



The Beacon Online

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The Beacon Online is the communication source for the SELC District.

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LCMS Meeting in Toronto

The SELC District, along with the English District, are the two LCMS districts that have congregations in Canada. Both of our districts want to continue to do mission work across the true North. On August 28th and 29th the District Presidents met with President Harrison and representatives from the LCMS congregations across Canada. They talked about the future of our district mission work in Canada and our cooperative agreements with the Lutheran Church Canada to do mission work. We spent time brainstorming about what mission looks like and how to strengthen our relationship with the Lutheran Church Canada as we partner in mission for the Gospel.



Above: From left to right is LCEF District VP Rev. Dan Lepley, President Vinovskis, Synod President Matthew Harrison, and Rev. Charles St-Onge from Ascension Lutheran Church in Montreal.



Left: Chief Ecumenical Officer of the Synod Jonathan Shaw with President Vinovskis

Right: The group of who met in Toronto



Brass Band of Central Florida Friday, September 9 at 7PM

The St. Luke's Concert Series presents the Brass Band of Central Florida on Friday, September 9th at 7 PM. If you cannot attend, you can listen online.

**Can't attend live?
Watch online with our high-quality broadcast.**

To watch live click here!

Brass Band
of Central Florida
presents

FRIDAY **SEP 9**
at 7PM

MUSIC
FROM THE SILVER SCREEN
MUSIC

St. Luke's
CONCERT SERIES

slcs.org/concert-series
2021 West SR 426 Oviedo, FL | 407-365-3408
A gift to the community from St. Luke's Lutheran Church



SELC Shirts Available through the District Office

We have SELC District long-sleeved men's shirts available through the SELC District office. We have dark blue, light blue, and white (not pictured) button down, long-sleeved shirts available in small - 3 XL.

To order shirts, please call the District office at 610-965-3265, extension 6 or email us at selc.lcms@gmail.com. We will take your credit card information over the telephone or you can mail us a check.



Men's shirts are \$30.00 for sizes SM - XL and \$33.00 for sizes 2XL and 3XL



2023 Holy Lands Trip Bible Study scheduled for September 20th

The Bible Study is open to all who want to participate. The topic for September is Parables. The Bible Study sessions are held at 10 am and 9 pm Eastern time.

[The links for the calls are below.](#)

10:00A EST/7:00A PST Parables

<https://lcef.zoom.us/j/87432789286>

9:00P EST/6:00P PST Parables

<https://lcef.zoom.us/j/87035719078>



LCMS Leadership Meetings

President Vinovskis, along with other District Presidents, is hosting a series of leadership conferences across our Synod. Our goal is to strengthen the relationships of pastors in all of our districts so that our congregations can be stronger. These leadership meetings have been held in the Nebraska District, the South Dakota District, and the Iowa West District. The SELC will be hosting a leadership meeting in Oviedo, Florida in November of this year. One other meeting is scheduled to be held in Arizona.



From left to right: District Presidents Turner (Iowa District West), Vinovskis, Sailer (South Dakota), and Snow (Nebraska)



Church Planting Cohorts Launch

It's not too late to join!

Three of the four church planting cohorts (below) launched last week but it's not too late to jump in. See calendar below for the next meeting date. You will receive the link for the cohorts when registered. **[Click here](#)** for full details and to register.

- *Developing Disciples for Sending*—For congregations to get ready to plant, discussing and implementing strategies for discipling individuals in mission, so they can multiply to create sustained movement in your congregation

- *Planning to Plant*—For congregations who are about ready, examining the best practices and common pitfalls for the initial phases of planting a new church
- *Securing Your Legacy*—Examining the phases of the church life cycle and discussing the current positioning of your specific congregation

Since ethnic church planting can fit in a wide variety of contexts, this cohort will be offered later in the fall beginning October 18.

- *Cultivating Partners*—Discussing and planning best practices for establishing cross-cultural relationships that yield ministry partnerships for ethnic church planting

Don't forget to check out our church planting [podcasts](#).

