



Arizona-California District—WELS Report of the District President

End Times 2015

No one takes this honor upon himself. He must be called by God, just as Aaron was (Hebrews 5:4).

Joe has always had a secret yearning to be a law-enforcement officer. He resents people who regularly drive in the left lane, never use their turn signal, and pay no attention to the speed limit—and he wants to do something about it. One day he decides to give up his job as a worker at the convenience store and act on his fantasy. He buys himself a police uniform, sews some patches on the sleeves, and straps on a gun and some cuffs. He finds a police surplus Crown Victoria, loads it up with lights, radios and emergency scanners, and has a body shop paint it in metro PD livery. His lifelong dream is fulfilled, as he drives around, pulls people over, and issues citations for traffic infractions.

What's wrong with this picture?

We understand very clearly that this scenario doesn't pass muster. Joe is not a police officer—even though outward appearances might indicate he is. It's not just a matter of training. (Joe is well-versed in law-enforcement issues. He has spent countless hours browsing police websites, he's a dead shot at the pistol range, and he's been an avid reader of "Soldier of Fortune" for years.) It's a matter of authority. Joe does not have the authority to act as a peace officer. Where would such authority come from? Law and order, peace and protection, are the common domain of all the citizenry. It would be wrong for one person to take what belongs to everyone and unilaterally to appropriate it for himself. Authority cannot be self-conferred. Authority must come from the people. Any person who functions without authorization is usurping authority.

When can any citizen act authoritatively? In an emergency any citizen can perform a citizen's arrest. Such events are rare, and they happen only in the absence of regular authority. No citizen who sees a sworn officer arresting and placing handcuffs onto a shoplifter would step in and say, "I'll take this one." The policeman holds an office—conferred by the people—and the authority that goes along with it. The citizen does not.

We grasp this concept very clearly in the secular realm, but today the concept is more easily lost in the spiritual realm.

The full counsel of the Word of God, the specific gospel of Jesus Christ, the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion, and the administration of the Keys are the common property of the Church. Every believer is a priest before God, in full possession of the forgiveness of sins, and an adopted member of Christ's family. Every Christian is called to testify to the truth, to live a godly life, to be salt upon the earth and light in the world, and to be a living sacrifice of praise to the Savior. It would be wrong for one person to take what belongs to everyone, unilaterally appropriate it for himself, and begin functioning in an office without authorization given through the body of believers. It would be wrong for anyone to hang out a shingle and act as a minister of the gospel because he (or she) feels the urge to fulfill a lifelong dream. A desire to serve, while laudable (1 Timothy 3:1), does not confer authority.

Enter the call. God's call into the ministry, extended in an orderly way through the body of believers, confers an office. With the office comes authority to preach, teach, administer the sacraments, and use the keys in the name of the Church. Some ministerial offices carry with them broader authority; some offices are more limited in their scope and authority. All of them require a call. We subscribe to Article XIV of the Augsburg Confession, which says, "Concerning ecclesiastical order, they teach that no one should publicly teach in the Church, or administer the sacraments, unless he be regularly called." Hebrews 5:4 refers specifically to the Old Testament priesthood, but the concept of a divine call extends to all ministry. The writer to the Hebrews goes on to say in chapter 5 that even Jesus, the Son of God, did not take upon himself the honor of public ministry. He too received a divine call at his baptism ("to fulfill all righteousness"), so that his public ministry had full legitimacy.

You have a call to minister in the name of Jesus and in the name of his Church. You are more than a role model, mentor, counselor, or life-coach (all of which are fine vocations for Christians). Your call confers upon you an office with authority, especially to announce the sweet gospel of forgiveness to those under your spiritual care and to all who will listen. Your call is to fling far and wide the seed of the powerful gospel for the forgiveness of sins and the healing of souls. May eternal joy be yours in the high and noble calling we share in Jesus!

New hymnal project. The new hymnal is still several years from release, but the hymnal project committee has been working intensely to move the project forward. Worship resources for initial testing are scheduled for release in October 2016. The website of the hymnal project is welshymnal.com.

