveland (Pr. Mark Nierman)  
Peace With Christ Lutheran, Fort Collins (Pr. David Magruder)  
Redeemer Lutheran, Fort Collins and Greeley (Prs. Tim Runtsch, Scott Coerber, Caleb Cox, and Samuel Sessa)  
St. John's Lutheran, Fort Collins (Pr. Shawn Nettleton)  
Trinity, Greeley (Vacant - Calling)

The Longs Peak Circuit regularly meets for winkel on the third Tuesday of the month from 9am to noon. We gather for worship, an exegetical study and Lutheran Confessions study or another topical study. We also regularly gather with six other circuits every spring for a regional conference, however, the COVID19 pandemic prevented our regional conference for two years. The close proximity of our congregations has often allowed many opportunities for members to participate and engage in theological discussions at hosted events. This too has been difficult to maintain. The fellowship among our congregations has been greatly missed and I pray for an increase in such activities in the future.

Throughout the COVID19 pandemic, the congregations of the Longs Peak Circuit have been blessed with faithful pastors and laity who recognized the importance of gathering around God's Word and Sacrament.

In the early days of the pandemic, as news of closing "non-essential" businesses and an order to not gather in groups larger than ten was issued, the pastors of our nine congregations met in person at our winkel to discuss the situation. Nobody liked the idea of not gathering in the Lord's House for Worship, even for the two week time which was the request at that time. However, out of respect for our governing authorities and in concern for our neighbor, we agreed to find other ways to proclaim God's Word for a time. Some congregations utilized live streaming technology for God's people to participate in worship from home. Other congregations offered video or audio recordings for people to access online.

As the shutdown continued beyond two weeks, it created growing concerns over how congregations should respond. It was not right to forsake the regular gathering in the Divine Service, yet gathering safely was important. No single answer fit the needs of every congregation. Each pastor, in consultation with his lay leadership, determined how to best open up and resume regular services. Many congregations held multiple services throughout the weeks so that gatherings remained small. Pews were spaced apart to allow for social distancing. Some congregations reduced singing or opted to have spoken services. Other congregations continued singing as normal. Some congregations maintained their current communion distribution practice, offering both individual and common cup, choosing only to soak the purificator in high grain alcohol to increase sanitation. Some congregations chose to offer only individual cups for a time. Still others made use of prepackaged communion kits, and even started to offer virtual communion for people to participate at home. Some congregation held strictly to the mask mandate issued by the governor. Other congregations chose not to enforce the mask mandate.

Each congregation made decisions that seemed best according to their needs so that ministry could continue even during difficult circumstances. That is not to say that all decisions were right or good. All of us were faced with tough decisions and I rejoice that in so many ways God's people were charitable, kind and patient with one another. As the dust settles I pray that we may examine these events in the light of God's Word, and by that Word lead us to repentance and faith to remain steadfast in His Word during difficult times, and proclaim the saving work of Jesus clearly to all people.

Rev. Mark Nierman  
Long's Peak Circuit Visitor  
Mount Olive - Loveland, CO

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 5—SANDIA NORTH

The Sandia North Circuit consists of 11 congregations located in north central New Mexico. The congregations (year established and current pastors) in northeast Albuquerque are *Christ Lutheran Church & School* (1960, Rev. Eric Robinson); *Faith in Christ Lutheran Church* (1978, Rev. Jordan Schaller); *Grace Lutheran Church* (1985, Rev. Warren Graff). In the East Mountain area just east of Albuquerque are *Prince of Peace Lutheran Church* in Cedar Crest (1984, Rev. Michael Feuer; associate Pastor, Rev. Doyle Boykin); *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church* in Edgewood (1988, Rev. Philip Spomer). Farther north (*del Norte*) are *Immanuel Lutheran Church* in Santa Fe (1938, Rev. Douglas K. Escue); *Redeemer Lutheran Church*, in Los Alamos (2008, Rev. Dr. Brian Kachelmeier); *Immanuel Lutheran Church*, Las Vegas (1921, served by emeritus Pastor, Rev. Donald Neidigk); three congregations: *Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church* in Angel Fire (1982), *Sangre de Cristo Lutheran Church* in Taos (1993) and *Immanuel Lutheran Church* in Springer (1950) are served by emeritus Pastor, Rev. Monte Gusewelle. Seven of these congregations are served by full-time Pastors; four congregations are served by a total of two-part Pastors. These congregations consist of a combined communicant membership of xx. Christ/Albuquerque operates a parochial school (pre-K through 8th grade); Grace/Albuquerque and Immanuel/Santa Fe sponsor Pre-kindergarten schools. Prince of Peace/Cedar Crest closed its parochial school and preschool in 2020. Christ/Albuquerque continues to operate its God Cares about You human care ministry.

Congregations of the Sandia North circuit have been faithful during the “Covid-19” era, many of them providing virtual video and audio conferencing (Zoom) to its members. Notable events during the past 2019-2022 extended triennium include the retirement of Rev. Neal Groeling, Christ/Albuquerque in Aug. 2021 and Rev. Phillip Quarles, Sangre de Cristo/Taos, Christ our Savior/Angel Fire and Immanuel/Springer in June 2021. Christ/Albuquerque was blessed to call and install Rev. Eric Robinson in Feb. 2022. Other noteworthy activities include the 30th anniversary celebration of Rev. Douglas Escue as Pastor of Immanuel/Santa Fe (April 2021); Rev. Brian Kachelmeier of Redeemer/Los Alamos received a Doctor of Ministry degree from CtS/Ft. Wayne in 2021; two members of Grace/Albuquerque are currently enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at CtS/Ft. Wayne; In January 2022, Faith in Christ/Albuquerque and Redeemer Lutheran Church (Sandia South Circuit) became a dual parish.

While existing as two separate circuits, the Sandia North and Sandia South circuits continue to meet jointly for substantive monthly Winkels (Pastors’ meetings) September through May for study, worship, discussion and sharing, as well as for circuit forums and joint ministry endeavors. Grace/Albuquerque sponsors summer continuing Seminary classes.

May the Lord Jesus continue to bless the proclamation and administration of the Holy Gospel among his people in the Sandia North circuit.

Rev. Douglas K. Escue  
Sandia North Circuit Visitor  
Immanuel - Santa Fe, NM

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 6—SANGRE DE CRISTO

### **Trinity Alamosa – Rev. Jason Cody**

After 20 years of leading Trinity Alamosa, Rev. Karl Wright left the congregation in 2017. Rev. Cody was installed as an assistant pastor in 2015; and then with Rev. Wright's departure, Rev. Cody was installed as senior/ pastor on January 19, 2020.

### **St. Peter Monte Vista – Rev. Robert Hauter**

Rev. Don Stults faithfully shepherded St. Peter for 18 years before accepting a call to Washington State in June of 2021. After several months of vacancy, Rev. Hauter was installed as an intentional interim pastor who will lead the congregation for the next 18-24 months as they conduct a congregational self-study and begin the call process. Through this transition and the effects of the pandemic, the school at St. Peter's has closed.

### **Hope Westcliffe – Rev. Dan Kletke**

Rev. Lyle Stuehrenberg (retired) faithfully served the vacancy at Hope for almost 5 years since Rev. Richard von Steinmann left in 2016. In November of 2021, Rev. Dan Kletke of Cañon City assumed the vacancy responsibilities. 2022 will mark the congregation's sesquicentennial (150 year) milestone.

### **St. John Cañon City – Rev. Dan Kletke (Circuit Visitor)**

Rev. Dan Kletke celebrated 10 years at St. John in December of 2021. Since the last convention, the congregation has built and dedicated a new fellowship hall, remodeled the rest of the facility, and installed a new organ.

### **Bethany Pueblo & Our Savior Pueblo West – Rev. Nicholas Shults**

Rev. Ed Maanum served Bethany & Our Savior for over 10 years until he accepted a call to Tennessee in May of 2020. Rev. Harold Baldwin (retired) faithfully filled the vacancy at the dual parish for almost 18 months until Rev. Shults accepted the call and was installed on October 24, 2021.

### **Trinity Pueblo – Rev. Randy Bolt**

Trinity is faithfully led by Rev. Bolt who in September of 2021 marked 25 years at the congregation. In 2019, the congregation and school worked with Leah Abel to develop a strategic ministry plan to help us better minister to our community". Taylor Wheeler, DCE, accepted a call to Minnesota North District. The school survived Covid and is growing once again.

### **St. Peter Rocky Ford – Rev. Kelly Leary**

St. Peter has been vacant for several years. The vacancy is now served by Rev. Leary who works full-time as a chaplain at the Crowley County Correctional Facility.

### **Trinity La Junta – Rev. Rick Miller**

Trinity is faithfully served by Rev. Miller who celebrated 10 years at the congregation in October of 2021.

Rev. Dan Kletke  
Sangre de Cristo Circuit Visitor

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 7—NORTHEAST

Brothers and sisters in Christ, attendees of the 2022 Rocky Mountain District Convention, greetings to you in the name of our crucified and risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

The Northeast Circuit is comprised of twelve congregations, two of which are located in Nebraska. One of the Circuit congregations is non-calling and served by a pastor who is ordained in and a member of TAALC (The American Association of Lutheran Churches) with whom the LCMS has had altar and pulpit fellowship since our 63<sup>rd</sup> Regular Convention, held on July 16, 2007. There are two dual-parish congregations in the Circuit: St. Pauls, Julesburg, CO and Zion, Big Springs, NE; also St. Pauls, Amherst, CO and St. Pauls, Venango, NE.

At the 48<sup>th</sup> RMD Convention in 2009 with the introduction of the first graduates from the Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute, El Paso, Texas by Executive Director Rev. Richard Schlak, the Holy Spirit planted a seed. The planting of that seed grew into what was to become the Northeast Circuit Hispanic Outreach (NECHO). NECHO had its official beginning with the call to and the installation of Rev. Armenio Pineros as its first missionary on February 12, 2012. Pastor Pineros was called to the Circuit through Trinity, Sterling, CO and first established a Hispanic worshipping community there. In 2016 Pastor Pineros began outreach activities in the largely Hispanic populated community of Holyoke, CO. We in the Northeast Circuit are so thankful and blessed to have had Rev. Armenio Pineros as part of our Circuit until his retirement in January of 2017.

Again, by the blessing and guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Northeast Circuit extended a Call to and installed Rev. Pedro Jofre on March 12, 2017 as the NECHO missionary to continue the work begun by Pastor Pineros. On March 25, 2018 Pastor Jofre's wife Erica Jofre was commissioned and installed as Deaconess serving alongside her husband in NECHO. On a given Sunday roughly 30 souls are worshipping at Trinity, Sterling and 40 are worshipping at Zion, Holyoke. Pastor and Deaconess Jofre also lead catechesis, Bible Studies, ESL and Spanish as a Second Language classes at Sterling and Holyoke. Pastor Jofre has established himself well within the Hispanic community at both locations. Praise to the Lord!

