



Arizona-California District—WELS Report of the District President

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

—Ephesians 4:3-6

Our convention theme this year mirrors the theme of last year's synod convention: *One in Christ*.

We gather here as members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran *Synod*. A *synod* is a group that walks together. We walk together as one body, united in fellowship through faith in one Savior. Our teaching is informed by Scripture alone, and we want to put God's Word into practice in everything that we do.

We can easily take for granted the blessings of being *One in Christ*. We practically consider it a given that every graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary is a faithful disciple of Jesus, committed to teaching all of God's Word. When calling for a new pastor we don't have to interview the candidates to find out where they stand on biblical inerrancy, the doctrine of the Trinity, the practice of closed Communion, or the work of the Holy Spirit in creating faith apart from human decision. When we visit any WELS congregation across the country we just expect that we will hear law and gospel faithfully preached from the pulpit—and our expectations are fully met.

Yet Paul tells us that we are not to take our unity for granted. He tells us, "*Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*" The inspired Greek word means to be diligent and persistent in something, to strive faithfully for something. Maintaining unity requires hard work.

It takes hard work to remain strong, faithful and true in our doctrine and practice. In matters of truth our teaching cannot change, no matter what the world's itching ears want to hear. We may never take doctrine for granted; every generation must own for itself the truths of Scripture. We cannot say, "Our forefathers fought that battle for the inerrancy of Scripture or for the faithful practice of fellowship or for a correct teaching of justification, and they kept the faith. Now we can rest on their laurels." It is neither popular nor politically correct to say that men are still called to be loving spiritual leaders and that wives are still called to submit to their husbands. We gain no friends in the world by calling materialism "greed." We don't endear ourselves to a pluralistic world that espouses tolerance and coexistence by announcing that Jesus Christ is the only Son of God and the only Savior this world has ever had, and that apart from him there is only death and damnation. We don't win worldly friends by preaching an ancient but difficult message, "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

It requires no special effort to allow our unity in the Spirit to disintegrate. That will happen all by itself unless we are diligent and persistent in preserving unity. But to strive continuously for unity there are things we can actively do to honor and strengthen our bonds of faith:

- We can always remember that we're confessional, evangelical Lutherans. We are not non-denominational American evangelicals with a decision-theology, sell-the-gospel mindset. We want to diligently search the Scriptures, the Lutheran Confessions, and the writings of solid Lutheran authors, instead of immersing ourselves in the latest tricks and trends. We can avoid being blown here and there by every wind of teaching that breezes across the American religious landscape by paying more than lip service to confessional Lutheranism and remaining deeply rooted in Scripture and the Confessions.
- We can always make sure that our more creative and innovative practices do not foster separatism and disunity. If we want to do something new and different, we can ask, "What impact will this have on my neighboring WELS congregations? Will my brothers and sisters have to deal with spillover or fallout from what I'm doing?"
- We can intentionally focus on strong proclamation of law and gospel, sin and grace, repentance and forgiveness. We can avoid letting our sermons become moralistic lectures or "how-to" presentations that might communicate valid truths but neither convict nor heal the soul.
- We can strive constantly to raise the bar of catechesis for new communicant members. Our goal is not merely to get children and adults through the confirmation pipeline. We are preparing them for the sublime mystery of receiving the Holy Supper of our Lord in communion with Christ and their fellow

believers. The unity of the body deteriorates when our members visit at other churches or transfer to other congregations with a weak understanding of God's Word.

- We can cherish our fellowship with neighboring congregations and our fraternal relationship with neighboring called workers, so that we actively pursue fellowship opportunities and look for ways to study and grow together. We are not too busy to attend circuit meetings, conferences, area Reformation services, anniversaries and installations. We don't want to separate ourselves from the body of believers over petty spats and perceived slights. We want to actively build up the fellowship of believers.

When we stop and reflect upon the blessings of Christian unity that we share in teaching and in biblical practice in the WELS, it really is cause for celebration that in this little corner of Christendom called the WELS we do share a oneness in faith and fellowship. We aspire diligently to preserve this oneness we share in one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one doctrine, one family under God our Father.