Compensation and benefits. WELS VEBA rates for 2016 have been published on the welsbpo.net website. The premium increase projected for 2016 is only around 4%. Rates are now regionalized according to regional healthcare costs.

The WELS VEBA Commission is asking the COP to survey all congregations in the synod to determine current participation in VEBA. In our district we will be surveying additional information about compensation relative to synod code. The goal of

the information gathered is to support and strengthen the VEBA program and to support congregations and called workers in providing equitable compensation. Please watch for an online survey to be released in the next few weeks, and please respond promptly to provide the information requested.

Especially for younger called workers, VEBA may not be the most inexpensive choice, compared to exchange plans, but VEBA does deliver exceptional value and some benefits not available in lesser plans, including:

- Consistent plan benefits nationwide
- Benefits do not reset to \$0 when a call is accepted
- Premiums do not increase for older workers
- VEBA offers a broad network of health providers
- Expansive prescription drug coverage
- Little managed care
- The VEBA program is structured to allow congregations to focus on ministry, not on health-care issues
- VEBA does not cover services or items that conflict with God's Word

VEBA will be providing an online link to a video that details benefits for congregations considering enrollment. Watch for a link in the *Together* newsletter.

If your congregation is currently enrolled in VEBA but may be considering the possibility of opting out of the program, *please speak with the WELS Benefit Plans Office before doing so*, so that all options may be explored.

VEBA will offer an open enrollment period this fall. This is a narrow window for congregations and called workers to enter the plan. It is likely that open enrollment windows will become less frequent in the future.

Underscoring two thoughts from previous DP reports:

- A Care Committee for Called Workers (CCCW) can be a tremendous blessing when it comes to advocating for the welfare of the called workers, not only on compensation issues but in other areas. Our district Special Ministries Commission has information available to help you establish a CCCW in your congregation.
- If you would like me to meet with your congregation or church council to discuss compensation issues, I am happy to do so. This can put the crosshairs on me and take the target off your back.

Grow in Grace Institute Mentor Program. New graduates from the seminary are now being assigned pastoral mentors to offer support and encouragement for the first years of ministry. (Teachers have been participating in a two-year mentor program for years.) The mentor program for pastors is proposed to expand to a three-year mentorship. The cost for the program may be passed along to congregations seeking new graduates, at price tag of \$1,000 per year for the three-year duration. Costs associated with the mentor program also include the ministry retreats held for pastors who have reached ministry milestones. Up until now, these costs have been covered by special grants from the Antioch II Foundation. Watch for further developments.

Counseling support for called workers and members. WLCFS Christian Family Solutions (formerly Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Services) offers online counseling to called workers and members through two programs. The Member Assistance Program (MAP) allows congregations to purchase blocks of counseling time to be used by workers or lay members. The MAP is only accessible through an organization (an individual may not contact the agency directly). A program called "Telehealth" allows people to use the agency's services directly, but it is available only in states where WLCFS has licensed counselors. Since 2008 these programs have offered over 26,000 counseling hours. Support for called workers may also be available through our district support fund. For more information contact our district secretary, Rev. Steve Gabb.

Reformation 500. 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the posting of the 95 Theses and the beginning of the Lutheran Reformation. We hope to celebrate this special milestone in a big way. Discussions are being held with several districts, including our Arizona-California District, about the possibility of holding regional Reformation services that serve a wider geographic area. Our District Commission on Worship is exploring options. There is also discussion of a joint Reformation service to be held in the Bradley Center in Milwaukee on October 30-31, 2017. The event would coincide with a synod-wide joint pastors' symposium. Watch for more information.

Maintenance of called worker synod profiles. Starting in the winter of 2016, we will no longer use paper forms to update our synod database profiles every two years. Each called worker will have the ability to access his or her own form online and indicate experience, abilities, and preferences, as well as maintain other information to be printed in the synod yearbook. Circuit pastors will still have a role in reviewing abilities and preferences with each called workers.