As of February 1, 2022, the Northeast Circuit is as follows:

**Trinity, Fort Morgan, CO** is vacant and Calling.

**Trinity, Sterling, CO** is served by Rev. James Nash.

**First English, Sterling, CO** is served by Rev. Richard von Steinman.

**Northeast Circuit Hispanic Outreach (NECHO)** is served by Rev. Pedro and Deaconess Erica Jofre who submitted: My name is Pedro, we come with my family from Argentina and 5 years ago I was called to serve in northeast Colorado, and for me it has been an incredible experience, seeing how God is raising up his chosen ones showing his saving power in small towns but where it is also necessary to do the task of evangelism. Working with this circuit has taught me how God blesses the unity of the Church even if we speak in another language and I give thanks for being able to be part of the history of what God is doing in this town. The power of the gospel bringing life through the cross and the act of love that Jesus had with us is a beautiful thing.

**St. Pauls and Zion, Julesburg, CO and Big Springs, NE** are served by Rev. Trenton D. Christensen. Julesburg is the site of an Orphan Grain Train warehouse where the members of St. Paul, and volunteers from surrounding communities are active in the receiving, sorting, and shipping of clothing and materials to the needy around the world. Since the 1980's St. Pauls has had a midweek program for 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup> grades. In the fall of 2017 Zion began its own midweek program. Thanks to a grant from LCEF, St. Pauls was able to purchase and install hi-def video equipment in January for recording and posting of services on YouTube just prior to the March COVID suspension of public gatherings.

**Immanuel, Haxtun, CO** is served by Rev. Timothy Hahn who was installed as pastor on October 3, 2021.

**Zion, Holyoke, CO** is served by Rev. Gary Rahe who submitted: Zion, like all congregations with the circuit and district, found the pandemic a very challenging time. Prior to the beginning of the shutdown, we were in the midst of a renovation project. Our committee had been meeting about a year and a half

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 7—NORTHEAST— cont...

and were about to make a report to the congregation about a recommended project. That all was suspended.

We went virtual as soon as the Covid shutdown occurred. Our governor and county commissioners allowed meeting again the last Sunday in May, and we were prepared to begin with two services that Sunday. Prior to that time, I had individuals and families coming in for 20-minute services with Holy Communion every Thursday through Saturday. Each week during the shutdown we recorded a service which was uploaded to YouTube. We still continue to do this.

We are back to full activity and are now preparing for a renovation and maybe even a building of new facilities. Time will tell just where God wants us to go.

We were blessed as His family during these troubled times. We look forward to where He will guide us as we continue service to His Church.

**St. Pauls and St. Pauls, Amherst, CO and Venango, NE** are served by Rev. Kurt Hatteberg.

**Trinity, Akron, CO** (non-calling) is served by Rev. Scott Beeker, St. Paul, Otis, CO (TAALC).

**St. Johns, Yuma, CO** is served by Rev. Dennis Fitzpatrick who has submitted: Word and Sacrament ministry continues faithfully in Yuma this past year. Worship has returned to closer than pandemic levels of 2020. It was a learning year as we began many of those programs that COVID lockdowns had interrupted: Wednesday night supper and Bible study, alongside Confirmation and Youth Night. We are again, working to bring Hispanic Ministry to our area as this becomes an ever-increasing need to our diverse area.

**Calvary, Wray, CO** was served by Rev. Timothy Davis whose last Sunday was January 23, 2022 who has submitted: Over the last 3 years Calvary has been active in sharing the Good News of Salvation in Jesus Christ to the community of Wray, Yuma County, the state of Colorado, and around the world. We continue our work with the local food pantry providing items that are not included in their purchasing agreement with the state. Calvary takes up a collection for many bathroom toiletries and other products that are non-food items to be distributed to the local families in need. In January of 2020 the Calvary Mission Team returned to Uganda with M.O.S.T. ministries to distribute water filters and teach about the gift of Baptism. We are currently planning a return trip in 2023. In 2019 Reverend Dr. Richard Stuckwisch joined us for our free conference in the spring and on March 5, 2022 Reverend Dr. Joel Biermann will be the presenter for our spring free conference with his presentation, "Being Christ's Church in God's World".

Also among the Circuit Pastors are the retired Rev. Lawrence J. Dye, Rev. Kraig Gilkey, and Rev. Albert L. Kasten Sr..

To God be the glory as the pastors and congregants of the Northeast Circuit of the Rocky Mountain District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod receive His blessings of the forgiveness, of sins, life and salvation purchased with the blood of Jesus Christ and dispensed through Word and Sacrament! By His grace alone we will continue to proclaim Christ crucified and risen to ALL people in our area of God's Kingdom.

Rev. Trenton D. Christensen  
Northeast Circuit Visitor  
St. Pauls and Zion- Julesburg, CO and Big Springs, NE



# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 8—UTAH

Holy Trinity in Logan continues to serve the Utah State University. The congregation currently is experiencing a pastoral vacancy, but they are working with the district and anticipate receiving a shepherd in God's time, according to His will.

St. Paul's in Ogden replaced the sanctuary roof, and future plans call for further roof repairs. Membership and giving have increased recently, and the congregation continues to host the circuit Reformation service and dinner, which everyone enjoys. The daycare was closed, due to a lack of available workers, but there are plans to reopen soon.

Redeemer in Salt Lake City is in the process of accreditation for their growing school. Classes are reopened through 8th grade, and the congregation started a daycare which is in demand.

St. John's in downtown Salt Lake City is the mother church of Utah Lutheranism. Sudanese ministry, added in 1997, continues today. Paul Chuol completed EIIT and was ordained as the Sudanese ministry pastor (associate). St. John's daycare completed the purchase of an additional location and now operates four accredited centers.

Cross of Christ in Bountiful is no longer able to afford a full-time pastor and is served now by the worker-priest pastor of First Lutheran in Tooele. The congregations work well together and are able to continue with Sunday morning services and Bible studies.

Christ Lutheran in Murray is now served by a pastor placed by the Board of Assignments through the Ft. Wayne seminary. The congregation currently is enjoying a steady, consistent trickle of new members that is very encouraging.

Grace Lutheran increased membership and school enrollment. A new PreK-2 program opened in September of 2021 had a waiting list by December, sparking a buildout to add classroom space. Mission work expanded to the Navajo Nation, Bahamas, and Kenya, and continues in Haiti. Plans are underway to add trips to Belize and South Sudan.

Holy Trinity in Riverton increased membership and school enrollment. The congregation started a capital campaign to build a new, larger sanctuary with increased street presence. Trinity continues to host summer Continuing Education classes for the circuit, which is a blessing to all. Rob Bennett completed the SMP program and was called through Holy Trinity as circuit missionary to Latter-Day Saints.

St. Mark in Provo disbanded in 2020. But Grace planted a preaching station in Spanish Fork, about 30 minutes away, and some former St. Mark's members have been recovered. New members also have been catechized and received through Grace. The preaching station, after three years, has weekly Bible study and the Divine Service, with an average of 17-22 people in attendance.

Good Shepherd in Richfield was a dual parish with St. Mark's in Provo, and the closure of the latter and retirement of the pastor resulted in an absence of pastoral care at Good Shepherd. Rob Bennett (see Holy Trinity in Riverton, above) has been helping at Good Shepherd, and the Lord is blessing that service. Weekly worship attendance has increased from six to an average of twenty. Last year, there were three child baptisms and one adult confirmation. This year, there already are four adults in catechesis.

Trinity in Cedar City recently started a women's Bible study. New elders have been added, and the board is working on a new evangelism program. Trinity continues to shine the light of the gospel into the surrounding community.

Zion in Kanab closed in 2019. Over time, most of the congregation's children had moved to more urban areas to find work, and the congregation dwindled to about six people, some of whom were retiring or moving on to other areas.

Trinity in St. George has increased school enrollment and is calling a teacher. There are plans for future expansion, and the congregation continues to host the February circuit exegetical

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 8—UTAH—cont...

conference featuring guest speaker, Rev. Dr. James Voelz. The conference is open to pastors and lay people, including those outside the Utah circuit.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Anthony Masinelli  
Circuit Visitor, Utah  
Grace Lutheran Church and School — Sandy, UT

## CIRCUIT 9—WESTERN

By far the biggest news in the Western Circuit during the past 4 years is the start-up of a brand new Church in Montrose. Christ Lutheran Church held their first service the first Sunday of February 2018. They were officially recognized as an LCMS congregation January 12, 2020. Christ Lutheran has not issued a Pastoral call as of December 2020 however there is a very good likelihood of them receiving an SMP candidate soon.

Pastors installed in the Western Circuit in the last 3 years are:

Joshua Schmidt at Messiah, Grand Junction as assistant Pastor 5-3-2018  
Derrick Brown at Our Savior, Vernal Utah as Pastor 6-10-2018  
Joshua Vanderhyde at Faith, Carbondale as Pastor 7-7-2018  
Charles Westby at Emmanuel, Rifle as Pastor 12-23-2018  
John Turner at Faith, Craig as Pastor 5-22-2021

Only one Pastor has received a call elsewhere than the Western Circuit and moved. That being Joshua Schmidt from Messiah, Grand Junction to Monterey, California in December 2021.

Rev. Duane Daeke, Immanuel, Paonia received his Heavenly call home to the Lord Jesus, November 2021. Services were held 12-10-2021 at the Church. Immanuel is currently vacant, and the only congregation vacant at this time in the Western Circuit.

One new school has started in the Western Circuit. Redeemer Lutheran Church of Delta started a new school in the fall of 2021. Currently Kindergarten through Grade 4 are being served.

All Pastors of the Western Circuit are faithfully serving our Lord where He has placed them. We hold winkles monthly by zoom during winter months. Other times we try to meet in person, but distances between Churches are an obstacle that is hard to contend with. We do the best we can.

Rev. Mel Mertens, Emeritus  
Western Circuit Visitor

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 10—RIO GRANDE

CrossPoint-El Paso (Pastor Mike Schuetzler and Pastor Kerry Boone), Grace-El Paso (Vacant), Ascension-El Paso (Pastor Brian Bestian), San Pablo-El Paso (Pastor Karl Heimer and *Vicar* Alex Escarciga (ALTS)), Zion-El Paso (Pastor Steven Heimer), Trinity-Alamogordo (Pastor Bill Heithold), Mission-Las Cruces (Pastor Andrew Cave), Messiah-Silver City (Pastor (Joe Pellegrino), Truth Or Consequences (Pastor Joe Pellegrino, Redeemer-Deming (interim-Ramon Montanez), Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute and Cristo Luz del Mundo preaching station (Pastor Richard Schlak, Director), Pastor Howard Patten (Emeritus), Pastor Glenn Weber (Emeritus), and Pastor Daniel Sattelmeier (Emeritus) all actively attend Circuit meetings.

At CrossPoint in El Paso Pastor Daniel Sattelmeier retired in September of 2021 and Pastor Mike Schuetzler and Pastor Kerry Boone were ordained and installed in August of 2021.

At Mission in Las Cruces, New Mexico Pastor Andrew Cave was Installed in November of 2021.

At San Pablo in El Paso Alex Escarciga was commissioned as vicar in the fall of 2021.

Pastor Howard Patton (emeritus) stepped down as Circuit Visitor and Pastor Daniel Sattelmeier (emeritus) has been appointed as Circuit Visitor in the fall of 2021.

The Rio Grande Circuit is currently working on plans to continue to reach out to our border communities as well as our neighbors south of the border through San Pablo and the Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute. May Jesus give us his vision and grace to carry out His great commission of making disciples.