In our district convention we learn about the work that we carry out together as members of the WELS, so that we can celebrate together the blessings and accomplishments with which the Lord in his mercy has favored us. As we cherish together these shared blessings and aspire together to seize the new opportunities he sets before us, may the Lord strengthen us in the bond of faith and love that makes us *One in Christ!*

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Thanks!

It is with great appreciation that I once again thank you for the opportunity to serve as your district president. I am privileged to work for and to work alongside God's people, and no honor could be greater. I am regularly impressed by the high caliber of faithful ministry that is carried out in our churches and schools. It is personally encouraging to me to see the gospel at work not only in my own congregation but in churches across the district, and I'm thankful for the called workers, the congregation leaders, and for all of God's people who serve in so many ways in heartfelt devotion to our Lord.

I owe a special debt of thanks to the members of our district presidium. Our district officers are a wellspring of counsel and encouragement for me, as they offer regular guidance on district matters. Our presidium typically meets about once a month to debrief and discuss district matters in teleconference and a couple times each year face to face.

Our circuit pastors work closely with pastors and congregations close to home. Their work warrants our thanks, as they lead their circuits, sometimes working through challenging issues that require great wisdom and patience. Our commission and board chairmen work tirelessly to support strong ministry in the congregations across our district.

Pastor Steven Degner is declining renomination to serve as a district officer this year, so his term of service will come to an end with this convention. Pastor Degner has served our Arizona-California District in many ways through the years, including as first vice-president from 1990 to 1996 and again from 2004 until today. I am especially thankful for Pastor Degner's wise and careful counsel and gentle pastoral perspective. His service has been a tremendous encouragement and model to me personally, and it has been a blessing to our district. We will honor Pastor Degner with a special word of thanks before the close of our convention.

District finances

Our district secretary, Pastor Steven Gabb, has prepared a report on the district finances. That report is [available online](#). At Pastor Gabb's request, Mr. Jim Drexler, a member of Gethsemane in Los Angeles, performed a [financial review](#) of the report and found the district finances to be in order.

Graduate assignments

This year our district had 11 requests for teacher candidates and 2 requests for staff minister candidates from Martin Luther College (MLC). Our district received 8 teachers assigned, and both staff minister requests were filled. At the close of teacher assignments there were an additional 28 assignment requests from around the synod that could not be filled, and the synod-wide teacher vacancy count stood at 54.

From the seminary our district presented 8 requests for pastor candidates, of which 3 were able to be filled. A total of 35 seminary candidates presented themselves for assignment, and all were able to be assigned to a field of labor. At the close of pastor assignments there were an additional 24 assignment requests from around the synod that could not be filled. The total pastor vacancy count synod-wide currently stands in the neighborhood of 90. We have 10 pastor vacancies in our district.

These numbers underscore the need for more workers. Large graduating classes from the 1970s are reaching retirement age, and new classes of graduates available for assignment are much smaller. Combine these numbers with the tremendous opportunities for outreach and expansion that we see popping up all around us—not only in our

district but across the country—and Jesus’ reminder is especially appropriate that the harvests are ripe but the workers are few.

Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest field!

Encourage the young people in your families and congregations to study for preaching, teaching, or staff ministry. Early childhood ministry is growing significantly across the synod, and the need for teachers in this field is especially dire. We need elementary and secondary teachers for all levels and for all of the disciplines. Young men confirmed in 2016 who have an interest in studying for pastoral ministry won’t graduate from the seminary until 2028. Ask the Lord of the harvest to prepare workers for service.

One in Christ offering

Gifts to the One in Christ debt-reduction program have surpassed \$2,165,745. These gifts, plus budgeted debt service in the amount of about \$1.6 million for the current fiscal year, bring the total available for debt reduction to over \$3.7 million and within \$1 million dollars of our stated \$4.7 million goal. We are thankful that we are on the threshold of eliminating completely our synod’s debt, and we’re grateful for the new ministry opportunities that will arise from the money freed up from debt service.

There is still time for individuals and congregations to contribute to the One in Christ offering.

