

2016



Part B
Book of Reports
Reports from the Officers



PART B

2016 Mission Assembly for Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area, ELCA

Annual Report of the Bishop

The Reverend Doctor Kevin S. Kanouse, Bishop

April 22-24, 2016

¡TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH!

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

¡MACEDONIA! ¡SAMARIA! ¡SINAI! ¡TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH!

We have journeyed, with Jesus from the cross of Good Friday, to the empty tomb of Easter Sunday. The Holy Spirit has driven us to ¡MACEDONIA! and ¡SAMARIA! and ¡SINAI! and now, **¡TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH!** “But,” you say, “haven’t we already been to the ends of the earth? Hasn’t Christianity made its way to every corner of the globe and beyond?” Yes, in a way; but there is so much more that we are called to do. **¡TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH!** is our call to faithful living within

our own lives and communities. It is not so much about conversion of those in foreign countries who have never heard the Gospel; it is about living our faith in our homes, churches, and community in a way that people will know Christ lives. It is about being disciples... **DiscipleLife!**



It is popular to point to congregational decline and predict that Christians are a dying breed, that religion will go the way of dinosaurs. Yet, according to the Pew Research Center, the size of almost every major faith will increase in the next 40 years. The biggest winners, Pew predicts, will be Islam and Christianity. Islam, the world's fastest-growing faith, will leap from 1.6 billion (in 2010) to 2.76 billion by 2050, according to the Pew study. At that time, Muslims will make up nearly one-third of the world's total projected population of about 9 billion people. Christianity is expected to grow, too, but not at Islam's explosive rate. The Pew study predicts Christians will increase from 2.17 billion to 2.92 billion, composing more than 31% of the world's population, still the largest religion in the world. This means that by 2050, more than 6 out of 10 people will be Christian or Muslim. We are part of a movement, a Holy Christian movement that is still inspired by the Holy Spirit!

Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

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WHERE HAVE WE BEEN IN THE PAST YEAR?

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America!

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area!

Our particular denominational movement looks to be in significant decline as are most denominational movements in the United States and beyond. According to a report provided by Kenn Innskeep, from the ELCA Office of Research and Evaluation, covering 140,327 square miles, the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod is the 8th largest in the ELCA. With 25,685 baptized members at the end of 2014, we have 0.2 baptized member per square mile. At the end of 2014, we have 108 congregations and Synodically Authorized Worshiping Communities, with an average of 252 people per congregation (the ELCA average is 401). During 2014, we had 571 baptisms of children, 474 affirmations of faith, and 60 adult baptisms.

One of our bright spots, at least in comparison to other ELCA synods, is that 41% of our baptized were in worship on Sunday morning, on average. This is number one in the ELCA! The ELCA average is 27% of the baptized. Yet, this means that our average worship attendance is 104 per congregation per week. I believe that a congregation needs to have at least 100 worshipers, on average, to support a full time pastor. Seventy (70!) of our congregations have fewer than 100 in worship on Sunday morning. Martin Marty has said that there are 43,000 Christian denominations in the world! That number is up from 30,000+ back in the 1970s and 1980s. With so much division, splintering, and decline, what is the Holy Spirit up to? What will the Christian faith look like at the Ends of the Earth in the years to come? Therein lies our challenge and opportunity; therein lies our hope!

The promise of Jesus was that the Holy Spirit would come for the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ risen, and for the sharing of faith from generation to generation through Word proclaimed, sacraments shared, and the community of faith, the Church. The Church is Christ's people gathered around Word and Sacrament and the Church of Jesus Christ will live on. Our particular part of the Christian movement may become smaller and as we are faithful, the Word will continue to move out to the Ends of the Earth.



Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

We have been to the Christ Evangelical Lutheran Mission Center at Briarwood

Over the past 2 years our new Christ Evangelical Lutheran Mission Center at Briarwood has been completed. How blessed we are to have this new facility to grow our *Leadership Formation for DiscipleLife* vision! While we dedicated our facility at our 2015 Assembly, some construction continued and *DiscipleLife Alive!* concluded officially last June.



Since last Assembly, we have been using **Briarwood** more and more for public events including hosting **Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton** at our Bishop's Convocation in October and **Kevin Strickland** the ELCA Director of Worship to lead us into a conversation around *The Use of the Means of Grace*. Region IV held the **Regional Global Mission Event** at Briarwood and Portico

led a national event **Financial Well-Being for Church Leaders in Late-Career**. We hosted a **Congregation Councils Retreat**, led by Pr. Jon Lee in February and **Preaching Advent** and **Preaching Lent Continuing Education Events**, led by Pr. Kendra Mohn. Nearly all of our events are live-streamed for watching live at a distance or posted on our website (www.ntnl.org) for later viewing.

The Parish Lay Mission Academy held their graduation this Spring in the Anderson Chapel and classes in the Davis Library and Oak Grove Lodge. We continue to have conversations in our Leadership Formation Team for future planning and to do more training for **Synodically Authorized Worship Leaders, TEEM, and other seminary-level studies** on-site in our Streng Leadership Center.

Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

We have been to Our Companion Synod in Sierra Leone, West Africa and have joined in Reducing the Scourge of Malaria!

Bishop Tom Barnett reached the end of his term as bishop in 2015, having served since his installation in 2002. The ELCSL elected **Pastor Moses Kobbah Momoh** from St. Mark Lutheran Church in Kissy, Freetown to serve as the new bishop. **Pr. Jane Mar** and **VP Stephanie Varnum** attended the Installation service at the Jubilee Centre in November as my representatives and Pr. Mar preached at the great celebration. We had hoped to welcome Bishop Momoh to our assembly, but he was not granted a visa. We have since invited him to attend the installation of our new bishop in September.



Even as the ELCA has reached the \$15 million goal for the **Malaria Initiative**, NT-NL exceeded our goal of **\$160,000** in January. That is amazing...especially since we raised, at the same time, over **\$153,000** to support the Ebola crisis through our Companion Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone. We joined in sending three containers of medical supplies to fight Ebola and we empowered our brothers and sisters in the ELCSL to undertake a host of village feeding programs during the worst of the epidemic. Wow!

Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

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Eastern Mission Conference Outreach: An Example to Follow

An East Dallas Mission Cluster is now meeting to discuss ministry in the city. This is an exciting opportunity and an outcome of our Mission Plan. Meeting at the geographical center of east Dallas, Emanuel Lutheran Church, a congregation whose ministry has been bilingual for more than 30 years, representatives from nearly a dozen congregations including our African American, Hispanic, Oromo, and Anglo communities have begun to compare individual congregational strategies, to share stories of mission, and to dream about what we can do better together.

In east Dallas, we have congregations with significant history in the race conversations of the 1960s: **Mt. Olive** and **St. John's**. St. John's celebrated 65 years of ministry in Oak Cliff and 50 years as a black congregation. These two small, yet determined congregations are looking at ways to transform so that they can reach more deeply into their neighborhoods in witness to Jesus Christ. **Emanuel** has already gone through several transitions due to their location in near east Dallas. Now their neighborhood is changing again: gentrification with young couples and singles moving into condos and mini-mansions. These congregations are treasures whose mission we get to support, encourage, and grow. **St. John's**, **Mt. Olive**, and **Bethany** have shared a renewal service of the three congregations on Pentecost the past two years and plan to continue this celebration. **Gloria Dei** in Garland and **St. John's** are now meeting for *Courageous Conversations on Racism* and others are asking to join the conversation. Their Conversations were even featured in an article in **The Lutheran**. Many congregations send food, funds, and people to help in Mt. Olive's weekly food pantry that feeds hundreds each week. How will this model of mission together grow? How can this Cluster be a model for all of our missional efforts?

Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

In addition, here is a list of some of the other happenings across NT-NL:

- As of the end of January, pledges and commitments to **DiscipleLife Alive!** total **\$3,201,167**, with more than **\$3 million** given to date! At last year's assembly, Briarwood Executive Director Pr. Phil Geleske and I committed ourselves to the **PURPLE HAIR CHALLENGE!** If we reached our goal, we would color our hair purple...for a time...a short time. Indeed, we followed through on our promise. In the end Briarwood has assumed a debt that will be about \$500,000, with NT-NL paying on that mortgage out of funds set aside for lease payments in the budget. We are paying significantly less on this note than we previously paid on our lease.
- New Spanish language mission starts this past year include: **Adviento in Arlington** (at Advent in Arlington) under the leadership of Pr. Edy Santos and **San Mateo in Waco**, under the leadership of SAWL Rafael Alderete. The **Fort Worth Umojah Church**, under the leadership of SAWL Absalom Nasuwa has



also begun. Three new missions in other languages!

- **Iglesia Luterana Santa Maria de Guadalupe** in Irving has split, but a strong remnant continues to worship at Holy Trinity in Irving, under the pastoral leadership of Pr. Gus Vinajeras.
- **Christ in San Angelo** has had final settlement of their property sale and has completed their donation to the DiscipleLife Alive! Campaign and has, in addition given major gifts to Calvary in San Angelo to fund Briarwood Day Camps for years to come. They have given many additional gifts to neighboring congregations and local agencies and institutions.
- NT-NL leaders stepped up and hosted a very successful **tri-synodical Theological Conference** in Arlington for three days.
- Three of our congregations, **Resurrection in Haslett, San Miguel in Fort Worth, and Santa Maria in Irving** have engaged in conversations and/or taken votes to leave the ELCA since last November. This is particularly complicated for us because the North American Lutheran Church is working actively and coaching them on how to proceed. Congregations leaving the ELCA are to repay all grants that they received while in the ELCA before the Mission Council can grant their departure. Conversations around this are still in process.

Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

POWER FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL PROVIDE US WITH A NEW BISHOP

When Jesus gave the Great Commission, by Luke's telling of the story in the Acts of the Apostles, the early Christians' call to be witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth could only happen because they were empowered by the Holy Spirit. Indeed, the book of Acts is also sometimes referred to as the Acts of the Holy Spirit because the Apostles could only do their work as the Holy Spirit called them, equipped them, sent them, and gave them courage to go to the ends of the earth.

We give thanks that the gift of the Holy Spirit was not just a gift given long ago and far away; but that the Spirit continues to empower and equip Christ's Church today. We are recipients of that same Holy Spirit from the moment of our Baptism, through every act of worship and gift of love, all the way through our assembly with the choosing of our next bishop. And beyond too!

As we move to the election of our next bishop, we are in a time of deep discernment about what the Holy Spirit is doing. Pastors among us have agreed to be part of the conversation in offering their gifts and abilities to lead. Now it is time to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church. What gifts and abilities does the Spirit want us to call forth from our next bishop? What skills and qualities of life will best represent the Church as our bishop serves among us? What attributes of the heart will reveal Christ to us as our bishop serves among us for the next six years? When we are attentive, the Holy Spirit will guide us. I pray:



Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

THE SPIRIT SENDS US FORTH...



**Judy Rommel,
Administrative Assistant**

I have been blessed beyond my ability to express appreciation for the privilege and high honor accorded to me to serve for 16 years as your bishop. I have often been awed and humbled to have been given this privilege. I believe my first words were: “I don’t understand.” I still don’t. As your bishop, there have been incredible times of joy and inspiration. There have also been some of the saddest, most challenging, times of my life. I have been stretched beyond what I thought were my limits, but always staff, members of congregations, pastors, friends, and most of all my wife and family have stood beside me and held me up when I was down.



**Pastor Stephen Kanouse,
Director for Evangelical Mission**

I especially acknowledge my incredible staff, some of whom have retired or are also retiring. Those include **Judy Rommel**, our administrative assistant for more than 25 years, who retired December 31, 2015. **Pr. Stephen Kanouse**, has been our ELCA Director for Evangelical Mission after serving as the tri-synodical Mission Director. He is retiring after serving us for 16 years in these two positions.



