

AUGUSTANA DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019

335 Main St S • Hutchinson, MN 55350 • 320.587.2093



THEOLOGY CHURCH MISSION

Dear Friends in Christ -

On February 4-5, Augustana District hosted our annual theological conference. Every year, the Board for Theology and Ministry provides an opportunity for pastors and interested lay people to get together and think theologically about a topic. This year's topic was based on the late Gerhard Forde's book, *Theology is for Proclamation*. We had several participants who braved difficult travel conditions to share in the District's commitment to a robust theological conversation. Also, this year, we welcomed friends from across the country who were able to live stream the conference.

At our opening worship, Pastor Matt Shields preached to preachers by announcing: "Thou art released!" Dr. Steven Paulson helped us to better understand the thesis and argument of Forde's sketch for preaching. He challenged preachers to speak in a way that keeps the promises of God's Word in the present tense to real people in the pews. Pastor Julie Smith reflected on the *Craft of Preaching*. She examined the writing and delivery process, unpacking the meaning of law and gospel preaching. Members of the BTM provided brief reflections on the Sacraments, Worship and Hymnody, and Pastoral Care which prompted table discussions about theology and proclamation and their use in concrete ways for ministry.

On Tuesday morning, Pastor Randy Freund, Dr. Chris Croghan, Brad Jenson, and Pastor Julie Smith

reflected on sermons from former preachers and teachers; the session was called "The Greatest Hits." Each sermon provided a case study for attendees to think about and to inspire our own preaching. Pastor Becky Hand gave us the final sermon at our closing service, calling us to the task of preaching like Jesus (see Luke 4:18-19), only because we ourselves have received such preaching from Christ himself.

The Board is already thinking about and looking forward to next year's conference, February 3-4, 2020. This conference is just one way Augustana District continues to provide theological support to local pastors and congregations. We look forward to seeing you in May at our District Convention, where the mantra of theology, church, and mission will be lifted up again.

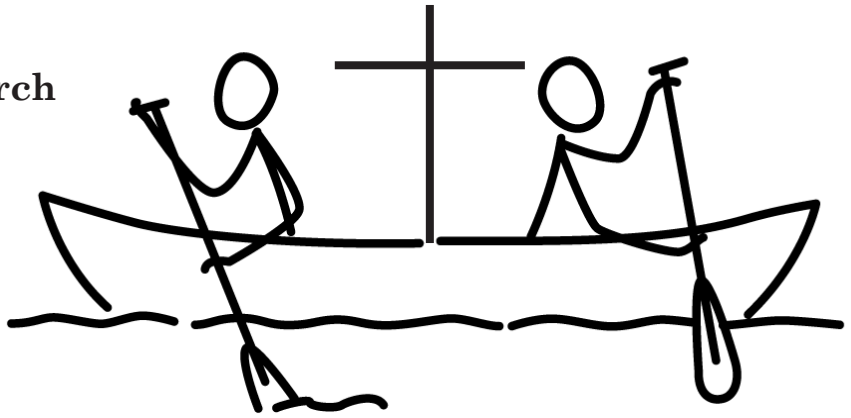
A Blessed Lententide to you -
Pastor Culynn Curtis,
Chair of the Board for Theology and Ministry
Augustana District March 2019 News



February Theological Conference

Living Word Lutheran Church
1722 16th Ave E
Alexandria, MN United States

May 10th 2-6PM



LCMC CONFLICT RESOLUTION WORKSHOP

Conflict often results from our seeing things from our own selfish point of view. We confuse being right with doing the right thing. We tend to act out of selfish interests rather than seeking the interest of others (Phil 2:3). Like Adam and Eve, we blame others when our relationships fail. But there is hope! As we learn about how relationships are influenced by broken systems, we can begin to work together to be restored to one another. Once everyone in conflict takes ownership for their part in the broken relationship, hope begins to flow. As we learn about how to resolve conflict in God-honoring ways, we can bring hope to our families, churches, and communities.

The LCMC Conflict Resolution Seminar is designed to help you learn about yourself in conflict as well as steps to forgiveness and reconciliation from a Biblical perspective. The workshop is fast-moving, hands-on, and includes information on:

- Biblical Rational for Reconciliation
- Understanding Emotional Systems
- Feelings and Anger
- Steps of Conflict Resolution
- Peacemaking Solutions
- Bowen Brain Theory (Dealing with Anxiety in Congregations)

The workshop is offered by Pastor Perry Fruhling, Coordinator for Pastoral Ministry for Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC). He is a trained facilitator for Peter Steinke's Healthy Congregations and has considerable experience in the field of conflict management.

The LCMC Augustana District is sponsoring this workshop. You can register for the workshop online at augustanadistrict.org. You can also contact Augustana District at office@augustanadistrict.org or 320.234-8403 for more information or with any questions about the workshop.