Ongoing support for WELS

Each year at the beginning of February every congregation across the synod submits two very important items to the WELS. One is the congregation’s statistical report. This detailed report documents activity and numbers in key areas of congregational ministry and includes things like total baptized souls, total communicant membership, numbers of adult and youth baptisms and confirmations, souls gained and lost, Sunday school enrollment, and more. These numbers are compiled from around the synod and published in the annual *WELS Statistical Report* (also [available online](#)) that is released in or around April. At the close of 2015 our Arizona-California District served 22,850 baptized members and 16,924 communicant members. Offerings in our congregations amounted to \$23,153,829, of which \$1,475,623 was contributed to the synod.

The other important item submitted each February is our congregation mission offering (CMO) subscription amount. This is the amount that each congregation pledges in support of our worldwide work together as the WELS. These pledged amounts are very important to our synod’s planning because they establish an important baseline of dollars that can be budgeted for synod ministry. I’m pleased to report that this year 100% of congregations across our district completed this task and submitted a CMO subscription amount! (Many thanks are due to Pastor Allen Schroeder, our district Ministry of Christian Giving coordinator, for his contact and encouragement of our congregations.) In 2015 our gifts to WELS surpassed our pledged amount, equaling 102.7% of the amount subscribed. Our 2016 pledge of \$1,434,088 is less than last year’s contributions, but it affords us another opportunity to surpass our pledged amount.

Support for called workers

Four years ago our district in convention adopted a formal resolution directing the district president to give closer attention to the salaries that are being offered to called workers as calls are extended. I am pleased to say that nearly all of the congregations extending calls for pastors, teachers, or staff ministers are using synod code as a minimum benchmark for compensation. In the few cases where compensation has been significantly below code, I have worked with congregations to encourage a reevaluation of their compensation structure. In compliance with the district directive, I have been reviewing salary levels with congregations when they present a request for a call, whether from the field or from the assignment committee.

Since called workers are often in a difficult position and may be unwilling or unable to advocate for themselves, once again I’ll take a moment to advocate on their behalf:

- Please consider doing a complete review of your compensation as it compares to synod code. On the district president’s page at the district website (azcadistrict.com/president), under the heading “Resources for congregations extending calls,” there is a salary worksheet that shows how to calculate compensation per synod code. Base salary numbers are adjusted by years of experience, regional cost-of-living differences, and other factors. Synod code stipulates a housing allowance determined by the local HUD fair-market rental value for a 3-bedroom home, unless other housing (e.g., a parsonage or teacherage) is provided. Medical benefits are provided as a \$1,000-deductible plan, (WELS VEBA or equivalent).
- If your congregation doesn’t have one already, I encourage you to establish a “Care Committee for Called Workers (CCCW).” Not only can that committee be tasked with evaluating compensation levels, but it can play an important role in providing important emotional, spiritual, and family support for called workers. More information, including an informative DVD, on establishing a CCCW can be obtained from our district’s Special Ministries Committee.

The Synodical Council's compensation review committee is undertaking a complete study of the synod code structure of salary and benefits and is requesting review and feedback from the districts in convention. For this convention that work of studying and reviewing the work of the Synodical Council has been assigned to Floor Committee #5 on Administration.

Help Team

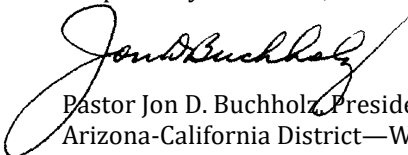
At our 2014 district convention we formally adopted guidelines for putting into place a district Help Team and elected Pastor Ross Else to serve as Help Team chairman. The district Help Team offers support and encouragement to called workers who are leaving called ministry for whatever reason. (Reasons for leaving the ministry can range from innocuous to insidious. The important matter of note is that there is a life-change taking place, and we want to offer support and encouragement under any and all circumstances.) The district Help Team offers support and encouragement, and it can make available counseling and other resources to pastors, teachers and staff ministers who are leaving their called position. A complete district Help Team includes representatives from all of the conferences of the district, so that resources are in place to make contact and provide support for called workers going through times of life transition. The majority of those team positions have been filled by appointment, and the process of completing the team continues. In the meantime, the names of called workers who have left the ministry have been passed along to the Help Team chairman for further support by the Help Team. Much of the work of the Help Team with individual called workers is confidential, and the district officers do not necessarily have visibility on the nature of the support that is provided. It appears that the Help Team has been a blessing to numerous called workers who have gone through transition.