Bishop Assistant Pr. Jane Mar with husband, Dan

Pastor Jane Mar has been Bishop Assistant for LifeLong Leadership Formation and in other roles as well. I shall surely miss working with her wonderful personality, her joy in serving, and her Type A personality which drives her to complete every assignment. She has been a tireless, faithful worker for the churches of NT-NL and has the love and admiration of countless congregations and pastors, including me.



**Pr. Russell Vardell,
Parish Lay Mission
Academy Dean**

Two part-time staff members have been incredibly valuable to my Leadership Team and have served for many years. **Becky Brakke**, is our Assembly Planner. Becky has worked endless hours with hotels, convention centers and planning teams to assure that we have creative and energizing Assemblies and Theological Conferences year after year. **Pastor Russell Vardell** has been dean of our Parish Lay Mission Academy for many years and has led us through the training of well over 200 Parish Lay Ministers. He has been helped by his teaching staff of capable, challenging pastors and



**Becky Brakke,
Events Planner**



Jeanne Heggen, Database & Bookkeeping

theologians to lift up lay and sometimes clergy leaders for our congregations.

Just joining our staff recently are **Jeanne Heggen** (a member of Calvary, Richland Hills) and **Jason O'Neill** (attending Advent, Arlington). Jeanne takes Judy's place, in part, to help with bookkeeping and database management as well as "all other jobs not detailed in her job description." Jason has a flair for words and experience with internet and e-



Jason O'Neill, Communications

communications is our new Communicator.



Two of our wonder workers for as long as I can remember are **Vice President Stephanie Varnum** (shown at top, left, with her husband Jim) and **Hattie Hammer** (shown bottom, left, with her husband Pr. Mel Hammer). Stephanie, an Associate in Ministry, is a volunteer who attends staff meetings regularly, chairs the Mission Council meetings, and forms and advises various committees and working teams. It has been a joy to serve beside her. She has been a source of compassion and strength when times have been difficult. Hattie is the Executive Director of the **Mission Endowment Fund**, which has grown to have assets well over \$1.5 million under her leadership. She is often seen

volunteering in the office on behalf of MEF and giving grant checks to congregations, as well as planning the annual MEF Dinner, the major fund-raiser for the Fund.

Last, and perhaps most important, are two very strong Wonder Women who have been by my side every step of the way. Wonder Woman # 1 is **Tyna Oslie**, who has served in the NT-NL Mission Area since shortly after our birth in 1988. She is the Mission Area Administrator and works at least 50-60 hours per week to make sure the gears in our machine run smoothly. Most of all, I admire her love of Jesus and commitment to the Lutheran expression of the faith. She loves every person whose life she touches both in work and church life (she is a member of Shepherd of Life, Arlington) and tries to smile through every attempt by Satan to derail our work. I could not have survived this call without her being there to pick me up **and** to knock me down when I've needed it. I could not have ever asked for a more faithful, caring, and committed co-worker in the Gospel.



Tyna & Bruce Oslie

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**Billye Jean Kanouse,
with husband, Kevin**

Wonder Woman # 2 is my wife, **Billye Jean**. She has had to carry the brunt of the weight of this call on the home front day in and day out. When I was in the parish, I disliked being away at meetings so many evenings, knowing she was home taking care of our two sons by herself. In the bishop's office, I disliked travelling for days on end or even weeks or longer, knowing she would be home alone (except for our 95 pound Great Pyrenees). She has been by my side for more than 40 years. She supported me in my discernment to go to seminary, my first call in Lancaster County, PA, in coming to Texas, and the biggest challenge of all: discerning the call to serve as bishop. She stands beside me with love and grace and does her best to smile through the difficult and the joyous. The biggest test was, of course, the past five years of my own coming out. She reached down into her deep well of compassion, love, understanding, and grace and accepted me for who I am and continues to love me. My life-partner, my best friend, my soul-mate, and spirit-

mate; for whom I give thanks to God every day.

Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

The Good News is that the Holy Spirit has been and continues to be active, guiding, leading, and sustaining all of us on this journey to the ends of the earth. We aren't done yet and we won't be done on June 30. NT-NL's best days and the best days of the Church of Jesus Christ lay ahead of us, not behind us. When the Holy Spirit promises, who can doubt?

So, I leave you with the words from Hebrews that have been an inspiration and motivator for me to be about the work of Christ's calling, recognizing that he accomplished it all through the cross and we are, each and every one, indebted to the saints who have gone before us, that great cloud of witnesses:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1-2

Soli Deo Gloria! To God be the Glory!
Veni Sancte Spiritus! Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

Grace and Peace in Christ Jesus,

+ Kevin S. Kanouse

Kevin S. Kanouse,
Missionary Bishop

**Report of the Vice President
Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area
April 2016**

You are not alone. These are some of the most important, meaningful words that anyone can hear. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be with us after he ascended to heaven. We gather in congregations to support one another and to share God's loving care with our communities. And we group into Conferences and the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana of the ELCA in order to live out God's love and care in this Mission Area. You and your congregation are not alone.

This was our first full year of living-into our new configuration - seven Conferences and Mission Conference Leadership Teams, and the Mission Council organized with two lay persons and a pastor or SAWL from each Conference. The thinking and planning behind these changes was to help us strengthen our congregations through supporting one another and bridging our great distances.

One of the activities this new, strengthened grouping has been the preparation for the calling/election of our new bishop. The Conferences have taken the lead in helping pastors and lay leaders prayerfully and intentionally prepare to elect/call our next NT-NL bishop. I deeply appreciate the work of the Deans, Assistant Deans, and MCLTs in this process!

Each month Mrs. Hattie Hammer reads all the congregational newsletters that come to the Mission Office and prepares of summary of the activities and news of our congregations and shares that with the bishop's office, Mission Council, and Deans. I am awed by the many, many outreach activities that our congregations engage in as they serve their communities in the name of Christ. Yes, there are recurring themes – food pantries, care for the homeless, blood drives, Habitat for Humanity, Ramp Project, support of prison ministries, baby showers and toy drives for families in shelters, World

Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, Souper Bowl of Caring, service projects at Briarwood, support for the NT-NL Mission Endowment Fund "Seeds that Change," and so much more - sharing and caring for your specific locales, the NT-NL Mission Area, and the world. You are not alone; we are not alone!

