

Resignation of Call

For personal reasons, Rev. James Krikava has resigned his pastoral call at Trinity Lutheran in Brewster, Massachusetts, and also has resigned from the clergy roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We thank Jim for his years of service at Trinity. The congregation then extended a call to Rev. James Braun of Yelm, Washington. On March 30, 2014, Pastor Braun indicated he has accepted the call to Trinity.

Board Resignation

Mr. Herb Berg, Kissimmee, Florida, announced his resignation from the Board for Christian Service. We thank him for his many years of service, including serving as the past chairman. The Nominations Committee will be bringing names for his replacement to the June convention.

Note from our Giving Counselor

April 15th is the IRS deadline for filing taxes. It is also a time when we have a heightened awareness that we could have done better with our tax planning strategies. If you would like to consider some increased income as well as some tax savings strategies that work for you, contact the ELS Giving Counselor for a visit. Securing a gift for Gospel ministry is a great way to celebrate tax season and the benefits can be seen for years. Call soon. You'll be glad you did. Contact Pastor Dan Basel, ELS Giving Counselor, Phone: 507-344-7311 or email: danbasel@blc.edu. – D. Basel

Convention Dates in Mankato, Minnesota

June 15 - Synod Sunday Worship at 3:00 PM in the BLC Trinity Chapel
June 16-19 - Synod Convention; theme – “Engaging Others With Jesus in Times of Trial”

Upcoming Schedule

April 7-8 - Board for World Outreach
April 8 - Synod Review Committee
April 9 - Subcommittee of the Board of Regents
April 28 - Convention arrangements meeting
April 29 – Committee on Archives and History
Apr 30-May 1 - West Coast Pastoral Conference, Tacoma, WA
May 5 - Iowa Pastoral Conference (Circuit 7), Waukon, IA
May 6 - Board of Trustees
May 6-7 - Board for Lutheran Schools of America
May 8-9 - Board for Home Outreach
May 12-13 - Board of Regents
May 14 - Vicar Workshop and Seminary Commencement
May 16 - Bethany Lutheran College Graduation Day
May 19 - Synod Review Committee
May 21 - Southern Minnesota Pastoral Conference (Circuit 9)
May 30-June 2 - CELC meets in Lima, Peru

President's Newsletter



Office of the President

John A. Moldstad

6 Browns Court Mankato, Minnesota 56001
507-344-7356 jamjr@blc.edu

April 2014

Dear Fellow Workers in Christ's Kingdom:

In Minnesota we are enjoying the signs of spring after a long winter. Psalm 65 reminds us how our Maker and Provider watches over the lands he has created: “You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it” (v. 9). The connection between God’s goodness in the realm of his preservation of the created earth and the chief goodness of God—his blessings in the spiritual realm—is palpable: signs of spring can turn our thoughts to the new life he gives us in Christ our Savior. Interestingly, this same psalm opens with praise to God for forgiveness, “When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions” (v. 3). Enjoy the blessings—*all* of them!

Blessings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John A. Moldstad'. Below the signature, the name 'John A. Moldstad' is printed in a serif font.

John A. Moldstad

Chilean Outreach

Our synod continues to work with the English Second Language program in the country of Chile. Pictured above are Juan Carlos Flores (city manger at Linares) and Chelsea Dietsche, together with our World Outreach Administrator, Rev. Steven Petersen, and Pres. Moldstad. We are happy that WELS Kingdom Workers is granting support for this important project that is of great assistance to the Christian Church of the Reformation (Chile). Joining teacher Chelsea will be Arron Landgraff, who will teach in the public schools in Longavi, Chile, and volunteer at the mission in Linares.



Assignment of Candidate of Theology

On Wednesday, February 12, 2014, the synod's Assignment Committee assigned Paul Lange the pastoral call to Abiding Word in Bowling Green, Ohio. The assignment was made in advance, pending successful completion of graduation this coming May. An ordination date in early June is planned. Before coming to our Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, Paul served for 21 years as a Lutheran elementary school teacher in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. He and his wife, Becky, who also has taught for a number of years, have four children.



Canvassing for Hope

In the month of March, Hope Lutheran Church in Leander, Texas, hosted a Faith In Action Team. Sarah Lai (BLC), Alyssa Maertz (MLC), Katherine Van Alstine (MLC), and Abigail Koelpin (MLC) spent their spring break doing canvassing and outreach for the mission congregation. They canvassed over 1100 homes in the surrounding neighborhoods.



Pastoral Conference in Circuit 8

At Calvary Lutheran, Ulen, Minnesota, the pastors of the northern Minnesota circuit gathered for worship and meetings on March 23, 2014. Pres. Moldstad preached to the pastors and wives and Rev. Boyd Longshore, pastor of the congregation, conducted the liturgy. Other pastors in the photo are: Rev. Mark Faugstad, Rev. Nile Merseth, Rev. David Thompson, and Rev. Joseph Abrahamson.



Grace, Hobart, Indiana, celebrates 20 years!

Pastor Fred Lams serves Grace Lutheran in Hobart, Indiana, which began as a congregation 20 years ago. The congregation had a special worship service on March 16 where the ELS president preached and brought greetings, and where the Sunday School children sang two songs for the occasion. In terms of total membership, the congregation was told it numbers 20th in the synod at this time. During the past year, members of the congregation donated and dedicated 8 large stained glass windows depicting the life of Christ.

Second Notice

Call for Nominations for the President of Bethany Lutheran College

The Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran College, in accordance with the guidelines (412, Article IIA) adopted by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, herewith requests the ELS member congregations to submit nominations for President of Bethany Lutheran College. Nominations may also be submitted by the Board of Regents. The nominee shall be a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod or of its fellowship. The nominee should possess the aptitude and experience that will qualify him to direct the control and planning of all facets of the college operation. The candidate must be a firm believer in the mission of our college. He must combine a skill for supervising and motivating highly-qualified and creative people with an understanding of and a commitment to the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The candidate should possess the necessary skills to lead Bethany and should demonstrate a deep commitment to and love for students. The Regents respectfully request each congregation to prayerfully consider those who may fulfill the qualifications of this important office and submit their names to Secretary Paul Chamberlin, 90 Fairview Avenue, South Chatham, MA 02659; nrchamb@yahoo.com
Deadline: To be considered, all congregational nominations must be submitted to the Secretary by May 8, 2014.