District website resources

With this year's paperless convention our delegates will become more familiar with our district website, azcadistrict.com. The site is regularly updated with conference papers and reports on synod and district matters. There are numerous resources (azcadistrict.com/resources) available to called workers and congregations to assist in areas such as worship, Bible study, congregational and ministry planning, and called worker review and support. In particular I call your attention to an excellent suite of tools available on the district website for use in evaluating your congregation's health, identifying areas for improvement, and planning short- and long-term ministry goals. This suite of tools ("[Congregational Planning Tools](#)") is the result of work done by the Thessalonian Project commissioned by our district and completed in 2012. Congregations that are calling to fill called worker vacancies will find several helpful resources on the [district president's page](#) that can help to explain and streamline the calling process.

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! (Psalm 133:1).

Respectfully submitted,



Pastor Jon D. Buchholz, President
Arizona-California District—WELS

(480) 344-3782 office
ionbuchholz@msn.com
azcadistrict.com

District Activity for the 2014-2016 Biennium

☒ In Memoriam ☒

Pastors and teachers called home to eternal glory

• Rev. Em. Paul Borchardt	August 10, 2014
• Rev. Em. Harold Marks	November 6, 2014
• Rev. Em. Armin Keibel	December 7, 2014
• Mr. Virgil Raasch	March 14, 2015
• Mr. Duane Behm	August 16, 2015
• Mr. John Henderson	March 9, 2016
• Mr. Victor Fenske	June 8, 2016

Jerusalem, Thou City Fair and High

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| 1. Jerusalem, thou city fair and high,
Would God I were in thee!
My longing heart to thee would gladly fly;
It will not stay with me.
Far over vale and mountain, Far over field and plain,
It hastes to seek its fountain And leave this world of pain. | 2. A moment's space, and gently, wondrously,
Released from earthly ties,
Elijah's chariot comes to carry me
Through all these lower skies
To yonder shining regions, While down to meet me come
The blessed angel legions And bid me, "Welcome home!" |
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Current vacancies – Pastors

• Shepherd of the Hills (Associate), Tucson, Arizona	<i>Not currently calling</i>
• East Fork / Canyon Day, Whiteriver, Arizona	<i>CRM Benjamin Zietlow assigned May 19</i>
• Green Valley (Associate), Henderson, Nevada	<i>CRM Paul Kolander assigned May 19</i>
• Grace (Associate), Tucson, Arizona	<i>CRM Timothy Patoka assigned May 19</i>
• Cross of Glory (Associate), Peoria, Arizona	<i>Rev. Benjamin Foxen called May 29</i>
• Grace (Associate), Sahuarita, Arizona	<i>Pastor Ryan Heiman called May 31</i>
• Hope, Penryn, California	<i>Pastor Jonathan Hackbarth called June 6</i>
• Christ, Lodi, California	<i>Pastor Daniel Wagenknecht called June 6</i>
• Our Savior, Bylas, Arizona	<i>CRM Pieter Reid declined the call June 11</i>
• St Peter, Modesto, California	<i>Preparing to call on June 15</i>