Rev. Daniel Sattelmeier, Emeritus  
Rio Grande Circuit Visitor

## CIRCUIT 11—EASTERN HIGH PLAINS

A lot has happened since the last convention.

1) The dual parish of Grace Lutheran- Cheyenne Wells and Trinity Lutheran - Kit Carson dissolved in 2019. And, a new dual parish of Trinity Lutheran - Kit Carson and Grace Lutheran- Lamar formed. Pastor Tom Barton serves the dual parish of Kit Carson and Lamar, since 2019. And, SMP student Steve Zandstra serves Cheyenne Wells. Steve was ordained on Sunday 2/13/2022.

2) Sad to report that Holy Cross Lutheran - Hugo closed its doors and the property was sold in 2020. Holy Cross was a dual parish with Trinity Lutheran - Genoa. Genoa is still being served by Pastor Don Schulz.

3) The dual parish of Immanuel Lutheran - Arriba and Zion Lutheran - Flagler is vacant at this time. Immanuel is being served by a team of pastors. And, Zion is being served with a different team of pastors.

4) Trinity Lutheran - Burlington is being served by Pastor Bill Viergutz. He celebrated 25 years with this parish on Sunday 2/13/2022.

Rev. William "Bill" Viergutz  
Eastern High Plains Circuit Visitor  
Trinity — Burlington, CO

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 12—FOUR CORNERS

Since 2018

**Zion Lutheran Church in Farmington New Mexico** has continued to provide the community with three worship services a week, two on Sunday and 1 on Wednesday afternoons. The average attendance of the Wednesday services has grown from 6-7 to 9-10. We gain members and lose members but the Lord's will is done as we continue to preach Christ and him crucified.

**St. Paul's in Durango, Colorado** has grown steadily even through COVID. We had to close our preschool in the summer of 2021 due to financial issues and an inviable future. Our family ministries are helping to develop a connection with the community. The LCEF VisionPath process continues to help us develop a plan for the future use of our property and other expanded ministries.

At **Trinity Lutheran Church, Cortez, CO**, the most significant changes have occurred, like many churches, as a result of the pandemic chaos. Our worship attendance is still under strain and has not rebounded to pre-COVID numbers. Relatedly, we have seen a significant increase in our shut-ins and inactive members. However, by the grace of God, we have seen a small increase in the number of visitors at worship compared to previous years. Additionally, our giving has actually increased over the past several years and we have ended the last 3 years with a small surplus. This, in turn, has been allocated for additional district and missional giving among other things. Recently, we're also seeing younger families get involved in church leadership positions as well. Our preschool and daycare were hit hard by the pandemic, but in response, the church membership has increased its support, and at God's will that mission field will continue. This past year has even seen a small rebound in enrollment. Over the past year, we have also started a Nursing home worship service that averages just under 40 people each month. Our Youth Group has remained stable at 3 youth and we are registered to attend the 2022 National Youth Gathering this summer. Praise God for his merciful blessings over the past several years!

While the negative impact of COVID has been undeniable, the Lord's work has continued at **Shepherd of the Valley in Navajo, NM**. We have one adult in instruction and are holding weekly Bible studies along with the Divine Service. We continue to do youth ministry with three of our youth who attended Crosswise Institute at CUI this past summer and 4 of our youth going to a Reformation Conference at Our Savior, Pagosa Springs this past fall. We held a Vacation Bible School and are looking forward to doing so again this coming summer with the help of two interns, one from CUI and another from CUNE. We have less people in worship than pre-pandemic, but we continue to reach out to the community and spiritual growth is taking place through the Word and Sacraments.

### **Grace Lutheran Church, Moab Utah**

We have seen a small increase in attendance; a young family with three children regularly attends. Without the Gospel Gap Grant from the District and the financial support of the churches in our circuit, we would have to close our doors. Our Savior Lutheran Church Pagosa Springs - The Lord continues to bless the ministry here in this place. God's Word and Sacrament are faithfully offered every week (every Sunday and Wednesday). Our attendance continues to remain at or above pre-pandemic levels even with three families having to move out of the area for work or family issues. Pastor Odom took over leading our Classical School this school year. Grades K-7 have 50 students and, Lord willing, we will have an 8th grade next year. Our Preschool has 35 students, and our faithful director of 25 years, Anette McInnis, is stepping down at the end of the year. Lutheran Mercy Care Ministries (LMCM), run by Pastor Widmer, continues to grow. He has served 152 households since the start of the ministry in 2014; and is in regular contact with 50 to 60 individuals. Inmates at the Pagosa Detention Center are ministered to twice a week, and at the Durango Detention Center once a week. The church is also working on beginning a Parish Nurse ministry.

### **Lutheran Mercy Care Ministries (LMCM)**

LMCM, part of our Mercy ministries at OSLC in Pagosa Springs continues to grow. We served 152 households since the start of the ministry in 2014; we are in regular contact with 50 to 60 individuals. Inmates at the Pagosa Detention Center are ministered to twice a week, and at the Durango Detention Center once a week.

Rev. Bror Erickson  
Four Corners Circuit Visitor  
First — Tooele, UT

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 13—PIKE'S PEAK

Outside of the challenges experienced by the Covid Pandemic, the Pikes Peak Circuit has seen a very great deal of change during this four year triennium:

**First Lutheran in Salida** entered into the pastoral calling process following the retirement of Rev. Bill Cate. And after issuing several calls with no acceptance, they formed a dual parish with Faith in Buena Vista, but no sooner had they formed this agreement than the pastor of Faith, Rev. Andrew Becker, accepted a Call to Indiana. The vacancy continues for BOTH congregations, but their vacancy is faithfully served by Rev. Dan Muecke.

**Family of Christ in Monument** was served faithfully by Intentional interim, Rev. Alston Kirk, until Rev. Mark Moreno accepted the Call as Senior Pastor. DCE Jeremy Hetzel has been such a blessing to them during this time! They are now in the process of calling an Associate Pastor.

**Holy Cross in Colorado Springs** saw the retirement of Rev. Douglas Brauner, the resignation of Rev. Jeffry Meinz, and numerous other staff changes. They are currently being served by Rev. David Blair as Intentional Interim and are in the process of calling an Associate Pastor. Their DCE, Dan Hampton, has been a steady hand through all of their transitions!

**Rock of Ages in Colorado Springs** has continued to be served by Rev. James Maxwell. They temporarily ceased involvement with the vicarage program to free up monetary funds to aid Family of Faith in Falcon, but have recently started mentoring again through the SMP track.

**Family of Faith in Falcon** became a congregation of transition after their intentional interim, Rev. Norm Barnette moved to Florida. They were first served for a time by retired pastor, Rev. Clare Skov and then later by retired pastor, Rev. Dennis Lucero. Family of Faith soon became the Gospel Gap project of the Pikes Peak Circuit, which partially financed the Call of Rev. Josh Rusnak. Despite Covid, attendance has doubled since Pastor Rusnak began. God be praised! And special thanks to our District's Gospel Gap Grants for blessing this congregation!

**Resurrection in Colorado Springs** became a new spot for Rev. Dennis Lucero to *really* come out of retirement yet again both in a vacancy capacity and then further when he accepted their Call to serve as full time Pastor after Rev. Joel Dieterichs accepted a Call to Ohio.

**Faith in Woodland Park** entered into vacancy following the retirement of Rev. Mark Reiner. Their vacancy pastor has been Rev. Ron Baker.

**Shepherd of the Springs** after a time of vacancy is now being served by Rev. Jeff Patterson, and for the first time in over a decade this congregation is represented at Winkels again!

**Immanuel in Colorado Springs** continues to be faithfully served by Rev. Jonathan Kern.

**Redeemer in Colorado Springs** continues to be faithfully served by Rev. Don Widger.

We are blessed with a good circuit full of collegiality and support for one another!

Rev. James Maxwell  
Pikes Peak Circuit Visitor  
Rock of Ages - Colorado Springs, CO

## CIRCUIT 14—DENVER SOUTHEAST

In the past four years the congregations of the Denver Southeast Circuit have been blessed by the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments according to the Book of Concord, 1580. Our eleven congregations are located in the cities of Denver (2), Aurora (3), Centennial (1), Parker (1), Franktown (1), Castle Rock (2), and Elizabeth (1).

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 14—DENVER SOUTHEAST –cont...

**Congregation Changes in the Circuit:** During this triennium (extended one year by COVID closures) one congregation dissolved. Cross of Christ, Aurora, had become Acts Church in Aurora, but the Acts congregation dissolved without ever formally joining the LCMS. University Hills, Denver entered into the construction phase for a new Church building on their same property after demolishing the old facility, which had been a school. The new church building is expected to open in the summer of 2022.

**Pastoral Changes in the Circuit:** Pastor Mike Hiller retired from the ministry in 2018 at Peace with Christ, Aurora. Pastor Josh Krepel accepted the call to serve Peace with Christ, Aurora as Senior Pastor and was installed in November 2019. In 2019 Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller departed Hope Aurora for a call to St Paul Lutheran Church in Austin Texas. Pastor Jonathan Olson was called from seminary and installed as the pastor at Hope, Aurora in July 2020. Pastor Terry Beltz retired from the ministry in January 2021 from Trinity Franktown. Pastor Bobby Walston was installed as the new lead pastor at Trinity Franktown in February 2022.

**Circuit Outlook:** We continue to foster cooperation and encouragement among the pastors and congregations. We desire to reach the lost, reclaim the lapsed to the Church, and seek new opportunities to proclaim the Gospel. The Circuit held a Forum in January 2021 at which Rev Roger Wohletz of Christ, Denver was elected Circuit Visitor. Due to the delay of the District Convention, Rev Wohletz will be installed as new Circuit Visitor of DSE at the 2022 RMD convention, replacing Rev Joseph Murphy, Grace Parker, who has served as Circuit Visitor of DSE Circuit since 2011.

### **Congregational Reports Submitted:**

**Epiphany, Castle Rock:** During the past triennium (quadrennium), God blessed Epiphany abundantly. Word and Sacrament ministry continue, and our membership grows despite the pandemic challenges. We chartered a Trail Life USA troop, and our American Heritage Girls troop remains strong. Free community VBS, Orphan Grain Train, and neighborhood canvassing remain our main outreach ministries. We added staff, including various musicians, a sound engineer, and a video director. After securing a DCE intern from Concordia University Irvine, we called her to be our regular, full-time DCE. We added online live streaming of worship services during the pandemic. And thanks to the generosity of our members, we ended each fiscal year in the black. Last October 2021 marked 10 years of Pastor Chris Matthis' ministry in Castle Rock. For all these gifts, thanks be to God!

### **Christ, Denver:**

1. God continued to bless us even with all the challenges in the last two years from COVID.
2. Christ continues to share its building with University Hills Lutheran Church and enjoys the opportunity to build fellowship with them.
3. Christ's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary was in August 2020. Because of COVID, a 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary service was held in August 2021, with District President Rev. Roger Schlechte preaching.