Funding for the synod's mission and ministry. In real dollars, CMO has not increased since 2007. The Ministry of Christian Giving (MCG) is working on several initiatives to support congregations in raising awareness of the importance of CMO. Each congregation should have received a CD with an appeal from your district president for congregations to examine their Congregational Mission Offerings (CMO). Please consider how you might show the CD to your congregation to encourage celebration of the work we do together as a synod and to encourage increased CMO support for the synod. It may be helpful to use the CD in conjunction with your congregation's budgeting process, as CMO subscriptions are discussed and set. If you have any feedback on the CD, please feel free to share it with me.

Beginning in January of 2016 WELS Communication Services will be sending by e-mail to each pastor in the synod a monthly promotional packet with an embedded link to the WELS Resource Center, where things such as videos, PowerPoint presentations, printable bulletin blurbs, prayers, etc., are available. Please explore those resources, and use them to engage your congregation in discussion on CMO.

Online reporting of Congregational Mission Offerings (CMO) subscriptions and statistical reporting has been the norm for a couple of years now. Across the synod 97% of congregations entered CMO subscriptions. CMO is the primary support mechanism for our synod's ministry at home and around the world. CMO receipts in recent quarters continue to surpass subscriptions. **January 8, 2016** is the deadline for CMO receipts to be posted for the 2015 calendar year. The deadline for submission of congregational statistics and CMO subscriptions is **February 5, 2016**. MCG suggests getting the numbers in ahead of time, just in case you encounter any technical difficulties that might delay the process.

2015 CMO progress for our district are as follows:

| Communicant members | 2015 Subscriptions | Third Qtr Received | Year to Date Received | Percentage of subscription | Offerings per communicant |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 17,343 | \$1,439,475 | \$306,939.57 | \$1,039,190.81 | 72.19% | \$59.92 |

Commission on Adult Discipleship - new chairman. Rev. Gary Pufahl, formerly of our district, is the new chairman of the synod's Commission on Adult Discipleship (CAD). Initiatives from the CAD include: The *My Son, My Savior* video; marriage enrichment retreats around the synod; interactive faith Bible studies offered online by pastors or professors; resources for Christian apologetics; and more.

A Women's Ministry Conference is being planned to be held at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary on July 21-23, 2016. The conference is designed to create pathways for service for women who wish to use their God-given talents in roles that conform to biblical principles.

The newly appointed coordinator for our district CAD is Rev. Paul T. Schulz (Chula Vista, Calif.).

District Help Team. At the 2014 Arizona-California District Convention our district approved implementation of a district Help Team for the purpose of offering support to called workers who leaving the ministry. Part of the implementation of the district resolution is the election or appointment of one pastor and one teacher from each of the five conferences. The process for election is not specified. This conference may elect a teacher (male or female) to serve as a member of the Help Team. The information I currently have shows the Help Team looking like this:

- Rev. Ross Else, Help Team Chairman (2020)
- Apache Conference: *pastor vacant* Benjamin Pagel (2021)
- Black Canyon: Dan Pautz (2021) Gary Gray (2021)
Janean Plocher (2021)
- Gadsden Conference: Dan Baumler (2021) *teacher vacant*
- Southern California: H. Curtis Lyon (2021) *teacher vacant*
- Northern California: Will Kant (2021) *teacher vacant*

Term expiration dates for appointed members may be adjusted to permit staggering of terms.

The existence of the district Help Team has already been a blessing in several instances. The names of several called workers who have recently vacated their calls have been referred to the district Help Team for support and encouragement through a time of transition. Training and a resource reference guide are provided to Help Team members.

Military Services Committee. The COP has commissioned a study concerning participation in military chaplaincy by WELS clergy. Pastor Hans Caauwe is serving from our district. The study committee is evaluating whether under current military policy and practice it is both (a) theologically permissible to participate and (b) wise from a practical standpoint. In light of recent high-profile developments in the military and some apparently conflicting language in military policy, participation may not be possible.

Meetings with the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC). Recent meetings with the CLC have resulted in a draft document that expresses agreement in doctrine. Discussions on doctrinal application are ongoing.