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REGISTER FOR TICKETS ONLINE AT AUGUSTANADISTRICT.ORG



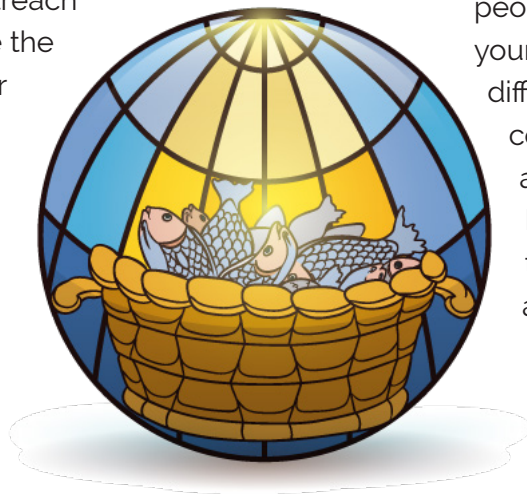
NEW DISTRICT POSITION

Pastor Becky Hand is our new Program Coordinator

What is the PC?

Well, I've never been good at being politically correct, so being the Program Coordinator (PC) will make me be "PC" in some respect! As our District continues to expand its ministry and grow in numbers the District Council has realized that there are additional tasks to be carried out. For example, we have begun an Ambassador program. Each AD congregation has an assigned volunteer pastor to serve as an ambassador. The ambassador will communicate between the district and the congregations and be helpful to the congregations if needed. This is to help congregations keep informed of the district's activities and services and present service opportunities for missions (global and local) as well as opportunities to serve (board and council positions, etc.)

The District is in the process of developing Chapters. Chapters are groups of congregations in relatively close proximity that can gather to support one another and serve their area or the district at large. Chapters may, working through the Board of World Missions, take on some AD global mission outreach projects, or may serve the overall District in other ways. Chapters will each develop their own identities within the district and have their own focus within the AD mantra of Theology. Church. Mission.



So, will the PC work with AD Global Missions, the Ambassador program and the District Chapter program?

The PC will also work closely with the Board for World Mission. It is important we communicate the ongoing work of our many mission partners. The PC will also oversee the Ambassador program and work closely with the Service Coordinator to assist with the Chapter development. The PC will work with Pastor Randy, our Service Coordinator (SC), in any area needed. You may be aware that the SC is a $\frac{3}{4}$ time position. The PC will be an $\frac{1}{8}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ time position. It's in a trial phase now so we will know what is needed by the time of the convention in May.

I'll also be helping Pastor Janine Rew-Werling with our Multiply to Magnify Campaign (M2M). Of course, congregations are not required to financially support the work of AD, but we are an active district and prayer support as well as donations of time, personnel and money are always needed and appreciated. M2M is designed to let people know what the district is doing and where your financial contributions can make a difference. Many of our congregations consistently support the district. Individuals are also welcomed to contribute and assist. I'm looking forward to serving the District as the Program Coordinator. God bless His work and guide us in His will.



To highlight our global activity the Newsletter will begin these brief updates. I hope you enjoy getting 'caught up' and are inspired.

We are currently supporting four pastors of a team of almost 100 in northern India. They travel in Muslim areas across five states and preach the gospel. God's word is being heard and people are being baptized at the rate of approximately 150 per month! We committed to support these four men for only \$125/month. Quarterly we send \$1,500 to support this growing ministry.

If you or your congregation would like to contribute to this most worthy ministry please send funds to AD marked for AIMJ (All India Masihi Jamat).

"Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19

Pastor Becky Hand
Augustana District Program Coordinator



It's time once again for the Augustana District Convention. All member churches are encouraged to send delegates, and all interested people are warmly invited to attend. The convention will begin with a 9:00 a.m. registration and a 10:00 a.m. welcome and opening worship. Convention will conclude around 5:00 p.m. Further details and information is available on the district's website. This year the district will again offer a streaming option for churches that are not able to physically send delegates to the convention. You can stream the meeting right to your church and vote from there.

LOOKING BACK ON WHAT GOD HAS DONE...

"So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

Isaiah 55:11

See details at www.augustanadistrict.org

LOOKING TOGETHER AS THE AUGUSTANA DISTRICT...

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."

Philippians 1:6

LOOKING AHEAD
TO WHAT WE CANNOT SEE...
"Because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen."

II Corinthians 4:18a

REGISTER ONLINE NOW
Deadline April 28, 2019

May 11, 2019 • Living Word Lutheran Church • Alexandria MN

MT CARMEL FAMILY CAMP

Hey Augustana District family,

Join us for a week of family camp at Mount Carmel this summer from July 13-July 19 as we explore the "Sounds of the Holy Spirit".