The leaders and congregations of NT-NL worked hard for 5-6 years visioning, dreaming, in bible study, in prayer, planning, and then building the Christ Evangelical Lutheran Mission Center at Briarwood. Plus a faithful team has been working on how to best use this to Grow Leaders. Every country in the world is experiencing change, displacement, a sense of alienation, not just the United States of America. We need leaders who can look at the world, God's world, and help us see God's way forward. We need to be growing leaders for the Church and for the world. It's a different world and NT-NL is helping us face it with hope and courage with renewed leaders with vision and new skills.

I want to say thank you the Mission Council members who are completing their terms – Pr. Terry Atkins, Pr. Jan Castleberry, Ron Gubrud, Melanie Jones, Patricia Rodriguez, and Rafael Alderte. It has been an honor to work beside each of you. Also, thanks to Pastor Steve Kanouse, Director of Evangelical Mission. Your passion for sharing the love of Christ has inspired me. Your love for the Church, the bride of Christ, has encouraged. Thank you and may God bless you and Chris in your retirement years.

Finally, I extend my heart-felt Thank You to Bishop Kanouse for his sixteen years of visionary leadership and faithful ministry. Thank you. May you and Billye Jean enjoy many years with your sons, daughters-in-law and grandkids and exciting adventures ahead of you.

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Report of the Secretary Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area April 2016

During my fourth year as Secretary, I faithfully recorded minutes for all meetings of the Mission Area Council and Executive Committee. Copies of all actions and meeting minutes of the Mission Area Council are on file in the Mission Area Office.

The Executive Committee of the Mission Area Council will have met three times since the 2015 Mission Area Assembly. The Mission Area Council subsequently ratified interim actions taken on their behalf at regularly called sessions. Minutes are on file and available for examination by anyone interested.

Our 2015 Assembly theme ;Sinai! inspired mission efforts in support of DiscipleLife Alive! and to conclude this very successful campaign. God continues to bless the NT-NL and carries us through difficult times, keeping our focus on His work.

Mission Council Purpose and Guiding Principles

We are Jesus' disciples communicating God's vision to this Mission Area.

We will:

Pray and Worship
Study Scripture
Proclaim "Jesus Is Lord"
Promote justice and reconciliation
Honor one another
Celebrate our diversity

In addition to its regular business, the following actions have been taken since last Mission Area Assembly:

April 2015

MC 04.15.11 To approve the nominations for Bishop Election Committee and the Transition Team.

MC 04.15.12 To approve the nominations for Mission Assembly Standing Committees.

MC 04.15.13 To accept the Care and Compensation Package for 2016.

MC 04.15.14 To approve the waiver for Specialized Ministry for the Rev. Kristen Klade..

MC 04.15.16 To approve the By-Laws changes as recommended by the Committee.

MC 04.15.17 To approve the nominations and proposed guidelines for selection of Churchwide Assembly Voting Members and Mission Area Committees.

MC 04.15.18 To approve the guidelines for the ELCA Fundraising Campaign – Always Being Made New.

September 2015

MC 09.15.20 To designate the whole of the offering of the 2016 Assembly be given to New and Renewing Ministries of NT-NL.

MC 09.15.22 To affirm the ministry of the Church of the Damascus Road and seek a grant in order to further establish the worshiping community with the hope that the ministry will continue to develop toward a congregation.

MC 09.15.23 To approve the proposed. budget for the 2016 Assembly.

MC 09.15.24 To approve Rules of Procedure for the 2016 Assembly.

MC 09.15.25 To approve the update to the personnel policy for vacation for NT-NL Staff.

January 2016

MC 01.16.01 To accept the Retirement of Bishop Kevin Kanouse.

MC 01.16.04 To accept the updated Rules of Procedure for the Assembly.

MC 01.16.05 To approve the 2016 Spending Plan as presented by the Treasurer.

MC 01.16.06 To recommend the 2017 Proposed Budget to present to the 2016 Assembly.

MC 01.16.08 To recommend that the Umojo International Church in Fort Worth as a Synodically Authorized Worshiping Community.

Approved the Hispanic/Latino Mission Conference Resolution:

Whereas, The NT-NL Mission area has created non-geographic conference. This unique Hispanic Latino Mission Conference is designed to meet the missional needs of the Hispanic/Latinos within the NT-NL Mission Area.

Whereas, The purpose is providing leadership to congregations through the development and growth of local leaders for new missions and to support and encourage existent congregations and accompanying new missions.

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- Whereas, It's critical for the health and sustenance of Hispanic/Latino ministries to ensure the recruitment of appropriate ordained and lay leadership that may respond to their very particular cultural, and theological needs; and
- Whereas, The NT-NL Mission Area and the Latino Conference will work together to assist the Bishop and the Bishop Assistant for Lifelong Leadership Formation in recruiting appropriate ordained and lay leadership for the Hispanic/Latino ministries, therefore be it
- Resolved That the Contextual Leadership Development Team will:
1. Speak to the appropriateness of new prospective ordained and lay leaders;
 2. Welcome, coach, support, and mentor them for at least the first two years of placement;
 3. Counsel congregations considering the calling or contracting of new Hispanic/Latino leadership;
 4. Work in partnership with the Bishop's Assistant for Lifelong Leadership Formation;
 5. Provide input when decisions are to be made about new Hispanic/Latino mission starts; and be it further
- Resolved That the Candidacy Committee of the NT-NL Mission Area add at least two more Hispanic/Latino persons to be more representative of the contextual reality of our geographic area.
- MC 01.16.10 To approve the proposed resolution of the Hispanic/Latino Mission Conference as presented by H/L Assistant Dean, Pr. Jesus Escamilla.*
- MC 01.16.11 To approve that the 2017 Mission Assembly be held on April 28-29, 2017 at a hotel in or near Dallas.*

As you can see, there has been much business conducted since the last Mission Assembly. Now in my fourth year, I have been continually blessed to have the guidance of the NT-NL staff and Mission Council in the execution of my duties. I look for their continued support. I also look forward to assisting with new Mission Starts and healthcare initiatives with Parkland Hospital System. This initiative has expanded to include all Healthcare systems operating in Dallas County and encompasses the entire faith community of Dallas County. These ministries are very exciting endeavors and hold strong promise for our efforts in the Mission Area. Thanks to everyone for your help, prayers, and friendship throughout this past year!