Calling season for teachers. The calling window for teachers opens on November 1 and continues through the first week of June 2016. If you are planning to call for a teacher position, please allow a minimum of 10 working days (normally two weeks) for processing and preparation of your call list. This courtesy is very important! The Commission on Lutheran Schools (CLS) regularly works overtime to produce call lists on short notice, but in addition to the added stress and pressure a request for quick turnaround places on them, there may be times when such quick service simply may not be physically possible.

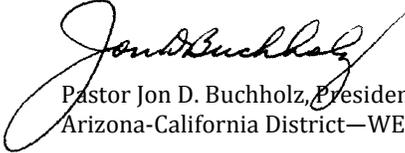
COP doctrinal study on women lectors. The COP doctrinal committee is working on a pastoral brief to address the use of women lectors in worship services. The brief will focus on why we discourage the use of women lectors in worship, in keeping with the Scriptural principle of authority and headship, in addition to fact that it would be confusing, unwise, and

could lead people to draw wrong conclusions about appropriate roles of men and women in a worship setting. We repeat the request that for the sake of unity and harmony congregations refrain from the practice of using women lectors in public worship.

COP toolbox on fellowship. Our high schools and colleges continue to study the practice of fellowship with non-member students in representative choirs. We are asking each high school for an update on the study progress and for any feedback that can be brought back to the COP to help improve the study resources.

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful (Hebrews 10:19-23).

Respectfully submitted,



Pastor Jon D. Buchholz, President
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District Activity — May 2015 to October 2015

Pastor vacancies

- The vacancy at St. John, Victorville, Calif., is being served by Pastor H. Curtis Lyon. In the future, the congregation may continue to be served as a vacancy or as a preaching station.
- Green Valley, Henderson, Nevada, is in transition after the resignation of its recently-assigned seminary graduate.
- The Administrative Committee for Native American Missions (ACNAM) is calling for the position of Field Coordinator on the Native American field. This call is currently on hold pending other developments on the field.
- Living Word, Petaluma, Calif., and Christ (ELS), Windsor, Calif., called Rev. Steven Lockman, and that call was accepted on September 15. Pastor Lockman will be installed on November 8.
- Shepherd of the Hills, Tucson, Ariz., is calling for an associate pastor. Rev. Jonathan Hackbarth is deliberating the call issued September 16.
- Mt. Olive, Las Vegas, Nevada, is being served by Rev. Fred Piepenbrink as vacancy pastor. Rev. Andrew Schroer is deliberating the call issued on September 16.
- Our Shepherd, Cornville, Ariz., called Rev. David Kapler on September 22.
- St. Peter, Clovis, Calif., called Rev. Mark Schewe on October 4.
- Shepherd of the Hills, Las Vegas, Nev., called Rev. Brett Ehlke on October 4.
- Rev. Curt Grube has announced his plans to retire, with the exact date pending. Holy Cross, Tucson, called Rev. David Parsons on October 11 to serve as lead associate pastor.
- Redeemer, Tucson, Arizona, is calling for the position of associate pastor. Rev. Matt Langebartels accepted the call on October 17. His installation date will be announced.
- Cross of Christ, Kingman, Ariz., called Rev. Paul Mueller, and that call was accepted on October 18. An installation date will be announced.
- Hope, Penryn, Calif., called Rev. Paul Tessmer on October 18.
- Cross of Glory, Peoria, Ariz., is calling for an associate pastor to do outreach and plant a mission start in the Vistancia area of Peoria. The congregation plans to call again on October 25.
- Grace, Tucson, Arizona, has expanded to become a four-site congregation, serving the University District of Tucson, Vail, Benson, and Sahuarita. Grace plans to call again on October 25.
- Christ, Lodi, California, is vacant with the departure of Rev. Guy Marquardt. The congregation is planning to call on October 26.
- Our Saviour, Carlsbad, Calif., is vacant following the departure of Rev. Jeff Enderle. The congregation plans to extend its first call on December 7.
- East Fork, Whiteriver, and Canyon Day, Whiteriver, Ariz., are vacant following the release of Pastor David Parsons. A call process is pending.
- Open Bible, Whiteriver, Ariz., is vacant with the impending departure of Rev. Joel Sutton
- Our Savior, Bylas, and St. Peter, Globe, Ariz., are vacant with the impending departure of Rev. Matt Langebartels.
- Good Shepherd, Livermore, Calif., is now vacant with the impending departure of Rev. Paul Mueller.