Installations – Pastors

• Rev. Justin Gran*	Emmanuel, Tempe, Arizona	July 6, 2014
• Rev. Joon Ho "Paul" Chung	Apostles, San Jose, California	July 13, 2014
• Rev. Seth Georgson	Immanuel, Taylor / Immanuel, Springerville, Arizona	July 13, 2014
• Rev. Derek Bartelt*	Christ the Vine, Temecula, California	July 20, 2014
• Rev. Lincoln Albrecht	River of Life, Goodyear, Arizona	July 27, 2014
• Rev. Timothy Learman	Ascension, Escondido, California	July 27, 2014
• Rev. Nathan Buch*	Summerlin, Summerlin, Nevada	August 3, 2014
• Rev. Paul T Schulz	Risen Savior, Chula Vista, California	September 28, 2014
• Rev. Bart Brauer	Emmanuel, Tempe, Arizona	October 5, 2014
• Rev. Korey Van Kampen	Mt Calvary, Flagstaff, Arizona	October 12, 2014
• Rev. James Werner	Reformation, San Diego, California	October 26, 2014
• Rev. Mark Jacobson	Grace, Glendale, Arizona	January 11, 2015
• Rev. Paul Schossow	ACTS Director, Whiteriver, Arizona	January 18, 2015
• Rev. Andrew Schroeder	California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, California	March 29, 2015
• Rev. Kirk Massey, Jr.*	Apache Mission Field, Whiteriver, Arizona	July 12, 2015
• Rev. Jason Williams*	Green Valley, Henderson, Nevada	July 19, 2015
• Rev. Steven Lockman	Living Word, Petaluma / Christ (ELS), Windsor, California	November 8, 2015
• Rev. Paul Mueller	Cross of Christ, Kingman, Arizona	January 10, 2016
• Rev. David Parsons	Holy Cross, Tucson, Arizona	January 10, 2016
• Rev. Mark Schewe	St Peter, Clovis, California	January 17, 2016
• Rev. Steve Wilkens	Our Shepherd, Cornville, California	February 14, 2016
• Rev. Timothy Otto	Mt Olive, Las Vegas, Nevada	February 21, 2016
• Rev. Matthew Natsis	Good Shepherd, Livermore, California	April 10, 2016
• Rev. Wayne Uhlhorn	Beautiful Saviour, Carlsbad, California	May 1, 2016
• Rev. Thomas Unke	Shepherd of the Hills, Las Vegas, Nevada	June 19, 2016

* Indicates ordination into the pastoral ministry

Retirements – Pastors

• Rev. Jerome McWaters	Summerlin, Summerlin, Nevada	September 30, 2014
• Rev. Allen Schroeder	Cross of Christ, Kingman, Arizona	September 30, 2015
• Rev. Lynn Wiedmann	St Paul's First, North Hollywood, California	July 18, 2016
• Rev. Samuel Clemons	Grace, Tucson, Arizona	July 31, 2016
• Rev. C. Doug Found	Prince of Peace, Thousand Oaks, California	September 30, 2016

Resignations – Pastors

• Rev. Theodore Bodjanac	Resurrection, Phoenix, Arizona	January 11, 2015
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- Rev. Michael Carr St. Peter, Clovis, California August 29, 2015
- Rev. Jason Williams Green Valley, Henderson, Nevada September 27, 2015
- Rev. David Parsons East Fork / Canyon Day, Whiteriver, Arizona October 11, 2015

Position eliminated – Pastor

- Rev. Mark Mammel Prince of Peace, Yucaipa, California June 30, 2014

Transfers in – Pastors

- Rev. Seth Georgson Dakota-Montana District July 2014
- Rev. Paul T Schulz Western Wisconsin District September 2014
- Rev. Korey Van Kampen Pacific Northwest District October 2014
- Rev. James Werner South Atlantic District October 2014
- Rev. Bart Brauer Michigan District November 2014
- Rev. Paul Schossow Northern Wisconsin District January 2015
- Rev. Andrew Schroeder Michigan District March 2015
- Rev. Em. Lawrence Retberg Michigan District August 2015
- Rev. Em. William Greenlee South Atlantic District November 2015
- Rev. Steven Lockman Michigan District November 2015
- Rev. Mark Schewe Pacific Northwest District January 2016
- Rev. Steven Wilkens Western Wisconsin District February 2016
- Rev. Timothy Otto Southeastern Wisconsin District February 2016
- Rev. Matthew Natsis Minnesota District April 2016
- Rev. Wayne Uhlhorn Nebraska District May 2016
- Rev. Eric Hartzell South Central District June 2016
- Rev. Thomas Unke Northern Wisconsin District June 2016

Transfers out – Pastors

- Rev. James Panning Minnesota District December 2014
- Rev. Aaron Strong Southeastern Wisconsin District July 2015
- Rev. Jonathan Kehren Southeastern Wisconsin District August 2015
- Rev. Jeffrey Enderle Nebraska District August 2015
- Rev. Ryan Cortright Western Wisconsin District June 2016