CHURCH PLANTING CALENDAR (All times are 2pm Eastern/1pm Central)

- September 13 (Tuesday)—*Developing Disciples for Sending Cohort*
- September 14 (Wednesday)—*Planning to Plant a Multiplying Church Cohort*
- September 15 (Thursday)—*Securing Your Congregational Legacy Cohort*
- October 18 (Tuesday)—*Cultivating Partners for Ethnic Missions Cohort* begins



'Last Call' for Nominations for the 68th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

The 2023 Committee for Convention Nominations has now been fully constituted by district conventions, but the committee continues to need nominations for the 69 influential officer, board, and commission positions to be elected by the 2023 Synod convention. [Details can be found here](#). Nominations may yet be submitted by:

- Agencies and officers of the Synod
- Congregational and individual members of the Synod
- Laypersons of the congregations of the Synod

With 69 offices to be filled by the convention and less than three months of the

nominating period to go, the Secretary's office is in receipt of nominations (including incumbents) for only 72 ordained and 22 commissioned ministers and 49 laypersons — not all of whom will let their names stand. (Last convention, for comparison, the committee had 163 ordained, 45 commissioned, and 139 lay names to consider.) Please, therefore, consider where the needs of the offices to be filled match the giftedness of those LCMS congregation members and ordained and commissioned ministers that you know, and submit their names for consideration.

Nominations must be received by **Oct. 29, 2022**, but are desired as soon as possible, given that each nomination then must be augmented with the responses of nominees and evaluators.

The nomination process is open to every member of every Synod congregation. It is a wonderful opportunity to gather up the great diversity of human gifts in our pews to see how they may be put to the common good in Synod offices, boards, and commissions. Congregations are urged to make their membership aware of the website above and to encourage their members to take up this task, together or individually, with zeal.

The nomination form is available for download at [lcms.org/convention/2023-nomination-form](https://www.lcms.org/convention/2023-nomination-form). It can be downloaded, filled out electronically, and then emailed to the Office of the Secretary at ccn@lcms.org. Electronic submission, according to the accompanying instructions, will expedite processing. With your affirmation and contact information on the form, including your return email address, there is no longer a need to send a hard copy by U.S. mail.

Information on the distinct, and newly electronic, nomination process for Synod president, first vice-president, and regional vice-presidents will be mailed to nominating member congregations beginning in October 2022.

[View Nomination Form](#)



CONCORDIA PLANS

September is National Suicide Prevention Month



Dial 988 for the NEW Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Caring for you and your family is a priority for Concordia Plans. In recognition of Suicide Prevention Week, we're making you aware of the new Suicide & Crisis Lifeline number* - 988 - and reminding you that CPS and the LCMS have resources available to support you and your mental health needs.

Time is vital when someone is feeling suicidal and needs help. If you or someone you know is in a crisis, call 988 to reach the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline*.

The 988 Lifeline provides emotional support for people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress - and is completely free and confidential. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States, it's comprised of a national network of more than 200 local crisis centers, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices.

CALL OR TEXT 988

Chat with 988 →

Let the EAP help →**

Listen in →

Rest and renewal for your mental health

As Suicide Prevention Week reminds us, it's important to take care of our mental health and seek support during times when we feel anxious, scared or alone. CPS and LCMS provide tools and resources to support your emotional well-being, including virtual and in-person retreats through "Run Hard. Rest Well." and DOXOLOGY.

"Run Hard. Rest Well." will host a free webinar, "A Rest That Works," Sept. 15. This is a free webinar for leaders, individuals and teams.

Learn more →

"Take Heart!" is a respite retreat program offered by DOXOLOGY for pastors, teachers and commissioned ministers who labored tirelessly to serve faithfully throughout and beyond COVID challenges. The only costs participants will need to cover is travel.

PASTORS:

Learn more and register →

TEACHERS AND COMMISSIONED MINISTERS:

Learn more and register →

For other resources that can help support your mental health, visit

Caring for You →

**The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is sponsored/administered by "Vibrant Emotional Health" and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.*

***EAP is available to members of the Concordia Health Plan (CHP).*

Why borrow from LCEF?

It's Lutherans helping Lutherans.

SUPPORTING THE GREAT COMMISSION

LCEF provides lending solutions so you can focus and expand your ministry work. In addition, our reach and support go beyond our ministry partners as we share our blessings with LCMS districts and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. This is Lutherans helping Lutherans.

LCEF strives to be a true partner in ministry. We want to learn about you and your ministry and work together to create unique solutions that are customized for you.

Contact us to start a conversation today.