**Grace, Parker:** In the past four years Grace has been blessed with a steady growth in membership. Sunday morning services increased from one to two to accommodate attendance. In 2022 the congregation added an addition that nearly doubles the original building size, adding four classrooms, an office, and additional restrooms. Grace partnered with Lutheran High School, located next door, to lease the four classrooms to the High School during the week.

In January 2022 Grace installed Vicar Trey Doak to help meet increasing ministry needs and to foster new ministry opportunities. The new building addition opened for use in March of 2022.

Rev. Joseph Murphy  
Denver Southeast Circuit Visitor  
Grace - Parker, CO



# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 15—DENVER NORTHEAST

The preceding 4 year “triennium” has seen several changes within the circuit particularly with Pastoral leadership.

**Christ Our Redeemer** in Bennett – served by a number of vacancy Pastors but currently being served by Rev. Kelly Smith (vacancy).

**Cordero de Dios** in Denver – Rev. Juan Hormachea retired during this time but continues to serve Cordero de Dios in retirement. Cordero also moved to a new location for worship, St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Denver, also Denver Northwest Circuit.

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church** in Northglenn – Rev. Ryan Oakes accepted a call to serve Gethsemane.

**Our Saviour** in Commerce City – Rev. Victor Young retired during this time and Our Saviour is currently served by Rev. Paul Jackson.

**St. Andrew** in Denver – Rev. Steve Bauer retired during this time. St. Andrew is served through pulpit supply at the moment.

**Zion Lutheran** in Brighton – Rev. Andrew Roettjer accepted a call to serve Zion during this time, joining Rev. David Schilling on the pastoral staff.

During this time the circuit continued to support **Resurrection in City** (Denver) particularly as our Gospel Gap designee. With that support as well as support from congregations and individuals outside the circuit, Resurrection was able to reach its goal of call a full time Pastor. The Rev. Duane Meissner accepted a call to serve Resurrection as its pastor. The Denver Northwest circuit also chose to keep Resurrection in the City as its Gospel Gap designee for 2022.

Rev. Jeremy Jacoby  
Denver Northeast Circuit Visitor  
Summit of Peace– Thornton, CO

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 16—ROCKY FLATS

The Rocky Flats circuit consists of nine congregations north of Denver along the Front Range. While our circuit has been blessed with many years of relative stability regarding minimal turnover of pastors, the last few years have now seen us enter into a significant time of transition with numerous pastors retiring or taking calls after serving faithfully for a number of years.

**University Lutheran Chapel (ULC) in Boulder**, the only full-time campus ministry in the RMD remains our circuit's primary "Gospel Gap" supported mission, receiving significant financial and ministry support from the ULC Mission Society. In 2019 Pastor Josh Hayes took a call out of the district and was served faithfully by Past. Jared Melius as vacancy pastor until the fall of 2021 when Past. John Fiene was welcomed as full-time pastor. During the time of vacancy the district and congregation worked together to receive city approval to "deconstruct" the "old house" portion of their facility and receive significant aesthetic improvements to the property. As a result ULC now extends an open invitation to groups within the district/synod to use their facilities for retreats etc. They are forming a capital campaign for future funding of the ministry in the difficult context of Boulder, CO.

**Beautiful Savior, Broomfield** saw Pastor Ted Groth take a call out of the district in Sept. of 2019 and receive the blessing of Past. Rick Langness as vacancy pastor to this point. They took part in Vision Path (LCEF) the fall of 2020, revising their vision statement in preparation for the call process. Their school has endured the difficulty of Covid and has steady enrollment at this time.

**Mt. Hope, Boulder** saw Pastor Adam Burke take a call out of district in May of 2018 and received Past. David Hall as their new pastor in the spring of 2019. Then in August of 2021 Past. Hall took a call out of the RMD. They installed a new LED sign in March of 2019, celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021, and completed a full kitchen remodel in January of 2022. After the King Soopers mass-shooting in March of 2021 they allowed the Billy Graham First Responders to use their building for grief-counseling.

**Eternal Savior, Lafayette** completed numerous capital improvement projects over the last three years, continued various mission and outreach projects and celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November of 2021. At the end of December 2021, Pastor Paul Rhode retired after 26 years of faithful service to the saints and community.

**Mt. Calvary, Ft. Lupton** completed an entire basement remodel in 2020 just ahead of the Covid pandemic.

A number of our congregations had member families and others connected to their congregations who lost their home or were otherwise seriously impacted by the Marshall wild fire in Boulder County at the end of December 2021.

As He always has, the Lord continues to bless the congregations and schools of the Rocky Flats Circuit with His many gifts of grace.

Rev. Keith Besel  
Rocky Flats Circuit Visitor  
Mt. Calvary — Ft Lupton, CO

# CIRCUIT VISITOR REPORTS

## CIRCUIT 17—SANDIA SOUTH

The Sandia South Circuit is comprised of 7 LCMS Churches found in the greater Albuquerque area, Los Lunas, and Socorro, New Mexico. In 2021, an 8<sup>th</sup> congregation, Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Grants, NM closed its' doors permanently. The Sandia South Circuit meets regularly with Sandia North Circuit for Winkels, and all other circuit business.

**Calvary Lutheran Church, Rio Rancho** was organized in 1980. Calvary had the pleasure of welcoming Rev. Adam DeGroot on March 3, 2020 to serve as their Pastor. Pastor DeGroot leads the congregation in regular services, Bible Classes, and Catechism.

**Christ the King Lutheran Church, Los Lunas** was organized in 1978. Rev. Thaine Kister was installed as Pastor on June 8, 2019. Pastor Kister serves a dual-parish ministry, which includes Christ the King, Los Lunas, and Hope, Socorro. Pastor Kister is pleased to report a growing congregation even during this pandemic time!

**Hope Lutheran Church, Socorro** was organized in 1988. Rev. Thaine Kister was installed as Pastor on June 8, 2019. Pastor Kister serves a dual-parish ministry, which includes Christ the King, Los Lunas, and Hope, Socorro. Pastor Kister is pleased to report a fledgling, yet growing campus ministry at New Mexico Tech in Socorro.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church, Albuquerque** was organized in 1914 and began meeting in its' current location in Historic Huning Highlands District of Downtown Albuquerque in 1918. Rev. Dustin Kear was installed as Pastor on August 13, 2017; as only the 4<sup>th</sup> Pastor in Immanuel's more than 100 years! Mr. Michael Brandon was called to serve as Principal of Immanuel Lutheran School, and was installed on August 30, 2020. Immanuel is excited to currently be in the process of calling a Director of Christian Education to serve Immanuel as Youth Director.

**Our Savior Lutheran Church, Albuquerque** was organized in 1961. Rev. Jay Mason served as Pastor of Our Savior for years. After Pastor Mason's recent retiring, Rev. Craig Furry continues to serve Our Savior Lutheran Church since December 20, 2015. Our Savior is in the process of calling its' next Pastor to full-time ministry to Our Savior.

**Redeemer Lutheran Church, Albuquerque** was organized in 1951. Rev. John Heffelfinger has served Redeemer as Pastor since July 27, 1997. Upon his retiring in late 2021, Redeemer began the Call Process. We are pleased to report that Redeemer is in the final stages of officially calling Rev. Jordan Schaller of Faith in Christ Lutheran Church (ABQ) to serve as their Pastor in a dual-parish ministry. Installation of Pastor Schaller is expected to happen in Mid-March 2021.

**St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Albuquerque** was organized in 2019. The congregation continues the search for a new missionary pastor (vacancy since February 2020). In 2018-2019 the congregation was served by a network supported missionary (NSM) from the LCMS Office of National Mission. The congregation is able to cover a large percentage of salary and is looking for partners that can help fund the balance of salary until the church can achieve the goal of self-supporting its own worker. Regular Sunday services have taken place since April 12, 2015. Average Sunday attendance for 2021 was 11. In 2021, Saint Andrew was served by area circuit pastors, including: Pastor John Heffelfinger, Redeemer, Albuquerque, Pastor Brian Earl, VA Chaplain, and Pastor Jordan Schaller, Faith In Christ Lutheran, Albuquerque.

*Rev. Dustin Kear  
Sandia South Circuit Visitor  
Immanuel – Albuquerque, NM*

# LWML REPORT

## LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE



The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Since 1942, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.

### The LWML Mission Statement

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

### 2021-2023 Primary Focus

- Proclaiming Christ
- Supporting Missions
- Equipping Women
- Serving Others

The LWML from its inception has encouraged and promoted Bible study, fellowship, and mentoring in organizational and leadership skills. Missions are supported through prayer and monetary contributions, collected as coins or dollars in mite boxes, checks, or electronic giving. Patterned after the story of the poor widow that gave her "mites" as an offering to God, LWML "mites" are also offered with prayer.

A new mission goal is established each biennium. The Mission Goal for the 2021-2023 Biennium is \$2,150,000.00. Twenty-eight mission grants were selected, including two from the Rocky Mountain District — Lutheran Valley Retreat (Colorado), and God Cares About You (New Mexico). Ysleta Lutheran Ministry (El Paso, TX) received a mission grant during the 2019-2021 biennium.

The LWML Rocky Mt. District consists of Colorado, New Mexico, Vernal, UT, Page, AZ, and El Paso, TX. The district consists of 11 Zones with 80 active groups a membership of 1270. Groups have gathered in person and virtually. Virtual workshops and Bible studies as well as in-person Bible studies, retreats, and zone events have encouraged women within the district to support and encourage each other across the miles. Mites are collected at the group, zone, and district level. 25% of mites collected in the district are designated to fund LWML Mission Grants on the national level. The remaining 75% remain in the district to fund LWML RMD Mission Grants and Scholarships. The 2020 Mission Goal was \$83,960.28. All authorized grants have been paid in full. To God be the glory!

Blessings,  
Debbie Yocky  
2018-2022  
LWML Rocky Mountain District President

# SCHOOL MINISTRY

## SCHOOL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The School Ministry Committee works in partnership with Paul Albers, District Executive for Congregational Services, to support the ministry of Lutheran schools throughout the district. The committee has three ongoing responsibilities:

**Planning the annual Nurturing the Faith workshops.** Nurturing the Faith is a one-day workshop typically repeated four times throughout the district. Attendees are primarily teachers, although some pastors and DCEs also attend. These workshops are intended to encourage and challenge staff members in their Christian walk.

**Coordinating the annual Administrators' Conference.** This conference for school administrators and early childhood directors is held in conjunction with the district Professional Church Workers' Conference in October. The conference is designed to give school leaders an opportunity to grow professionally and spiritually as well as growing in their understanding of our current cultural issues and how they can continue to serve faithfully in the face of those challenges.