The 1st-century church has a lot in common with the 21st-century church. Discover again the power and the work of the Holy Spirit.

Our Guest Teacher will be Pastor Randy Freund, the Service Coordinator for Augustana District, LCMC and pastor at New Creation Lutheran Church, Perham, MN.

Guest Worship Leaders will be Milt and Andrew Scott. You can register directly with Mount Carmel by filling out the registration form inside and mailing it directly to Mount Carmel or by registering online at Mt. Carmel Ministries

I hope to see you there!

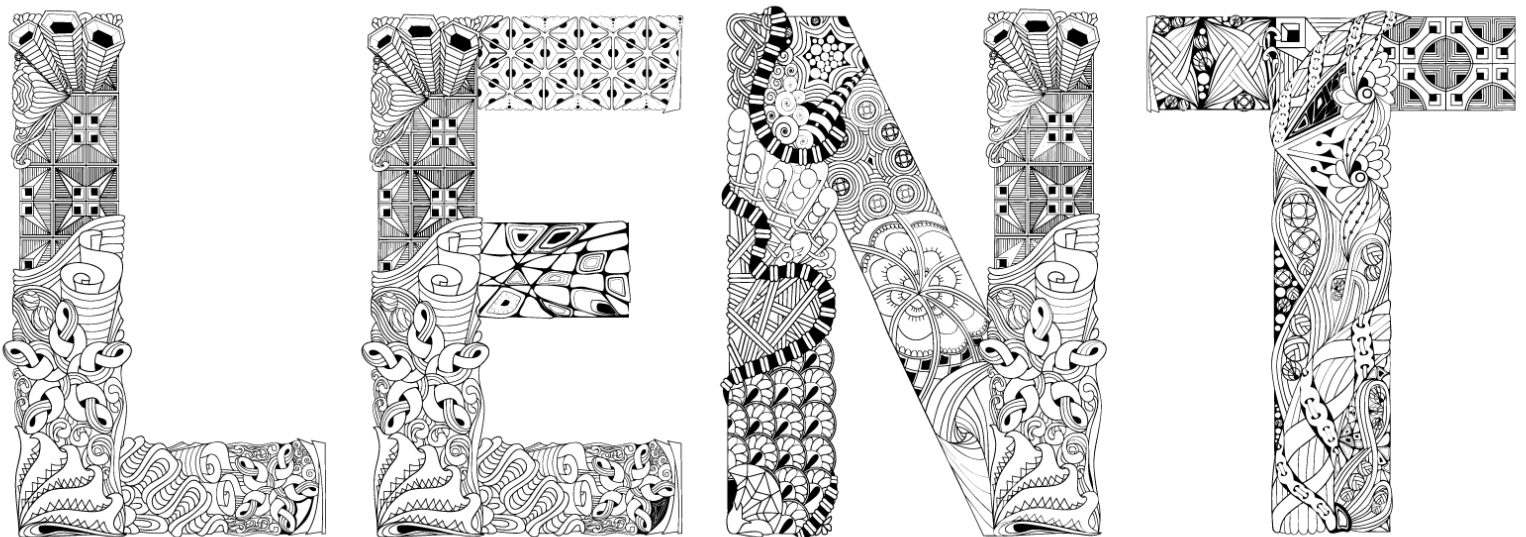
Pr. Randy Freund

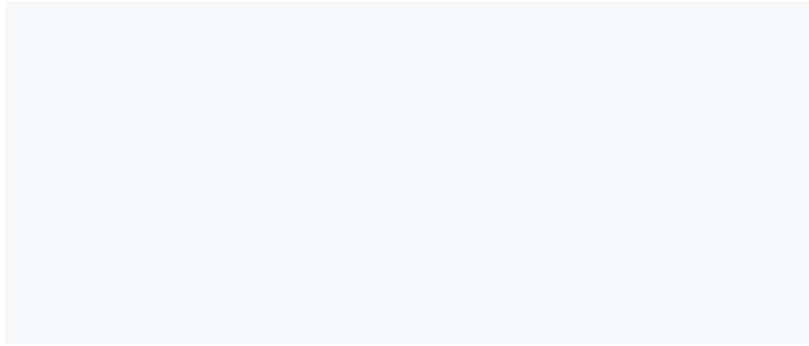
Augustana District Service Coordinator



July 13 – 19

LEARN MORE





Address Service Requested

AD
AUGUSTANA DISTRICT
335 Main Street S.
Hutchinson MN 55350



2019 ANNUAL CONFIRMATION RETREAT

HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR
APRIL 5 – 7 DUE TO
INCLEMENT WEATHER!!!

If anyone has not registered please contact Wendy
to check availability before registering.