DANIEL LEPLEY

LCEF District Vice President | English & SELC
317-402-9401 | Daniel.Lepley@lcef.org



Lutheran Church Extension Fund
> where investments build ministry

Lutheran Church Extension Fund-Missouri Synod, 10733 Sunset Office Drive, Suite 300, St. Louis, MO 63127-1020. 800-843-5233. lcef.org. NMLS #3444. Illinois Residential Mortgage Licensee (MB.0006057). Loans made or arranged pursuant to a California Law License (6037619). For more information on LCEF's lending license go to lcef.org/state-disclosures/. LCEF Residential Loan applications are accepted from: Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin. Specific state regulations are applicable in Arizona and Wisconsin. Call 800-853-5233 for details. All cash-out refinances and straight refinances in excess of 80% loan-to-value are not available in Texas. For those states not listed above, RCW mortgage loans are available through the Lutheran Federal Credit Union (LutheranFCU).



Divine Call

Rev. Danlias Howe has accepted a call to Trinity Lutheran Church in Ocala, FL in the English District. We ask for God's blessings for Pastor Howe as he is called to serve in the congregation where he has been serving a vacancy to assist the English District.

Rev. Curtis Brooks of the North Wisconsin District, who has been serving at Holy Trinity in Boyceville, WI has accepted a call to the Nebraska District. We thank Pastor Brooks for serving at Holy Trinity and we pray for God's care and blessings as he moves to the Nebraska District following his last day at Holy Trinity on September 25th.



Thought for the Day or Coming Week

Pastor Ken Ballas, EM

Much of Life's Best Is Still Relatively Free

(with special thanks to sainted seminary professor F. W. Danker)

Were you aware that even totally "Greeklless" lay students of God's written Word may derive a wealth of highly useful information by thumbing through a purchased or borrowed (perhaps your pastor's) printed-in-Germany pocket-sized edition of Nestle-Aland's Greek New Testament whose outer margins contain an amazing number of cross references or parallel passages found nowhere

else.

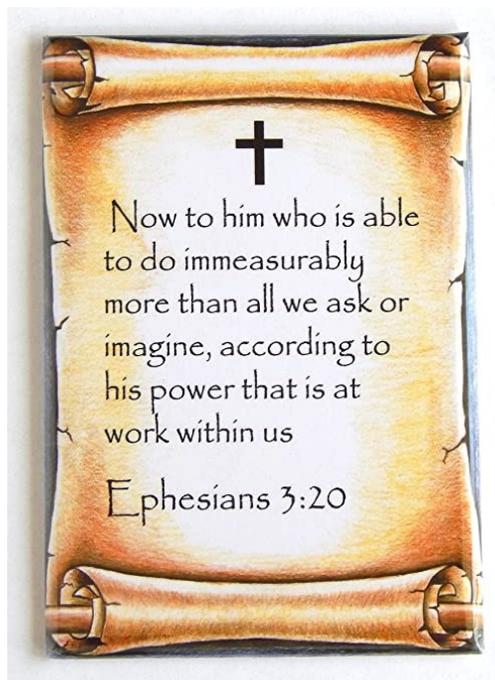
(Do not allow German abbreviations of biblical books to be a deterrent to opening this treasure trove of invaluable data for adding to one's understanding and more effective sharing of the blessed Gospel).

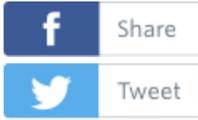
Believing that Scripture remains its own best interpreter, say, for example, you happen to be reading aloud Ephesians 3:20-21 where St. Paul suddenly bursts into what may be seen as an "internal doxological" ascription of praise (reminiscent perhaps as a visual reminder that the universally used originally Hebrew liturgical word AMEN does not mean "the end" but rather an affirmative, "YES! I believe what was just said!")

The outer margin abbreviation **R 16,25!** at **Ephesians 3:20** quickly alerts the reader to consult the outer margin at **Romans 16:25**. The **exclamation point** promises finding next to the Romans reference a veritable treasure trove of far more than a single doxological parallel (again, many of which are *internal* praiseworthy statements occurring well before the end of a NT book or letter). Editors Nestle-Aland most conveniently provide us with an "added bonus" in their final reference at Romans 16:25, namely, the abbreviation **Ap 4,11!** with reference to the outer margin at Revelation 4:11 or the Apocalypse or Revelation of Jesus Christ to John which unlock a flood of extended highly comforting doxologies in the last book of our Bibles several of which contributed mightily to Georg Fridric Handel's composing his monumental entire oratorio "**Messiah**" in less than a month's time! May each of us be similarly inspired by the written Word of God!

"Now to Him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more than all that we ask or think, to Him belongs glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus to all generations for ever and ever! AMEN!"

SOLI DEO GLORIA!





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