Todd Weiss, Secretary of NT-NL Mission Area

TREASURER'S REPORT 2016 MISSION ASSEMBLY

While congregational support was \$13,700 below the budgeted amount, it was over \$11,500 greater than the previous year's support. This is the second consecutive year-to-year increase; the "turn-around" continues. Starting in 2016, we have outsourced our accounting support to the ELCA Mission Investment Fund's Synod Financial Services (SFS). In preparation for this change, in 2015 we switched to accrual accounting which requires that the audit expense for 2015 be reported in 2015. This one-time change (paying for two audits – 2014 and 2015 – in one year) has added \$15,500 to 2015 expense. The result is a deficit for 2015 of (\$10,734), which has reduced our unrestricted fund surplus to \$55,781.

Looking Forward to 2016 and 2017

The spending plan for 2016 was set at a 2% increase above the 2015 results, but less than the approved 2016 budget from last year's assembly. The 2016 budget includes \$20,000 for Bishop Transition expenses. This plus \$18,700 set aside in 2015 means the total available is \$38,700. New to the 2016 budget is the \$25,000 fee for accounting services from MIF SFS; this fee also includes the expense for the audit of 2016. The amount shared with Churchwide (48%) is unchanged from 2015.

The 2017 Mission Strategy mirrors the 2016 Spending Plan. Expected increases in salary and benefits offset the savings from not having a Bishop Transition. Included in the 2017 budget is \$5,000 to start the work of significantly improving the NT-NL website. Support to Churchwide will remain at 48%.

General Fund

The Mission Area received \$1,207,310 from congregations during 2015; this is \$11,530 more than we received in 2014. The Mission Area also received \$31,875 from the Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest; \$202 in regular interest; and \$211 in other receipts, for a total of \$1,239,598. We gave 48% of congregational support to Churchwide (\$579,509), and Mission Area programs and operations totaled \$670,823. These disbursements of \$1,250,332 resulted in an operational deficit of (\$10,734). This decreased the existing unrestricted surplus to \$55,781.

The Mission Area also received \$165,000 in pass-through money. This was money that we received from congregations for the support of other congregations, ELCA programs (like world hunger and disaster response), Lutheran ministries (like Mosaic, seminaries, TLU and LSS), Briarwood, and the NT-NL Mission Area's Endowment Fund. Another \$202,000 was sent to or paid on behalf of Sierra Leone, Ebola relief, Umoja support, and others.

Assembly Fund

For the 2015 Assembly, there were total receipts of \$142,845 and expenditures of \$138,447, resulting in a \$4,398 surplus. These receipts/expenditures included the \$64,659 in offerings for DiscipleLife Alive!, Briarwood, Lutheran Campus Ministry, and the NT-NL Youth Gathering. The 2015 surplus increased the fund balance to \$6,548.

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Mission Endowment Fund

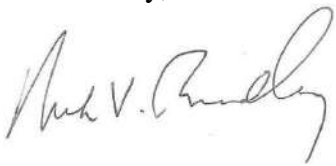
This fund received contributions of \$5,200 and other income of \$2,870 for operations, and experienced a net loss on investments of (\$48,800). The MEF spent \$10,400 for operations, \$47,900 in grants, and \$15,000 for New Mission Starts. The MEF received additions to the permanent base of \$55,800 from congregations, individuals, and from the Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. Within the total MEF amount, the custodial Disciple Life Endowment Fund increased to \$397,974 as of January 31, 2016. Also as of January 31, 2016, the MEF total (including DLA) had a portfolio with a value of over \$1,441,000.

DiscipleLife Alive! Fund

This fund received contributions of \$534,000. Disbursements totaled \$778,000. Of this, \$282,000 was paid for the DiscipleLife Center, \$17,000 for Leadership formation, \$270,000 for MEF, \$190,000 for Debt Reduction, and \$29,000 for administrative expenses. 2015 disbursements exceed receipts by (\$254,000) which closed out the cash balance in the fund. Overall the DLA! Initiative on January 31, 2016 had pledges and gifts of \$3,100,000.

This page summarizes the numerical data in the financial reports for the year ending January 31, 2016. Those reports are part of this Assembly's Book of Reports. For information on the accuracy of these reports, as well as additional financial disclosures, please request a copy of the complete audit report from the Mission Office.