Installations – Teachers

- Rebecca Balge St Stephen, Fallbrook, California July 6, 2014
- Keri Patterson Cross of Glory, Peoria, Arizona July 6, 2014
- Jarrod Pfarr* Hope, Penryn, California July 6, 2014
- Jonathan Plocher King of Kings, Garden Grove, California July 20, 2014
- Youngsin Choi Apostles, San Jose, California August 3, 2014
- Laurie Easley Emmaus, Phoenix, Arizona August 3, 2014
- Jana Kogler Emmanuel, Tempe, Arizona August 3, 2014
- Benjamin Pagel Peridot-Our Savior's, Peridot, Arizona August 10, 2014
- Ruth Luehring East Fork, Whiteriver, Arizona August 10, 2014
- Kevin Lorge* Peridot-Our Savior's, Peridot, Arizona August 10, 2014
- James Wade Pilgrim, Mesa, Arizona August 10, 2014
- Brian Gephart* California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, Arizona August 17, 2014
- Bethany Schultz California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, Arizona August 17, 2014
- Sheri Redmond Green Valley, Henderson, Nevada August 24, 2014
- Sue Heinitz Water of Life, Las Vegas, Nevada August 24, 2014
- Abbie Strong Water of Life, Las Vegas, Nevada August 24, 2014
- Sarah Gabb Building Blocks Christian Academy, Los Angeles, California July 12, 2015
- Sarah Kuznicki Building Blocks Christian Academy, Los Angeles, California 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
- Jessica Ross Ascension, Escondido, California July 26, 2015
- Michael Ross Ascension, Escondido, California July 26, 2015
- Christopher Mundstock* Peridot-Our Savior's, Peridot, Arizona July 26, 2015
- 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
- Shanna Stubalt Apostles, San Jose, California August 9, 2015
- Stephanie Treder Apostles, San Jose, California August 9, 2015
- Benjamin Edmondson* 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, California August 16, 2015

• Timothy Treder	California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, California	August 16, 2015
• Naomi Unnasch	California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, California	August 16, 2015
• Stacey Aguilar	Concord Lutheran Academy, Temecula, California	August 30, 2015
• Michelle Treder	Concord Lutheran Academy, Temecula, California	August 30, 2015
• Joanna Guzman	St Paul's First, North Hollywood, California	August 30, 2015
• Sarah Homan	Reformation, San Diego, California	August 30, 2015
• Marla Ohrmundt	Reformation, San Diego, California	August 30, 2015
• Kara Peek	Redeemer, Tucson, Arizona	October 11, 2015
• Tarah Steinbrenner	Peridot-Our Savior's, Peridot, Arizona	January 3, 2016

* Indicates commissioning into the teaching ministry

Retirements - Teachers

• Brenda Ginnow	Beautiful Savior, Henderson, Nevada	June 30, 2014
• Lenore Klug	Reformation, San Diego, California	June 30, 2015
• Peter Bauer	Grace, Glendale, Arizona	June 30, 2015
• Patrick Walker	St Mark, Citrus Heights, California	June 30, 2016
• Merl Meitner	St Paul's First, North Hollywood, California	June 30, 2016

Resignations - Teachers

• 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 28, 2015
• Megan Watson	Redeemer, Tucson, California	June 30, 2016
• Christopher Treder	Apostles, San Jose, California	June 30, 2016

Positions eliminated - Teachers

• Heidi Sullivan	Hope, Penryn, California	June 30, 2016
• Jane Sullivan	Hope, Penryn, California	June 30, 2016
• Carol Heyn	Hope, Penryn, California	June 30, 2016
• Jarrod Pfarr	Hope, Penryn, California	June 30, 2016
• Sandy Karnopp	Shepherd Preschool, Albuquerque, New Mexico	June 30, 2016

Transfers in - Teachers

• James Wade	Northern Wisconsin District	July 2014
• Timothy Treder	Southeastern Wisconsin District	July 2015
• Adam Bohl	Northern Wisconsin District	July 2015
• Michael Ross	Minnesota District	July 2015