Pastor call activity

- Rev. Theodore Bodjanac declined a call to Palabra de Vida, Detroit, Michigan, on May 10, 2015.
- Rev. Nathan Kassulke declined a call to Grace, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on May 15, 2015.
- Candidate Jason Williams was assigned to Green Valley, Henderson, Nevada, on May 21, 2015.
- Candidate Kirk Massey, Jr., was assigned to the Apache Mission Field on May 21, 2015.
- Rev. Matthew Vogt declined a call to Brooklyn Lutheran, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, on May 22, 2015.
- Rev. Ryan Cortright declined a call to Cross of Gloria (Vistancia outreach), Peoria, Arizona, on June 25, 2015.
- Rev. Aaron Strong accepted a call to Grace, Milwaukee, Wis., on July 1, 2015.
- Rev. Dan Baumler declined a call to a new mission start in Tyler, Texas, on July 5, 2015.
- Rev. Tom Naumann declined a call to Grace, Nelson, Wis., and Our Redeemer, Wabasha, Minn., on July 25, 2015.
- Rev. Caleb Bassett declined a call to Grace, Sahuarita, Ariz., on July 26, 2015.
- Rev. Jonathan Kehren accepted a call to Jerusalem, Morton Grove, Illinois, on August 14, 2015.
- Rev. Jeff Enderle accepted a call to Christ the Rock, Farmington, New Mexico, on August 22, 2015.
- Rev. Joel Sutton accepted a call to Latin American Missions, Guanajuato, Mexico, on August 29, 2015.
- Rev. Jason Schmidt declined a call to St. Paul, Franklin, Wisconsin, on September 2, 2015.
- Rev. Dan Wagenknecht declined a call to Our Shepherd, Cornville, Arizona, on September 6, 2015.
- Rev. Guy Marquardt accepted a call to serve as friendly counselor to India on September 20, 2015.
- **Rev. Jonathan Loescher received a call to Zion, Stetsonville, Wisconsin, on September 21, 2015.**
- **Rev. Tom Zimdars received a call to Christ, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on September 27, 2015.**
- **Rev. Steve Hillmer received a call to Peace, Otsego, Michigan, on September 30, 2015.**
- **Rev. David Parsons received a call to Zion, Monroe, Michigan, on October 6, 2015.**
- **Rev. Aaron Mueller received a call to St. Marcus, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on October 7, 2015.**
- **Rev. David Parsons received a call to Holy Cross, Tucson, Arizona, on October 11, 2015.**
- Rev. Matthew Langebartels accepted a call to Redeemer, Tucson, Arizona, on October 17, 2015.
- Rev. Paul Mueller accepted a call to Cross of Christ, Kingman, Arizona, on October 18, 2015.

Peaceful release

- Rev. David Parsons was granted a peaceful release from his call to East Fork-Canyon Day, Whiteriver, Ariz., on October 11. David is CRM and is currently holding two calls.

Installations – Pastors

**Indicates ordination into the pastoral ministry*

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|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| • CRM Kirk Massey, Jr.* | Missionary to the Apache Field | July 12, 2015 |
| • CRM Jason Williams* | Green Valley, Henderson, Nevada | July 19, 2015 |
| • Rev. Steven Lockman | Living Word, Petaluma, California | November 8, 2015 |
| • Rev. Steven Lockman | Christ (ELS), Windsor, California | November 8, 2015 |

Transfers out – Pastors and male teachers

Note: Following the resolution of the 2015 synod convention, we will no longer be transferring pastors and male teachers in and out of the district. Record-keeping will be handled without formal transfers of district membership.