**Administering the annual award program designed to recognize outstanding staff members in our schools.** Each year, nominations are solicited from schools and congregations with schools and early childhood centers. Those chosen exemplify excellence in serving in their ministry setting. Those recognized since the last convention are:

Administrator of the Year

2018 – Mary Martin, Mission, Las Cruces

2019 – Shelly Davis, Grace, Sandy

2021 – Kim Rasmussen, Christ, Albuquerque

Early Childhood Director of the Year

2018 – Tekla Coerber, Redeemer, Fort Collins

2019 – Sue Walker, Holy Trinity, Riverton

2021 – Chaney Zinn, St. Johns, Salt Lake City

Educator of the Year

2018 – Andrew Graham, Prince of Peace, Cedar Crest

2019 – Kristin Quante, St. Johns, Denver

2021 – Lisa Lohman, St. Johns, Denver

The committee also actively seeks other ways to assist district schools in their important ministry to students and families. Current members of the School Ministry Committee include:

William Busacker, Loveland, Chairman

Gwen Marshall, Greeley

Mark Angel, Albuquerque

# CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

## Members:

Rev. Dean Boernke, Chairman, Zion, Brighton,  
James Greer, Peace, Arvada  
Arvin Michel, Ascension, Littleton

The Rocky Mountain District Constitution Committee, from March 1, 2018 through February 28, 2022, have examined thirty-five (35) congregational constitutions/bylaws. They are studied and compared to the "LCMS Guidelines For The Constitution And Bylaws Of A Lutheran Congregation." Twenty-five (25) were submitted to the District Board of Directors for their approval. Ten (10) are pending approval, by the Committee, after returning them to the congregation for further consideration to meet Synodical Guidelines and/or to resolve some noted issues. Most of the reviews have been focused on changes and updates for existing constitutions/bylaws. A few new constitutions/bylaws were also reviewed.

Rev. Dean Boernke, Chairman

## DISTRICT LIFE COORDINATOR

### Affirming Life

Report to the Rocky Mountain District LCMS  
February 25, 2022

The Rocky Mountain District Life Coordinator serves to support our churches and schools in speaking for life, proclaiming the Gospel and bringing Christ to those who are suffering and to those who are experiencing the life issues of today. The DLC serves to provide resources that can assist in developing life-affirming outreach and ministry.

Every month beginning in February 2021, Affirming Life, our district life ministry newsletter has been sent to over 500 recipients, including pastors, church offices, schools, directors of Christian education, deaconesses, and others who have requested to be on the mailing list.

In December 2021, an email was sent out from the District Life Coordinator to be sure all in the district were aware of the LCMS Million Dollar Life Matching Grant. We now have three Regional Life Coordinators, who serve to inform the RMD churches in their region of state and local life marches and rallies, and possibly coordinating attendance. Our Regional Life Coordinator for Utah is Jeremy Lamont, for New Mexico is Deac. Melissa DeGroot and for Colorado is Rev. Eli Lietzau. In January 2022, fifty LCMS members attended the Colorado march and thirty LCMS members attended the Utah march.

Submitted by  
Deaconess Sara Smith  
District Life Coordinator  
Rocky Mountain District, LCMS



## Summary report to Rocky Mountain District LCMS – 2/20/22

At our August 19, 2021 meeting, we approved an organization chart and job description guide for the officers and four subcommittees. Currently, we have 16 members serving on the committee. We requested \$1000 of financial support from RMD in 2021. This was approved and the check was received in February 2022.

On August 28, 2021, Pastor David Buss of the District Office led a Strategic Ministry Planning Workshop for our SOAR Committee at Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Broomfield, CO. The results of that planning meeting led our group to approve the following statements:

Mission Statement – The Mission of SOAR is sharing Jesus Christ, promoting service opportunities, and enhancing Christian lives through seminar events.

Vision Statement – SOAR is a joyful multigenerational fellowship of Christians striving to advance the Kingdom of God in our church, our community, and our world.

We conducted our two-day Gathering on September 20-21, 2021, and one-day Seminar on February 12, 2022. Both events were held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

The Gathering agenda, under the theme, “God Tells Us to Proclaim His Word to the World”, included the following speakers:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler – The Lutheran Hour, Part 1: What God Does is Worth Talking About, Part 2: Sharing God’s Story in Deed, and Part 3: Sharing God’s Story in Word

Health Speaker, Tia Saucedo – Reducing your Risk for Alzheimer’s/Dementia

Rev. Dr. Tilahun Menedo – Lutheran Bible Translators: God Speaks My Language

President Roger Schlechte: Are You a Bridge Builder?

Dr. Mike Rodewald – Lutheran Bible Translators: Bible Poverty. Viewing the Bibleless through One Community

The Lutheran Chorale – Rebirth

Devotions by Rev. Dr. Norbert Kleidon

Closing Worship by Rev. Mark Janzen

The Seminar agenda, under the theme, “Enhancing One’s Quality of Life”, included the following speakers:

Rev. Dr. Brad Stoltenow, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Hey Pastor! Why Don’t My Kids and Grandchildren Go to Church?

Health Speaker, Dr. Elizabeth Cruse – Fitting a Healthy Diet into Your Busy Life

Rev. Richard Rudowski, Lutheran Bible Translators, Assume Nothing!

Kin Quitugua, Hawkquest: Birds of Prey

In 2021 the SOAR Committee approved a five-year alliance with Lutheran Bible Translators to encourage donations from our RMD members to translate the Old Testament for the Bandi community in Liberia. To date over \$170k of the \$540k goal has been given or pledged.

# DISABILITY MINISTRY

## Disability Ministry Task Force

No report

Rev. Michael Redeker  
Chairman  
Lutheran Church and School of Messiah– Gr Junction

# HISPANIC TASK FORCE

## Rocky Mountain District Hispanic Task Force

The Hispanic population is one of the fastest growing demographics in America. According to the 2020 U S Census Bureau there were over 62 million people who identified as Hispanic, a number that has grown 23% since 2010. By contrast, the number of those not in this demographic grew by only 4% in the same time period. Hispanics also represent a significant population in the Rocky Mountain District, ranging from 13.7% in Utah, to 21% in Colorado, to 48% in New Mexico, and 85% in El Paso. Despite this boom in the Hispanic population, the LC-MS is still less than 1% Hispanic. This means there is a great opportunity in our communities to spread the gospel and to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

In the spring of 2021 President Schlechte asked Pastor Daniel Sattelmeier to form a task force to develop resources to help congregations and schools in our district to better understand and facilitate outreach to Hispanics living in their communities. The member of this task force includes Rev. Dustin Kear, Rev. Joshua Vanderhyde, Ms. Erica Jacoby, Ms. Keyler Masinelli, and Rev. Daniel Sattelmeier.

Over the past year the district Hispanic task force has put together a list of resources for our district congregations and schools. These resources can be accessed by going to the Rocky Mountain District website: [www.rm.lcms.org](http://www.rm.lcms.org), and click onto the link for HISPANIC RESOURCES.

Rev. Daniel Sattelmeier  
Chairman of Rocky Mountain District Hispanic Task Force

# LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

## Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF)

Kevin Grein, District Vice President  
Rocky Mountain District



### MISSION

The mission of Lutheran Church Extension Fund is to support The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by ensuring that financial resources and related services are available now and in the future.

### ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Since 1847, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has pursued its mission to “vigorously make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our churches, communities and the world.”

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) is an organization that empowers ministry through investments, loans and support services. Incorporated in 1978, LCEF continues a long history of church extension fund service to the LCMS and its individual and corporate members.

We’ve grown from a mere \$100 million when LCEF was first incorporated in 1978 to over 60,000 faithful Lutheran investors with over \$2.1 billion dollars in total assets.

Historically, church extension operations have centered on loans made possible through investments and gifts from dedicated church members and supporters. Today, LCEF has expanded its offerings to include resources that define opportunities, design solutions and align resources that propel the Kingdom forward using a ministry clarity process and capital campaigns as well as real estate solutions to help develop and/or execute the best strategies to support ministry objectives.

Our strong and stable financial base represents the important role LCEF plays in supporting the LCMS now and how it will continue that support long into the future.

We use investments to support the work of thousands of LCMS individuals, congregations, schools and organizations. They fund home loans for Rostered Church Workers. They support the renovation and construction of sanctuaries, senior living communities, fellowship halls, Lutheran schools, early childhood centers and much more.

Rev. Bart Day serves as president and CEO and reports to a 12-member board of directors. LCEF employs over 116 people located in St. Louis and more than 35 employees in 31 LCMS member districts throughout the United States. LCMS ministries connect to LCEF through their district vice president (DVP). DVPs are supported by the national office staff in St. Louis.

For over 43 years, our mission has been to make sure “financial resources and related services” are available for the church—we intend to keep doing it for the next 40 years and beyond.

### ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

2021 has been volatile, and looking back at the past 12 months, it’s clear that some aspects of the economy have improved greatly while others remain challenged by the pandemic. The U.S. economy has continued to improve since the onset of the 2020 pandemic. Q3 of 2021 expanded by over 30%, and although a record, it was not enough to offset earlier losses, including the Q1 5% decline in gross domestic product (GDP) at an annual rate, signaling the onset of the 2020 recession.

The new recession, which began in March 2020, ended 128 months of expansion, the longest in U.S. history. In Q2, the economy contracted by a record 31.2%. Quarterly GDP had never experienced a drop greater than 10% since record-keeping began in 1947.

# LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

Continued...

In April 2020, retail sales were down 14.7% as officials closed nonessential businesses, but by May, sales recovered, increasing by 18.3% as shops and restaurants slowly reopened safely. While there have been several months in late 2020 and early 2021 with small declines, none have been as dramatic, and by June 2021, sales were up 0.6%.

The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) has remained committed to a low interest rate environment and has held the benchmark rate at its current level of 0.1% until inflation reaches 2% over an extended period of time. The pandemic also restarted the FOMC's quantitative easing program, which grew their balance sheet to its current level of \$8.1T as of June 2021. Speculation has begun regarding the timing of their tapering of the security purchases. The FOMC has remained patient while inflation has been on the rise. Time will tell if or to what degree the current inflation is transitory.

Throughout the challenges over the past 12 months, LCEF has worked with our advisors to navigate the volatile investment markets. With their help, we have been able to strengthen our capital position and better position LCEF for future growth. While the financial markets provided many challenges, we saw FY 2021 close out with gains of over \$15.5M.