Submitted by,



Mark Bradley
NT-NL Treasurer

2016 Spending Plan and 2017 Proposed DiscipleLife Mission Strategy

Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Mission Area

	2016 Spending	Differ- ence	2017 Proposed
DiscipleLife Tithes and Offerings			
Congregation Mission Support	1,236,635	37,099	1,273,734
Special Gifts	30,010	298	30,308
Interest Income	1,000	-	1,000
Total DL Tithes and Offerings	1,267,645	37,397	1,305,042
DiscipleLife ELCA Partnership			
ELCA Churchwide - Mission Support	593,585	17,807	611,392
Total DL ELCA Partnership	593,585	17,807	611,392
	48.0%		48.0%
Mission Programs			
New Ministries	6,000	-	6,000
Missional Congregation Support	3,500	-	3,500
Hispanic Strategy	2,000	-	2,000
Briarwood	3,000	-	3,000
Sierra Leone	4,500	-	4,500
Global Mission Roundtable	2,000	-	2,000
Campus Ministry	6,000	-	6,000
Parish Lay Mission Academy	3,000	-	3,000
Seminarian Scholarships	3,000	-	3,000
Candidacy Expenses	8,500	-	8,500
Mission Deans Expenses	5,000	-	5,000
Mission Council Travel	10,000	-	10,000
Communications	2,500	-	2,500
Total Mission Programs	59,000	-	59,000
Mission Operations			
Salaries & Benefits			
Salary & Housing & Contract Labor	310,660	9,289	319,949
Bishop Transition	20,000	(20,000)	-
Medical, Pension and other labor costs	126,900	10,793	137,693
Total Salaries & Benefits	457,560	82	457,642
Travel & Administration			
Travel & Auto Lease Expenses	48,500	3,000	51,500
ELCA Shared Cost	(15,000)	-	(15,000)
Administrative Expenses	71,700	2,800	74,500
Revamp Web Site		5,000	5,000
DL Center Reception Support	5,000	5,000	10,000
DL Center loan Payment/Utilities	47,300	3,708	51,008
Total Travel and Administration	157,500	19,508	177,008
Total Mission Operations	615,060	19,590	634,650
Total Expenses	1,267,645	37,397	1,305,042
Revenue over/(under) Expense	-	-	-

PART B

NORTHERN TEXAS-NORTHERN LOUISIANA MISSION AREA OF THE ELCA

Operating Account Balance Sheet

January 31, 2016 and 2015

	<u>1/31/2016</u>	<u>1/31/2015</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash for Operations	\$ 71,185	\$ 66,766
Cash for Designated Funds	393,031	150,575
Prepaid Expenses	8,504	
Receivables	5,157	14,870
Total Current Assets	<u>477,877</u>	<u>232,211</u>
FIXED ASSETS		
Furniture & Fixtures	13,223	13,223
Office Equipment	27,555	79,938
Subtotal	<u>40,778</u>	<u>93,161</u>
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(40,778)</u>	<u>(93,015)</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>-</u>	<u>146</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Deposits	-	3,073
Note Receivable	-	-
Total Other Assets	<u>-</u>	<u>3,073</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 477,877</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 235,430</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Account Payable	\$ 20,240	\$ 3,624
Deferred Mission Support	8,825	11,729
Deferred Support, Restricted	-	2,988
Total Current Liabilities	<u>29,065</u>	<u>18,341</u>
DESIGNATED FUNDS	<u>393,031</u>	<u>150,575</u>
FUND BALANCE		
Unrestricted Net Assets	55,781	66,368
Funds Expended for Assets	-	146
Total Fund Balance	<u>55,781</u>	<u>66,514</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u><u>\$ 477,877</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 235,430</u></u>

NORTHERN TEXAS-NORTHERN LOUISIANA MISSION AREA OF THE ELCA
Statement of Activity and Fund Balances (with Mission Strategy)
For The Year Ended January 31, 2016 and 2015

	Feb - Jan 2015 Mission Strategy	Feb - Jan 2015 Actual	Feb - Jan 2014 Actual
RECEIPTS			
Congregation Mission Support	\$1,221,000	\$1,207,310	\$1,195,780
Interest Income	1,000	202	248
Living Gifts via LFSW	24,332	31,875	28,220
Health Care Tax Credit			12,072
Misc Income	0	211	647
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>1,246,332</u>	<u>1,239,598</u>	<u>1,236,967</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Ministry of the ELCA (48.0% of Cong. Support)	586,080	579,509	574,593
Mission Programs	59,000	45,064	74,518
Salaries and Benefits	451,460	465,659	422,818
Travel	34,500	31,919	29,726
Administrative Expenses	115,292	128,181	113,590
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>1,246,332</u>	<u>1,250,332</u>	<u>1,215,245</u>
Net Ordinary Activity for the Year	0	-10,734	21,722
Restricted Income (1)		165,000	130,000
Restricted Disbursements (1)		-165,000	-130,000
Net Activity for the Year	<u>\$0</u>	<u>-\$10,734</u>	<u>\$21,722</u>
Add Fund Balances at Beginning of Year		66,514	44,792
Fund Balances at End of Year		<u>\$55,781</u>	<u>\$66,514</u>

(1) This does not include more than \$202,000 spent on designations such as Sierra Leone (\$66,000), Ebola Relief (\$31,000), Umoja support (\$38,000), and others.

PART B

NORTHERN TEXAS-NORTHERN LOUISIANA MISSION AREA OF THE ELCA
Statement of Receipts & Disbursements - Budget vs. Actual
For the year ended January 31, 2016

	Mission Strategy	Actual
Congregation Mission Support	\$1,221,000	\$1,207,310
Interest Income	1,000	202
Living Gifts via Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest	24,332	31,875
Misc Income	0	211
TOTAL	1,246,332	1,239,598

Mission Support

Financial Support to ELCA (48.0%)	586,080	579,509
TOTAL	586,080	579,509

Mission Programs

New Ministries	6,000	-
Missional Congregational Support	3,500	-
Hispanic Strategy	2,000	2,000
Briarwood	3,000	3,000
Sierra Leone	4,500	4,500
Global Mission RT	2,000	500
Campus Ministry	6,000	6,000
Parish Lay Mission Academy	3,000	3,000
Seminarian Scholarships	3,000	2,997
Candidacy Expenses	8,500	2,741
Mission Deans Expenses	5,000	2,170
Mission Council Expenses	10,000	12,987
Communications	2,500	3,275
Non-Budgeted Expenses		1,894
TOTAL	59,000	45,064

Salaries & Benefits

Salary and Housing - Clergy	181,000	185,454
Salary-Other	137,000	134,397
Other Personnel Expenses	22,960	19,471
Pension/Medical-Ordained	51,000	49,508
Pension/Medical-Other	36,000	52,750
Bishop Transition	20,000	20,000
Continuing Education	3,500	4,079
TOTAL	451,460	465,659