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| • Mr. Eric Fillner | Southeastern Wisconsin District | June 2015 |
| • Mr. Christopher Hintz | Pacific Northwest District | June 2015 |
| • Mr. James Hussman | Northern Wisconsin District | June 2015 |

Transfers in – Pastors and male teachers

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|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| • Rev. Em. Lawrence Retberg | Michigan District | August 2015 |
| • Rev. Steven Lockman | Michigan District | September 2015 |

Vacancies in district offices

- Golden Gate Circuit Pastor (pending Rev. Paul Mueller's move to Arizona)
- Various Help Team positions for pastors and teachers

Teacher call activity

- Matthew Sonntag declined a call to West Lutheran High School, Plymouth, Minn., on May 7, 2015.
- Adam Bohl accepted a call to Beautiful Saviour, Carlsbad, Calif., on May 10, 2015.
- Kelly Loberger accepted a call to Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona, on May 13, 2015.
- Shannah Stubalt accepted a call to Apostles, San Jose, Calif., on May 13, 2015.
- Craig Kiecker declined a call to St. John, Red Wing, Minnesota, on May 15, 2015.
- Eric Hahn was assigned to California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, Calif., on May 16, 2015.
- Naomi Unnasch was assigned to California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, Calif., on May 16, 2015.
- Sarah Kuznicki was assigned to Building Blocks Lutheran Academy, Los Angeles, Calif., on May 16, 2015.
- Christopher Mundstock was assigned to Peridot-Our Savior's, Peridot, Arizona, on May 16, 2015.
- Micah Foelske was assigned to Cross of Glory, Peoria, Arizona, on May 16, 2015.
- Benjamin Edmundson was assigned to Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona, on May 16, 2015.
- Candice Learman accepted a call to Ascension, Escondido, Calif., on May 17, 2015.
- Michael Peek declined a call to St. Matthew, Winona, Minnesota, on May 18, 2015.
- Brigetta Guelker declined a call to Little Lambs Early Learning Center, La Crescent, Minn., on May 22, 2015.
- Doug Meyer accepted a call to serve as Director of Mission Advancement at Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona, on May 22, 2015.
- Deanna Rahn declined a call to St. John, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on May 28, 2015.
- Roxanne Sternaman accepted a call to Pilgrim, Mesa, Arizona, on June 3, 2015.
- Stacey Aguilar accepted a call to Concord Lutheran Academy, Temecula, California, on June 10, 2015.
- Kristina Richey accepted a call to Emmanuel, Tempe, Arizona, on June 14, 2015.
- Kara Peek accepted a call to Redeemer, Tucson, Arizona, on June 14, 2015.
- Michelle Treder accepted a call to Concord Lutheran Academy, Temecula, California, on June 17, 2015.
- Michael Ross accepted a call to Ascension, Escondido, California, on June 19, 2015.
- Jessica Ross accepted a call to Ascension, Escondido, California, on June 19, 2015.
- Joanna Gonzales-Guzman accepted a call to St Paul's First, North Hollywood, California, on July 12, 2015.
- Merlin Meitner accepted a call to St Paul's First, North Hollywood, California, on July 16, 2015.
- Marla Ohrmundt accepted a call to Reformation, San Diego, California, on July 20, 2015.
- Deanna Rahn accepted a call to Wisconsin Lutheran School, Racine, Wisconsin, on August 8, 2015.

Installations – Teachers

**Indicates commissioning of a male teacher into the teaching ministry*

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|--------------------------|--|---------------|
| • Sarah Gabb | Building Blocks Christian Academy, Los Angeles, Calif. | July 12, 2015 |
| • Sarah Kuznicki | Building Blocks Lutheran Academy, Los Angeles, Calif. | July 12, 2015 |
| • Jennifer Mangini | Reformation, San Diego, California | July 12, 2015 |
| • Rebecca Toepel | St Peter, Modesto, California | July 19, 2015 |
| • Candice Learman | Ascension, Escondido, California | July 26, 2015 |
| • Christopher Mundstock* | Peridot-Our Savior's, Peridot, Arizona | July 26, 2015 |
| • Jessica Ross | Ascension, Escondido, California | July 26, 2015 |
| • Michael Ross | Ascension, Escondido, California | July 26, 2015 |