# Lutheran Church Extension Fund

> where investments build ministry

## Lutheran Church Extension Fund

### Rocky Mountain District

#### Rocky Mountain Triennium Highlights

Investment: \$75,879,549

Loans: \$64,982,562

Investors: 3,141

Congregation w Loans: 97

RCW Loans: 25

#### Ministry Support:

# utilized: 16

Capital Campaigns

Stewardship

Ministry Clarity

#### Real Estate Solutions:

# utilized: 3

Advisory Services

Brokerage Solutions

Facility Management

Project Management

#### Funds Returned to District

Signature Sponsorship Grants: \$ 24,500

Kaleidoscope Grants: \$ 80,000

Loan Rebates: \$308,345

Earnings Distributions: \$423,937

**Total \$836,782**

3693 Horiuchi Ct., Brighton Colorado 80601 | ph: 303-408-1971 | lcef.org

# 2021 RM District Financial Audit



## Audited Financial Statements

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

For the Years Ended January 31, 2021 and 2020





## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

---

	<b>Page</b>
<b>INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:</b>	
Statements of Financial Position	3
Statements of Activities	4
Statements of Functional Expenses	6
Statements of Cash Flows	8
Notes to Financial Statements	9

## INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors  
Rocky Mountain District of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
Aurora, Colorado

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Rocky Mountain District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, which comprise the statements of financial position as of January 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit

1533 S. Kirkwood Road  
St. Louis, MO 63122-7295  
888-THE LUMS (843-5261)  
[www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org)



INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT (Continued)

**Auditor's Responsibility (Continued)**

also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Opinion**

In our opinion, as internal auditors of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Rocky Mountain District as of January 31, 2021 and 2020, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
Internal Audit Department

*Joann P. Spotanski*

St. Louis, Missouri  
June 30, 2021

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
JANUARY 31, 2021 and 2020

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<b>Assets:</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 986,522	\$ 982,963
Prepaid Expenses	18,158	7,963
Contributions Receivable	7,052	-
Property Held for Sale	38,600	172,896
Property and Equipment - Net (Note E)	951,054	496,503
Long-Term Investments (Note D)	511,867	509,909
Beneficial Interests in Perpetual Trusts (Note D)	<u>1,661,071</u>	<u>1,528,691</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 4,174,324</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 3,698,925</u></b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 83,489	\$ 39,507
Grants Payable (Note F)	14,669	5,987
Refundable Advance	28,500	-
Deferred Revenue	2,060	5,000
Loan Payable - Paycheck Protection Program (Note M)	<u>54,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>182,718</u></b>	<b><u>50,494</u></b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Without Donor Restrictions (Note H)	1,436,506	930,276
With Donor Restrictions (Note I)	<u>2,555,100</u>	<u>2,718,155</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b><u>3,991,606</u></b>	<b><u>3,648,431</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 4,174,324</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 3,698,925</u></b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2021

	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL
<u>SUPPORT, REVENUES, &amp; OTHER ADDITIONS:</u>			
Support -			
District Congregations (Note A)	\$ 952,980	\$	\$ 952,980
Partners in Mission	15,300		15,300
Synod		3,000	3,000
LCEF (Note K)		102,379	102,379
Property from Disbanded Congregation	38,600		38,600
Other	2,463	56,071	58,534
Revenues -			
Conventions, Conferences, and Workshops	32,929		32,929
Net Investment Return	92	16,045	16,137
Agreements with LCEF (Note K)	6,666		6,666
Other	18,856		18,856
Distributions from and Change in Value of Perpetual Trusts	5,975	183,703	189,678
Net Gain on Sale/Transfer of Properties	369,970		369,970
Net Assets Released from Restrictions (Note I)	524,253	(524,253)	-
	<u>1,968,084</u>	<u>(163,055)</u>	<u>1,805,029</u>
Total Support, Revenues, & Other Additions			
<u>EXPENSES:</u>			
Program Services -			
World and National Missions	391,799		391,799
Preparing Church Workers	47,047		47,047
Congregational Services	332,478		332,478
Support Services -			
Synodical Budget	200,768		200,768
Mission and Ministry Support	240,873		240,873
Ecclesiastical and Program Administration	248,889		248,889
	<u>1,461,854</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,461,854</u>
Total Expenses			
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	506,230	(163,055)	343,175
NET ASSETS - Beginning of Year	930,276	2,718,155	3,648,431
	<u>930,276</u>	<u>2,718,155</u>	<u>3,648,431</u>
NET ASSETS - End of Year	\$ 1,436,506	\$ 2,555,100	\$ 3,991,606
	<u>\$ 1,436,506</u>	<u>\$ 2,555,100</u>	<u>\$ 3,991,606</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2020

	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL
<b><u>SUPPORT, REVENUES, &amp; OTHER ADDITIONS:</u></b>			
Support -			
District Congregations ( <i>Note A</i> )	\$ 940,975	\$	\$ 940,975
Synod		3,000	3,000
LCEF ( <i>Note K</i> )		94,603	94,603
Other	18,661	351,104	369,765
Revenues -			
Conventions, Conferences, and Workshops	176,173		176,173
Net Investment Return	304	16,038	16,342
Agreements with LCEF ( <i>Note K</i> )	16,600		16,600
Other	7,120		7,120
Distributions from and Change in Value of Perpetual Trusts	415	171,746	172,161
Net Assets Released from Restrictions ( <i>Note I</i> )	280,524	(280,524)	-
Total Support, Revenues, & Other Additions	<u>1,440,772</u>	<u>355,967</u>	<u>1,796,739</u>
<b><u>EXPENSES:</u></b>			
Program Services -			
World and National Missions	367,316		367,316
Preparing Church Workers	61,619		61,619
Congregational Services	237,777		237,777
Support Services -			
Synodical Budget	184,667		184,667
Mission and Ministry Support	322,000		322,000
Ecclesiastical and Program Administration	192,863		192,863
Total Expenses	<u>1,366,242</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,366,242</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	74,530	355,967	430,497
NET ASSETS - Beginning of Year	<u>855,746</u>	<u>2,362,188</u>	<u>3,217,934</u>
NET ASSETS - End of Year	<u>\$ 930,276</u>	<u>\$ 2,718,155</u>	<u>\$ 3,648,431</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2021

	PROGRAM SERVICES			SUPPORT SERVICES			TOTAL
	World and National Missions	Preparing Church Workers	Congregational Services	Synodical Budget	Mission and Ministry Support	Ecclesiastical and Program Administration	
Personnel Costs	\$ 8,612	\$	\$ 118,124	\$	\$ 71,546	\$ 230,428	\$ 428,710
Subsidies, Grants, and Other Assistance	309,306	39,454	176,711	200,768	5,000	4,000	735,239
Building and Office Expenses	50,370				69,154		119,524
Conventions, Conferences, Workshops, and Meetings		7,593	28,210			5,132	40,935
Depreciation	23,377				12,263		35,640
Equipment Purchases (non-capital) and Maintenance					5,566		5,566
Insurance					22,761		22,761
Professional Services					54,188		54,188
Staff Training and Development			4,761		395	19	5,175
Travel	134		4,672			9,310	14,116
Total Expenses by Function	\$ 391,799	\$ 47,047	\$ 332,478	\$ 200,768	\$ 240,873	\$ 248,859	\$ 1,461,854

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2020

	PROGRAM SERVICES			SUPPORT SERVICES			TOTAL
	World and National Missions	Preparing Church Workers	Congregational Services	Synodical Budget	Mission and Ministry Support	Ecclesiastical and Program Administration	
Personnel Costs	\$ 52,723	\$	\$ 114,939	\$	\$ 15,210	\$ 159,264	\$ 342,136
Subsidies, Grants, and Other Assistance	259,433	47,157	16,992	184,667	8,335	5,000	521,584
Bad Debt Expense					49,737		49,737
Building and Office Expenses	32,433				53,353		85,786
Conventions, Conferences, Workshops, and Meetings		14,462	91,282		99,753	17,042	222,539
Depreciation	22,727				23,517		46,244
Equipment Purchases (non-capital) and Maintenance					18,583		18,583
Insurance					18,983		18,983
Professional Services					34,529		34,529
Staff Training and Development			234				234
Travel			14,330			11,557	25,887
Total Expenses by Function	\$ 367,316	\$ 61,619	\$ 237,777	\$ 184,667	\$ 322,000	\$ 192,863	\$ 1,366,242

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JANUARY 31, 2021 and 2020

	2021	2020
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities:</b>		
Change in Net Assets	\$ 343,175	\$ 430,497
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:		
Depreciation Expense	35,640	46,244
Bad Debt Expense	-	49,737
Property from Disbanded Congregation	(38,600)	-
Change in Value of Beneficial Interests in Perpetual Trusts	(132,380)	(116,779)
Net (Gain) Loss on Investments	(4,459)	(3,120)
Net (Gain) Loss on Sale/Transfer of Properties	(369,970)	-
Contributions Restricted for Long-Term Investment	(2,209)	(1,472)
(Increase) Decrease in Operating Assets:		
Prepaid Expenses	(10,195)	1,604
Contributions Receivable	(7,052)	-
Increase (Decrease) in Operating Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	63	(7,177)
Grants Payable	8,682	(14,726)
Refundable Advance	28,500	-
Deferred Revenue	(2,940)	(30,035)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	<u>(151,745)</u>	<u>354,773</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</b>		
Proceeds from Sale of Property	700,324	-
Purchases of Fixed Assets	(603,730)	-
Proceeds from Sale of Investments	15,948	12,845
Purchases of Investments	(13,447)	(15,545)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	<u>99,095</u>	<u>(2,700)</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities:</b>		
Contributions Restricted for Investment in Perpetual Endowment	2,209	1,472
PPP Loan Payable - Advances	54,000	-
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Financing Activities	<u>56,209</u>	<u>1,472</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,559	353,545
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of Year	982,963	629,418
Cash and Cash Equivalents - End of Year	<u>\$ 986,522</u>	<u>\$ 982,963</u>
<b>Supplemental Data:</b>		
Noncash Investing and Financing Activities :		
Transfer of Property from Fixed Assets to Held for Sale -		
Decrease in Fixed Assets	\$ -	\$ 172,896
Increase in Property Held for Sale	-	(172,896)
Fixed Assets Acquired with Payables -		
Increase in Fixed Assets	(43,919)	-
Increase in Accounts Payable	43,919	-

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE A – NATURE OF ORGANIZATION**

The Rocky Mountain District (the District), a religious not-for-profit organization, is one of 35 districts of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (the Synod), encompassing 183 congregations in the states of Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, and the cities of El Paso, Texas; Page, Arizona; and Venango, Nebraska. The Synod established its district offices to more effectively achieve its objectives and assist its congregations and their members in conserving and promoting the unity of the faith and in carrying out their mission and ministry.

The District relies on donations from its member congregations for a significant portion of its support. As shown in the Statement of Activities, support from District congregations totaled \$952,980 and \$940,975 for the years ended January 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively. These donations are subject to fluctuations in the economic status of the areas in which the congregations are located. No provisions have been made for changes in the economic environment. Any significant reduction in the level of this support, however, could have an effect on the District's program and supporting activities.

The costs of providing various program and other supporting services have been summarized on a functional basis in the Statement of Activities as follows:

- *World and National Missions* – World missions includes the District's personalized world ministry support remitted to the Synod. National missions includes but is not limited to North American new mission work, campus ministries, deaf ministries, ethnic ministries, urban ministries, congregational subsidy, evangelism efforts, human care ministries, and related conferences and events.
- *Preparing Church Workers* – Includes financial aid provided to students normally attending one of the seven colleges/universities or two seminaries of the Synod.
- *Congregational Services* – Supports District congregational service efforts and includes but is not limited to activities such as Sunday School, confirmation, family life, day care, adult education, outdoor ministry, singles ministry, elementary and secondary education, youth services, worship, stewardship education, and related conferences and events.
- *Synodical Budget* – Includes remittances to the Synod for synodical budget support.
- *Mission and Ministry Support* – Includes the District's communication efforts, financial and general service activities, the operation/maintenance of District office facilities, District/Synodical convention expenses, and the District's support of the national Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) efforts as discussed in Note K (Agreements with LCEF).
- *Ecclesiastical and Program Administration* – Includes activities of the president's office, vice-presidents, circuit visitors, reconcilers, and related conferences and events, as well as support of the District Board of Directors and its related committees.

All of these program and support services include the related program and administration expense associated with that particular function.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH–MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE A – NATURE OF ORGANIZATION (Continued)**

The Rocky Mountain District of the Synod is an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) and, by virtue of a group tax-exempt ruling to the Synod and its component parts, is exempt from federal income taxes. However, any unrelated business income may be subject to taxation. In addition, the District qualifies for the charitable contribution deduction under IRC Section 170(b)(1)(A) and has been classified by the Internal Revenue Service as an organization other than a private foundation.

**NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The significant accounting policies followed by the District are described below:

**Basis of Accounting**

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

**Use of Estimates**

We use estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates, and those differences could be material.

**Principles of Consolidation**

The accompanying financial statements include all administrative and program offices or departments of the Rocky Mountain District. They do not include the assets, liabilities, and operations of the congregations, schools, and other separately administered operations of the Synod within the District's geographic area.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For financial statement purposes, we consider all cash and highly liquid financial instruments with original maturities of three months or less, which are not held for or restricted by donors for long-term purposes (e.g., for building projects, perpetual endowments), to be cash and cash equivalents.

**Investments and Net Investment Return/(Loss)**

We record investment purchases at cost, or if donated, at fair value on the date of receipt. Thereafter, investments are reported at their fair values in the Statement of Financial Position. Net investment return/(loss) consists of interest and dividend income, realized and unrealized capital gains and losses, less external investment expenses; it is reported in the Statement of Activities based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**Contributions Receivable**

Unconditional promises to give that are expected to be collected within one year are recorded at net realizable value. Unconditional promises to give expected to be collected after one year are initially recorded at fair value using present value techniques, incorporating risk-adjusted discount rates designed to reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset. In subsequent years, amortization of the discounts is included in contributions/support in the Statement of Activities. We determine the allowance for uncollectible promises to give based on historical experience, an assessment of current economic conditions, and a review of subsequent collections. Contributions receivable are written off when deemed uncollectible.

**Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment purchases of \$5,000 or more with an estimated useful life greater than one year are capitalized and recorded at cost, or if donated, at fair value on the date of receipt. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets ranging from 3 to 50 years, or in the case of capitalized leased assets or leasehold improvements, the lesser of the useful life of the asset or the lease term. When assets are sold or otherwise disposed of, the cost and related depreciation are removed from the accounts, and any resulting gain or loss is included in the Statement of Activities. Costs of maintenance and repairs that do not improve or extend the useful lives of the respective assets are expensed when incurred. Property held for sale is recorded at the lower of cost or estimated fair value.

We review the carrying values of property and equipment for impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable from its use and eventual disposition. When considered impaired, an impairment loss is recognized in the Statement of Activities to the extent carrying value exceeds the fair value of the asset.

**Beneficial Interests in Perpetual Trusts**

We have been named as an irrevocable beneficiary of several perpetual trusts held and administered by the LCMS Foundation. Perpetual trusts provide for the distribution of the net income of the trusts to the District; however, we will never receive the assets of the trusts. At the date we receive notice of a beneficial interest, a contribution with donor restrictions of a perpetual nature is recorded in the Statement of Activities and a beneficial interest in perpetual trust is recorded in the Statement of Financial Position at the fair value of the underlying trust assets, as determined/calculated by the LCMS Foundation. Thereafter, beneficial interests in the trusts are reported at the fair value of the trusts' assets in the Statement of Financial Position, with trust distributions and changes in fair value recognized in the Statement of Activities.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**Grants Payable**

Unconditional promises to give which have been authorized and communicated to the recipient are reported as liabilities and expenses in the period in which the notification to the recipient occurs. If at the time the promise is made, the District expects to make payment in one year or less, the payable is recorded at net settlement value. Unconditional promises that the District expects to pay in more than one year are reported at fair value, which is measured as the present value of the amounts to be paid.

**Net Assets**

Net assets, revenues, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

*Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions* – Net assets available for use in general operations and not subject to donor restrictions. These net assets may be subject to self-imposed limits by action of the governing board. These board-designated net assets may be earmarked for future programs, contingencies, purchase/construction of fixed assets, or for other uses.

*Net Assets With Donor Restrictions* – Net assets subject to donor-imposed restrictions. Some donor-imposed restrictions are temporary in nature, such as those that will be met by the passage of time or other events specified by the donor. Other donor-imposed restrictions are perpetual in nature, where the donor stipulates that resources be maintained in perpetuity. Donor-imposed restrictions that are temporary in nature are released when a restriction expires, that is, when the stipulated time has elapsed, when the stipulated purpose for which the resource was restricted has been fulfilled, or both.

**Contributions and Revenue Recognition**

Contributions are recognized as support in the Statement of Activities when cash, securities or other assets, an unconditional promise to give, or notification of a beneficial interest is received. Gifts of long-lived assets with explicit restrictions that specify how the assets are to be used and gifts of cash that must be used to acquire long-lived assets are reported as support in net assets with donor restrictions. Absent explicit donor restrictions about how long those long-lived assets must be maintained, we report expirations of donor restrictions when the donated or acquired long-lived assets are placed in service. Conditional promises to give are not included as support until the conditions on which they depend have been substantially met and the promises become unconditional. Donated services are reported as support in the Statement of Activities at fair value when those services (1) create or enhance nonfinancial assets or (2) require specialized skills, are provided by individuals possessing those skills, and would typically need to be purchased if not provided by donation.

Revenue is recognized when earned. Program and supporting activity fees and payments received in advance are deferred to the applicable period in which the related services are performed or expenditures are incurred.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH–MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**Functional Allocation of Expenses**

The costs of program and supporting service activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the Statement of Activities. The Statement of Functional Expenses presents the natural classification detail of expenses by function. The financial statements include certain categories of expenses that are attributable to more than one program and supporting function. Therefore, these expenses require allocation to the programs and supporting services benefited on a basis that is reasonable and consistently applied. The expenses that are allocated include compensation and benefits, which are allocated based on estimates of time and effort.

**Taxes**

We follow the accounting standards for contingencies in evaluating uncertain tax positions. This guidance requires financial statement recognition of the impact of a tax position if a position is more likely than not of being sustained on audit by the applicable regulatory authority, based on the technical merits of the position. These rules also provide guidance on measurement, recognition, classification, interest and penalties, transition, and disclosure requirements for uncertain tax positions. No liability has been recognized by the District for uncertain tax positions as of January 31, 2021 and 2020.

**Financial Instruments and Credit Risk**

We manage deposit concentration risk by placing cash and financial instruments with financial institutions believed by us to be creditworthy. At times, amounts on deposit may exceed insured limits or include uninsured investments in LCEF notes, money market mutual funds, etc. To date, we have not experienced losses in any of these accounts. Credit risk associated with accounts and contributions receivable is limited due to high historical collection rates and because substantial portions of the outstanding amounts are due from our member congregations or other agencies of the Synod who are supportive of our mission. Investment performance is monitored by the Board of Directors and management. Although the fair values of investments are subject to fluctuation from year-to-year, we believe the investment policies and guidelines are prudent for the long-term welfare of the organization.

**Subsequent Events**

The District has evaluated subsequent events through June 30, 2021, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE C – LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL ASSETS**

The following represents the District's financial assets at January 31, 2021 and 2020, that are available for general expenditure, that is, without donor or other restrictions limiting their use, within one year of the Statement of Financial Position date:

	January 31	
	2021	2020
Financial Assets:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 986,522	\$ 982,963
Contributions Receivable	7,052	-
Long-Term Investments	511,867	509,909
Beneficial Interests in Perpetual Trusts	1,661,071	1,528,691
Total Financial Assets at Year-End	<u>3,166,512</u>	<u>3,021,563</u>
Less Those Unavailable for General Expenditures Within One Year Due to:		
Donor-Imposed or Contractual Restrictions	<u>(2,555,100)</u>	<u>(2,718,155)</u>
Financial Assets Available to Meet Cash Needs for General Expenditures Within One Year	<u>\$ 611,412</u>	<u>\$ 303,408</u>

As part of its liquidity plan, excess cash is invested in short-term investments, including LCEF certificates. As disclosed in Note G, the District also has an unsecured line of credit with LCEF which is available to meet cash flow needs.

**NOTE D – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

We report certain assets and liabilities at fair value in the accompanying financial statements. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Inputs used to determine fair value refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk. Inputs may be observable or unobservable. We consider observable data to be market data that is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

A fair value hierarchy is used to disclose the measurement of fair value based on the levels of observable or unobservable inputs as follows:

Level 1 Inputs – Quoted prices are available in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the measurement date. A quoted price for an identical asset or liability in an active market provides the most reliable fair value measurement because it is directly observable to the market.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE D – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)**

Level 2 Inputs – Pricing inputs are other than quoted prices in active markets, which are either directly or indirectly observable as of the report date. Level 2 inputs include assets or liabilities for which quoted prices are available but traded less frequently and assets or liabilities that are fair valued using similar assets or liabilities, the parameters of which can be directly observed.

Level 3 Inputs – Assets or liabilities have little to no pricing observability as of the measurement date. These items are measured using management's best estimate of fair value, where the inputs into the determination of fair value are not observable and require significant management judgment or estimation.

In some cases, the inputs used to measure the fair value of an asset or liability might be categorized within different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In those cases, the fair value measurement is categorized in its entirety in the same level of the fair value hierarchy as the lowest level input that is significant to the entire measurement. Assessing the significance of a particular input to entire measurement requires judgment, taking into account factors specific to the asset or liability. The categorization of a financial instrument within the hierarchy is based upon the pricing transparency of the instrument and does not necessarily correspond to our assessment of the quality, perceived risk, or liquidity profile of the asset or liability.

The following table presents financial instruments that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis and the level within the fair value hierarchy in which the fair value measurements fall, as well as the non-leveled instruments at January 31, 2021:

	Total	Fair Value Measurements Using			Investments Measured at Cost
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Long-Term Investments -					
LCEF Notes	\$ 405,752	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405,752
Mutual Funds	106,115	106,115	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 511,867</u>	<u>\$ 106,115</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 405,752</u>
Beneficial Interests in					
Perpetual Trusts	\$ 1,661,071	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,661,071	\$ -

The following is a reconciliation of beginning and ending balances of assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the year ended January 31, 2021:

	Balance 1/31/2020	Net New or (Matured) Gifts	Change in Value	Balance 1/31/2021
Perpetual Trusts	\$ 1,528,691	\$ -	\$ 132,380	\$ 1,661,071



ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE D – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)**

The following table presents financial instruments that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis and the level within the fair value hierarchy in which the fair value measurements fall, as well as the non-leveled instruments at January 31, 2020:

	Total	Fair Value Measurements Using			Investments Measured at Cost
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Long-Term Investments -					
LCEF Notes	\$ 405,406	\$	\$	\$	\$ 405,406
Mutual Funds	104,503	104,503			
	<u>\$ 509,909</u>	<u>\$ 104,503</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 405,406</u>
Beneficial Interests in					
Perpetual Trusts	\$ 1,528,691	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,528,691	\$ -

The following is a reconciliation of beginning and ending balances of assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the year ended January 31, 2020:

	Balance 1/31/2019	Net New or (Matured) Gifts	Change in Value	Balance 1/31/2020
Perpetual Trusts	\$ 1,411,912	\$ -	\$ 116,779	\$ 1,528,691

A portion of our long-term investments is classified within Level 1 because they comprise mutual funds with readily determinable fair values based on daily redemption values. The fair values of beneficial interests in perpetual trusts are based on the fair values of the trust investments as reported by the trustee, the LCMS Foundation. These are considered to be Level 3 measurements.