	Mission Strategy	Actual
Travel		
Travel Expenses	49,500	46,919
ELCA Shared Cost	(15,000)	(15,000)
TOTAL	<u>34,500</u>	<u>31,919</u>
Administration		
Postage	2,500	2,439
Insurance	6,000	7,354
Telephone	8,000	3,765
Outside Services - Audit (2 years) / Bookkeeping	18,500	33,377
Office Expenses	12,000	12,175
Equipment Leases and Maintenance	15,500	17,963
Office Rent	8,202	3,073
DL Center Loan Payments	32,090	32,090
DL Center Reception Support	-	5,000
DL Center Utilities	10,000	10,800
Depreciation-Office Equip	2,500	145
TOTAL	<u>115,292</u>	<u>128,181</u>
Total Expenses	<u>1,246,332</u>	<u>1,250,332</u>
Net Activity for the Year	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,734)</u>

PART B

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area of ELCA
Assembly Account Balance Sheet

	1/31/2016	1/31/2015
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 2,356	\$ 1,824
Mission Plus Investment Fund	564	562
Prepaid Expenses	8,785	8,869
Total Assets	11,705	11,255
LIABILITIES	5,157	9,105
FUND BALANCE	6,548	2,150
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ 11,705	\$ 11,255

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area of ELCA
Assembly Account Income and Expenses
For the year ended January 31, 2016 and 2015

	Feb - Jan 2015	Feb - Jan 2014
Income		
Registration Including Banquet & Meals	\$ 72,229	\$ 67,454
Assembly Offerings Received	64,659	18,431
Assembly Display	1,459	1,463
Interest Income	2	2
Hotel Rebate	-	4,681
Other Income	996	20,014
Agency - Organization Donations	3,500	5,000
Total Receipts	142,845	117,045
Expenditures		
Assembly Offerings Distributed	64,659	18,431
Planning	93	890
Registration	599	3,229
Hospitality	-	211
Fellowship & Meals	26,231	40,558
Facilitators	826	152
Facilities	16,641	18,535
Thematic Development	10,173	20,153
Publicity	822	356
Worship	2,634	9,410
LYO Convention Youth	-	190
Assembly Office & Admin. Expenses	15,769	19,959
Total Expenditures	138,447	132,075
Net results of operations	\$ 4,398	\$(15,030)
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 2,150	\$ 17,180
Net results of operations	4,398	(15,030)
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 6,548	\$ 2,150

Note: The offerings that were received during the April 24-26, 2015, Assembly supported DiscipleLife Alive! Briarwood, Lutheran Campus Ministry, and the NT-NL Youth Gathering

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area of ELCA
NTNL Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) Balance Sheet
January 31, 2016 and 2015

	1/31/2016	1/31/2015
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 24,850	\$ 18,627
ELCA MIF Cash	35,088	65,987
Investments (1)	721,782	773,513
ELCA Pooled Trust	162,151	170,569
Mission Term Investments	100,000	100,000
Custodial-DL Endowment for Mission (1)	397,974	144,616
Total Assets	1,441,845	1,273,311
LIABILITIES		
	-	-
FUND BALANCES		
Total Unrestricted Fund Balance	33,541	147,570
Board Designated Fund Balance (2)		
Mark Herbener Fund	93,270	93,270
Lief Johnson Fund via LFSW	50,555	50,555
Lutheran Endowment Fund of the SW	98,604	97,311
Total Board Designated Balance	242,429	241,136
Permanent Gifts		
Congregations (3)	8,879	13,311
Congregations -- Seeds that Change	1,785	
Individuals -- Seeds that Change	13,049	
Individuals (3)	4,199	14,579
Total Gifts	27,912	27,889
Restricted Fund Balance		
General Endowment	337,915	310,025
Stone Endowment	15,000	15,000
LFSW (Esther Brittain Endowment)	45,174	45,174
Gifts from the NTNL Mission Area	160,351	160,351
St. John, Grand Prairie	41,550	41,550
St. Paul, Farmers Branch	75,000	75,000
Messiah, Monroe	65,000	65,000
Custodial-NTNL DL Endowment for Mission	390,000	130,000
Custodial-NTNL DL Endowment Earnings	7,974	14,616
Total Restricted Balance	1,137,964	856,716
Total Fund Balances	1,441,845	1,273,311
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$1,441,845	1,273,311

(1) Investments reported at Market Value.

(2) On February 9, 2002, the Board of Directors designated a portion of the Unrestricted Funds

(3) Includes contributions from Seeds of Change Dinner for year ending 1/31/15

PART B

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area of ELCA
NTNL Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) Revenues and Expenses
For the year ended January 31, 2016 and 2015

	Feb - Jan 2015	Feb - Jan 2014
Revenues		
Congregational Gifts - Permanent	\$ 10,664	\$13,311
Individual Gifts - Permanent	17,248	14,579
General Endowment	27,890	
Esther Brittain Gifts - Specific		1,881
Messiah, Monroe - Permanent		65,000
NTNL DL Endowment for Mission	260,000	-
NTNL DL Endowment Earnings	<u>(6,642)</u>	<u>9,293</u>
Total Permanent	<u>309,160</u>	<u>104,063</u>
Board Member Income	5,203	4,438
Other Income	2,869	8
Investment Income (net of fees)	<u>(48,819)</u>	<u>71,479</u>
Total Receipts	<u>(40,747)</u>	<u>75,925</u>
Expenditures		
Congregational Grants	47,900	58,000
New Mission Starts	15,000	
Director Expenses	10,200	7,800
Special Projects	50	350
Administrative Expenses	<u>132</u>	<u>14</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>73,282</u>	<u>66,165</u>
Net results of operations	<u>\$(114,029)</u>	<u>\$ 9,760</u>

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area of ELCA
 NTNL Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) Change in Fund Balances
 For the year ended January 31, 2016 and 2015