Transfers out - Teachers

• Eric Fillner	Southeastern Wisconsin District	July 2015
• Christopher Hintz	Pacific Northwest District	July 2015
• James Hussman	Northern Wisconsin District	July 2015
• Steven Springborn	Nebraska District	July 2015
• Daniel Douglas	Nebraska District	July 2016
• Luke Hartzell	South Atlantic District	July 2016
• Jarrod Pfarr	Northern Wisconsin District	July 2016
• Jeremiah Strassburg	Southeastern Wisconsin District	July 2016

Transfers in - Staff Ministers

• J. Howard Schroeder	Minnesota District	June 2014
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Installations - Staff Ministers

• J. Howard Schroeder	St Peter, Modesto, California	July 20, 2014
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Appointments to district offices

• Rev. Paul T Schulz	District Commission on Adult Discipleship	May 2015
• Rev. Brian Doeblor	Sierra Circuit Pastor	October 2015
• Rev. Timothy Shrimpton	Golden Gate Circuit Pastor	October 2015

Resignations from district offices

• Rev. Guy Marquardt	Sierra Circuit Pastor	October 2015
• Rev. Paul Mueller	Golden Gate Circuit Pastor	October 2015
• Rendy Koeppel	District Schools Coordinator	April 2016
• Rev. Allen Schroeder	District Nominating Committee	June 2016

Pastor assignments

• CRM Jason Williams*	Green Valley, Henderson, Nevada	May 21, 2015
• CRM Kirk Massey	Apache Mission Field, Arizona	May 21, 2015
• CRM Paul Kolander*	Green Valley, Henderson, Nevada	May 19, 2016

- CRM Timothy Patoka* Grace, Tucson, Arizona May 19, 2016
- CRM Benjamin Zietlow* East Fork / Canyon Day, Whiteriver, Arizona May 19, 2016

* CRM stands for "Candidate for the Reverend Ministry," a term used for ministry candidates prior to their ordination into the ministry. These candidates are applying for membership in the WELS through the Arizona-California District.

Teacher assignments

- Eric Hahn* California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, California May 16, 2015
- Naomi Unnasch California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, California May 16, 2015
- Sarah Kuznicki Building Blocks Lutheran Academy, Los Angeles, California May 16, 2015
- Christopher Mundstock* Peridot-Our Savior's, Peridot, Arizona May 16, 2015
- Micah Foelske* Cross of Glory, Peoria, Arizona May 16, 2015
- Benjamin Edmundson* Arizona Lutheran Academy, Phoenix, Arizona May 16, 2015
- Catherine Backer Apostles, San Jose, California May 14, 2016
- Jessica Eternick Mt Calvary, Redding, California May 14, 2016
- Matthew Ivan* Peridot-Our Savior's, Peridot, Arizona May 14, 2016
- Stephanie Ivan Peridot-Our Savior's, Peridot, Arizona May 14, 2016
- Erin Westendorf Beautiful Savior, Las Vegas, Nevada May 14, 2016
- Melissa Wolff St Paul's First, North Hollywood, California May 14, 2016
- Rachel Hein California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, California May 14, 2016
- Samuel Otto* California Lutheran High School, Wildomar, California May 14, 2016
- Jacob Rothe* Mt Calvary, Redding, California May 14, 2016

Staff minister assignments

- Stephen Pankow* St Paul's First, North Hollywood, California May 14, 2016
- Casey Sauer Crosswalk, Phoenix, Arizona June 10, 2016

* Indicates that the candidate is applying for membership in the WELS through the Arizona-California District.

Vicar assignments

- Mark Voss Water of Life, Las Vegas, Nevada May 19, 2015
- Joel Hering Grace, Glendale, Arizona May 17, 2016
- Paul Koester Water of Life, Las Vegas, Nevada May 17, 2016

Schools closed

- St Stephen, Fallbrook, California June 2015
- Hope, Penryn, California June 2016
- Shepherd Preschool, Albuquerque, New Mexico June 2016

New school opened

- Concord Lutheran Academy, Temecula, California July 2015

Corrections and comments to the report may be referred to Floor Committee #6, the floor committee for the District President's Report, Rev. David Bostedt, chairman.