At January 31, 2021 and 2020, the fair value of donor-restricted endowment investments managed by the District, included in long-term investments in the above tables, totaled \$485,665 and \$483,800, respectively.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE E – PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

Property and equipment consists of:

	January 31	
	2021	2020
Land	\$ 14,000	\$ 74,000
Office Building	475,705	-
Campus Center	534,915	534,915
Other Properties	-	324,690
Office Furnishings and Equipment	53,135	53,135
Vehicles	47,590	47,590
Work in Progress	171,944	-
	<u>1,297,289</u>	<u>1,034,330</u>
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(346,235)</u>	<u>(537,827)</u>
Net Property and Equipment	<u>\$ 951,054</u>	<u>\$ 496,503</u>

As shown above, at January 31, 2021, the District had expended \$171,944 in architect fees and deconstruction costs to remove a dilapidated parsonage/house attached to the University Lutheran Chapel in Boulder, CO, to improve the overall safety/efficiency of the campus center property. This work in progress is expected to be completed in July 2021 at an estimated total cost of \$375,000.

**NOTE F – GRANTS PAYABLE**

The District has unconditionally promised to give to the Synod \$14,669 and \$5,987 at January 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively. These amounts were paid within one month after the respective fiscal year-end.

**NOTE G – LINE OF CREDIT**

LCEF establishes a line of credit for each participating district based on the district's program performance; this line of credit is evaluated and adjusted by LCEF annually in July. As of and for the years ended January 31, 2021 and 2020, we had an unsecured line of credit with LCEF in the amount of \$477,194 and \$468,022, respectively. Borrowings under the line would bear interest at the current rate of 3.875%. As of and during the years ended January 31, 2021 and 2020, there were no borrowings against this line of credit.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE H – NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS**

Net assets without donor restrictions consist of the following:

	January 31	
	2021	2020
Undesignated	\$ 1,396,852	\$ 890,622
Designated by Board for:		
World and National Missions	9,654	9,654
Quasi-Endowment - Congregational Services	30,000	30,000
	<u>\$ 1,436,506</u>	<u>\$ 930,276</u>

**NOTE I – NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS**

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted for the following purposes or periods:

	January 31	
	2021	2020
Purpose Restrictions:		
World and National Missions	\$ 310,720	\$ 464,313
Preparing Church Workers	2,400	2,400
Congregational Services	79,312	221,491
Ecclesiastical and Program Administration	6,147	8,064
	<u>398,579</u>	<u>696,268</u>
Endowments:		
Corpus (Perpetual) -		
World and National Missions	10,650	10,650
Preparing Church Workers	31,201	29,951
Congregational Services	445,276	444,317
	<u>487,127</u>	<u>484,918</u>
Net Investment Return Subject to Appropriation and Expenditure; Restricted by Donors for:		
World and National Missions	1,978	1,706
Congregational Services	6,345	6,572
	<u>8,323</u>	<u>8,278</u>
Beneficial Interests in Perpetual Trusts	<u>1,661,071</u>	<u>1,528,691</u>
	<u>\$ 2,555,100</u>	<u>\$ 2,718,155</u>

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE I – NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS (Continued)**

Net assets were released from donor restrictions when expenses were incurred to satisfy the restricted purpose, or by occurrence of the passage of time or other events specified by the donors as follows:

	January 31	
	2021	2020
Satisfaction of Purpose Restrictions:		
World and National Missions	\$ 296,194	\$ 200,232
Preparing Church Workers	36,545	41,104
Congregational Services	186,514	30,853
Ecclesiastical and Program Administration	5,000	8,335
	<u>\$ 524,253</u>	<u>\$ 280,524</u>

**NOTE J – ENDOWMENT FUNDS**

Our endowment (the Endowment) consists of three individual funds established by donors to provide annual funding for specific activities, including world and national missions, preparing church workers, and congregational services. The Endowment also includes certain net assets without donor restrictions that have been designated for endowment by the Board of Directors.

The District classifies amounts in its donor-restricted endowment fund as net assets with donor restrictions until the Board of Directors appropriates amounts for expenditure and any purpose restrictions have been met. Our Board has interpreted the Colorado enacted version of the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift of the donor-restricted endowment funds, as of the gift date, unless there are explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, we retain in perpetuity (a) the original value of initial and subsequent gifts donated to the endowment and (b) any accumulations to the endowment that are required to be maintained in perpetuity in accordance with the applicable donor gift instrument. Donor-restricted amounts not retained in perpetuity are subject to appropriation and expenditure by us in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA. We consider the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- The duration and preservation of the endowment fund
- The purposes of the organization and the donor-restricted endowment fund
- General economic conditions
- The possible effect of inflation and deflation
- The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- Other resources of the District
- The investment policies of the District

From time to time, certain donor-restricted endowment funds may have fair values less than the amount required to be maintained by donors or by law (underwater endowments). We have interpreted UPMIFA to not permit spending from underwater endowments in accordance with

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE J – ENDOWMENT FUNDS (Continued)**

prudent measures required under law. There were no underwater endowments as of January 31, 2021 and 2020.

*Investment and Spending Policies* – The District Board of Directors has delegated the responsibility for managing and investing its endowment assets to the respective committees appointed by the Board; all committee actions are subject to oversight by the Board of Directors. The District has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to subject the fund to low investment risk and provide programs supported by its endowments with current income. Endowment assets are invested in LCEF certificates and a mutual fund. The various endowment fund committees are responsible for determining investment objectives, goals, and risk tolerances in relation to the funds purpose and stated mission of the District and in concert with spending objectives. It is the intention of the District to increase the revenue stream when possible and the total endowment investment portfolio every year by an amount equal to or greater than the rate of inflation. The amount of investment return expended for current operations or reinvested will be balanced to provide equitably for both current and future needs of the District and/or its endowment.

No more than 3% of the principal may be invaded each calendar year, and expenditure of such principal requires a two-thirds majority vote from the respective committee and the Board of Directors. Additionally, any unspent investment return should remain in the endowment fund for future growth.

As of January 31, 2021 and 2020, we had the following endowment net asset composition by fund type:

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<u>January 31, 2021</u>			
Board-Designated Endowment Funds	\$ 30,000	\$	\$ 30,000
Donor-Restricted Endowment Funds:			
Amounts Required to be Maintained in Perpetuity		487,127	487,127
Accumulated Investment Return		8,323	8,323
Total Endowment	<u>\$ 30,000</u>	<u>\$ 495,450</u>	<u>\$ 525,450</u>
<u>January 31, 2020</u>			
Board-Designated Endowment Funds	\$ 30,000	\$	\$ 30,000
Donor-Restricted Endowment Funds:			
Amounts Required to be Maintained in Perpetuity		484,918	484,918
Accumulated Investment Return		8,278	8,278
Total Endowment	<u>\$ 30,000</u>	<u>\$ 493,196</u>	<u>\$ 523,196</u>

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE J – ENDOWMENT FUNDS (Continued)**

Changes in the endowment net assets for the years ended January 31, 2021 and 2020, are as follows:

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<u>Year Ended January 31, 2021</u>			
Endowment Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$ 30,000	\$ 493,196	\$ 523,196
Net Investment Return (Loss)		16,045	16,045
Contributions		2,209	2,209
Appropriation of Endowment Assets for Expenditure		(16,000)	(16,000)
Endowment Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$ 30,000</u>	<u>\$ 495,450</u>	<u>\$ 525,450</u>
<u>Year Ended January 31, 2020</u>			
Endowment Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$ 30,000	\$ 488,346	\$ 518,346
Net Investment Return (Loss)		16,038	16,038
Contributions		1,472	1,472
Appropriation of Endowment Assets for Expenditure		(12,660)	(12,660)
Endowment Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$ 30,000</u>	<u>\$ 493,196</u>	<u>\$ 523,196</u>

**NOTE K – SUPPORT AND REVENUE FROM THE LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND**

*Distribution of LCEF Operating Results* – Based on LCEF's annual operating performance, earnings distributions are made available to its partner districts. LCEF operating results are restricted for specific mission and ministry programs of the respective district and are distributed upon request. During the years ended January 31, 2021 and 2020, the District requested and received a distribution of LCEF operating results in the amount of \$102,379 and \$94,603, respectively. This distribution is reflected in the Statement of Activities as support from LCEF in net assets with donor restrictions.

(Continued)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT of  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE K – SUPPORT AND REVENUE FROM THE LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND (Continued)**

*Agreements with LCEF* – In accordance with certain agreements, which are subject to renegotiation each July, LCEF agreed to compensate and reimburse the District for providing facilities and services to LCEF, as well as for promotion and coordination of church extension program activities within the District. The agreements require LCEF to pay the District a fixed amount on a monthly basis. The amounts received by the District in connection with these agreements during the years ended January 31, 2021 and 2020, totaled \$6,666 and \$16,600, respectively, which is reported in the Statement of Activities as revenue in net assets without donor restrictions.

**NOTE L – DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN**

The District participates in the worker benefit plans of the Synod, including the Concordia Retirement Plan (CRP). The CRP provides individuals with post-retirement benefits. Substantially all full-time employees (those employed more than 20 hours per week and at least five months per year) are covered by the CRP. Employees are vested after five years of creditable service. We contribute a fixed percentage of each participant's salary to the CRP. Retirement plan expenses for the years ended January 31, 2021 and 2020, totaled \$22,947 and \$19,170, respectively.

There were no significant changes in the District's relationship to the CRP or changes that would affect the comparability to the CRP during fiscal 2021 or 2020. There were also no contingent liabilities associated with the CRP at January 31, 2021 or 2020. Currently, the District has no intention to withdraw from the CRP; the District's contributions and level of participation represent a small percentage of the CRP as a whole.

**NOTE M – COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RELATED ACTIVITIES**

As a result of the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus in the United States, multiple businesses across a wide range of industries are being disrupted through mandatory and voluntary closings. The extent of the impact of COVID-19 on our operational and financial performance will depend on certain developments including the duration and spread of the outbreak, as well as its impact on our member congregations, donors, employees, and vendors, all of which are uncertain and cannot be predicted. At this point, the extent to which COVID-19 may impact our financial condition or results of operations is uncertain. We have made several modifications to our operations to account for the potential financial impacts, including participation in the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) (as noted below) and reduction of various budgeted expenses. We continue to monitor the financial implications and will adjust accordingly.

*PPP Loan* – The District received an unsecured loan in the amount of \$54,000 under the PPP established by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act from a Small Business Administration (SBA) approved partner. The loan is subject to a note dated May 4, 2020 and, under the terms of the PPP, all or a portion of the principal and accrued interest may be forgiven if the loan proceeds are used for qualifying expenses as described in the CARES Act such as payroll costs, benefits, rent, and utilities. At January 31, 2021, the District has recorded a PPP loan payable of \$54,000. Subsequent to year-end, we applied for and received forgiveness from the SBA for the full amount of our loan principal and accrued interest as of May 2021.

\*Update- The 2021 report is complete and available. To request a copy, send an email to [business@rm.lcms.org](mailto:business@rm.lcms.org).