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|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| • Micah Foelske | Cross of Glory, Peoria, Arizona | August 2, 2015 |
| • Andrew Plocher | Emmaus, Phoenix, Arizona | August 9, 2015 |
| • Kristina Richey | Emmanuel, Tempe, Arizona | August 9, 2015 |
| • Roxanne Sternaman | Pilgrim, Mesa, Arizona | August 9, 2015 |
| • Shannah Stubalt | Apostles, San Jose, California | August 9, 2015 |
| • Stephanie Treder | Apostles, San Jose, California | August 9, 2015 |
| • Benjamin Edmundson* | Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona | August 13, 2015 |
| • Andrea Indahl | Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona | August 13, 2015 |
| • Kelly Loberger | Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona | August 13, 2015 |
| • Doug Meyer | Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona | August 13, 2015 |
| • David Peter | Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona | August 13, 2015 |
| • Adam Bohl | Beautiful Saviour, Carlsbad, California | August 16, 2015 |
| • Eric Hahn* | California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, Calif. | August 16, 2015 |
| • Tim Treder | California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, Calif. | August 16, 2015 |
| • Naomi Unnasch | California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, Calif. | August 16, 2015 |
| • Stacey Aguilar | Concord Lutheran Academy, Temecula, California | August 30, 2015 |
| • Michelle Treder | Concord Lutheran Academy, Temecula, California | August 30, 2015 |
| • Johanna Gonzales-Guzman | St Paul's First, North Hollywood, California | August 30, 2015 |
| • Marla Ohrmundt | Reformation, San Diego, California | August 30, 2015 |
| • Merlin Meitner | St. Paul's First, North Hollywood, California | August 30, 2015 |
| • Kara Peek | Redeemer, Tucson, Arizona | October 11, 2015 |

Resignations

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|-----------------------|---|-----------------|
| • Scott Indahl | Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona | June 30, 2015 |
| • Youngsin Choi | Apostles, San Jose, California | June 30, 2015 |
| • Bradley Nehls | St. Paul's First, North Hollywood, California | June 30, 2015 |
| • Deanna Rahn | Ascension, Escondido, California | June 30, 2015 |
| • Rev. Michael Carr | St. Peter, Clovis, California | August 29, 2015 |
| • Rev. Jason Williams | Green Valley, Henderson, Nevada | Sept. 27, 2015 |
| • Jane Sullivan | Hope, Penryn, California | June 30, 2016 |
| • Megan Watson | Redeemer, Tucson, Arizona | June 30, 2016 |

Retirements

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|------------------------|---|-----------------|
| • Lenore Klug | Reformation, San Diego, California | June 30, 2015 |
| • Michael Bahn | California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, California | June 30, 2015 |
| • Peter Bauer | Grace, Glendale, Arizona | June 30, 2015 |
| • Rev. Jeff Smith | Living Word, Petaluma, Calif. | August 31, 2015 |
| • Rev. Allen Schroeder | Cross of Christ, Kingman, Ariz. | Sept. 30, 2015 |
| • Rev. Alan Eckert | Shepherd of the Hills, Tucson, Ariz. | Dec. 31, 2015 |

Candidates (CRM)

- Mark Ochsankehl
- Mark Mammel
- Ted Bodjanac
- David Parsons

School closing

- St. Stephen Lutheran School, Fallbrook, California June 30, 2015

New school opening

- Concord Lutheran Academy, Temecula, California August 2015
(SCLESA - Southern California Lutheran Elementary School Association)

New congregations

- Cross of Glory, Peoria, Arizona (second site, Vistancia) June 2015
- Our Shepherd, Cornville, Arizona (unsubsidized mission) October 2015

With the Lord

- Retired Teacher Duane Behm was called home to heaven on August 16, 2015.

Please bring to my attention any corrections to the above report.