	Feb - Jan 2015	Feb - Jan 2014
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 147,570	\$ 137,810
Appreciation in Pooled Fund 2011-2012		
FY Net Change	(114,029)	9,760
Ending Fund Balance	33,541	147,570
BOARD DESIGNATED FUNDS		
Beginning Fund Balance	241,136	241,136
Transfers	1,293	-
Ending Fund Balance	242,429	241,136
RESTRICTED FUNDS		
Beginning Fund Balance	856,716	780,542
Additions to General Endowment	27,890	
Additions to LFSW (Esther Brittain Endowment) Messiah, Monroe		1,881 65,000
Additions to Custodial Principal	260,000	
Gains / (Losses) to Custodial Earnings	(6,642)	9,293
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,137,964	\$ 856,716

PART B

Northern Texas Northern Louisiana Mission Area of ELCA
DiscipleLife Alive! Income and Expenses
For the year ended January 31, 2016 through 2011 and Total

	-----Year ending 1/31/16-----		2011-2015	Total
	post campaign	campaign		
Income				
Donations - General	\$ -	\$ 82,259	\$ 612,638	\$ 694,897
Donations - Pledged	398,415	52,948	1,933,821	2,385,184
Leadership Formation				
Endow. Inc.	-	-	5,000	5,000
Interest Income	-	656	14,486	15,142
Total Receipts	398,415	135,863	2,565,945	3,100,223
Expenditures				
Kairos Support		-	123,801	123,801
Printing and Miscellaneous		28,547	64,077	92,624
Transaction Fees		325	3,298	3,623
DiscipleLife Center	27,031	255,412	1,561,856	1,844,299
MEF - Endowment for				
Mission	250,000	20,000	130,000	400,000
MEF - Leadership				
Formation		17,000	128,519	145,519
Jubilee Center		-	300,018	300,018
Debt Reduction	121,384	68,955	-	190,339
Total Expenditures	398,415	390,239	2,311,569	3,100,223
Net results of operations	\$ -	\$ (254,376)	\$ 254,376	\$ -
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ 254,376	\$ -	
Net results of operations	-	(254,376)	254,376	
Ending Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 254,376	

NT-NL Balance Sheet	<u>1/31/2016</u>
	-
Debt Reduction	190,339
Leadership Formation	23,256
Landscape	24,056
Furnishings	<u>5,713</u>
DLA DESIGNATED FUNDS	243,364
DLA ENDOWMENT FOR MISSION	397,974

In / Out / Change Report - Assembly 2016

Name	In/Out/Change	From	To
The Rev Kathryn Cox	Change	New Hope, Keller	On Leave
The Rev Pat Dietrich	Change	First, Temple	Retired
The Rev Paul Dirksmeyer	Change	Church Council Call	On Leave
The Rev Kurt Fangmeier	Change	Calvary, San Angelo	On Leave
The Rev Marvin Havard	Change	Preston Meadow, Plano	On Leave
The Rev Wayne Menking	Change	Mission Council Call	Retired
The Rev Pedro Portillo	Change	On Leave	Mission Council Call
AIM James Rindelaub	Change	First United, Dallas	On Leave
The Rev Pollyanna Robins	Change	Faith, Sagerton	On Leave
The Rev Peter Rupprecht	Change	Mission Council Call	Retired
The Rev. JoAnne Swehosky	Change	Hope, Springtown	On Leave
The Rev Alicia Thompson-Summers	Change	On Leave	Retired
The Rev Gus Vinajeras	Change	Retired	Mission Council Call
The Rev Celene Welch	Change	Disability	Retired
The Rev Jeff Bergeron	In	Southwestern TX Synod	New Life in Christ, Duncanville
The Rev Christine Farrow	In	Virginia Synod	Zion, McGregor
The Rev Mark Galbraith	In	Central States Synod	Mission Council Call
The Rev William Irons	In	Southwestern TX Synod	Resurrection, Plano
The Rev Kristen Klade	In	Ordained	Mission Council Call
The Rev Eric Petty	In	Southwestern TX Synod	Mission Council Call
The Rev Ethan Beiler	Out	Calvary, Fort Worth	Resigned from Roster
The Rev Paul Dirksmeyer	Out	On Leave	Southeastern Synod
The Rev Stephen Friedrich	Out	Beautiful Savior, Amarillo	Southeastern Synod
The Rev Ruth Hetland	Out	Our Savior, Norse	NW Minnesota Synod
The Rev William Moore	Out	On Leave	Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast
The Rev Pedro Portillo	Out	Mission Council Call	Removed from Roster
The Rev David Rosales	Out	On Leave	Removed from Roster
The Rev Douglas Schoelles	Out	Mission Council Call	Resigned from Roster
AIM Jolene Webster	Out	St Matthew, Fort Worth	Southwestern Texas Synod
The Rev Mae Zelle	Out	On Leave	South Central Wisconsin
The Rev Scott Zimmerer	Out	Grace, Carrollton	Metro DC Synod
The Rev Stan Leaf	Deceased	Retired	
The Rev Kathleen Ott	Deceased	Retired	
The Rev John Saeger	Deceased	Retired	
The Rev Ernesto Weigandt	Deceased	Retired	

PART B

2016 Upcoming Milestones of Ministry

125	1891	Trinity Lutheran Church	Hamilton, TX
50	1966	King of Glory Lutheran Church	Fort Worth, TX

Rostered Ministers

- 5** The Rev. Nicholas M. Billardello III-3/6/2011
The Rev. Jesus Escamilla Sr- 10/18/2011
The Rev. Joan A. Iker - 09/25/2011
- 10** The Rev. Janet K. Kraatz - 10/29/2006
The Rev. Debra Loudin-McCann -
01/15/2006
The Rev. Alicia Thompson-Summers -
08/19/2006
- 15** The Rev. Jeffrey K. Corson - 09/09/2001
The Rev. Kurt J. Fangmeier - 08/23/2001
The Rev. Marc Hander - 02/17/2001
- 20** The Rev. Gordon J. Illausky - 01/21/1996
The Rev. Faith R. Jenson - 06/09/1996
The Rev. Richard G. Pounds - 06/09/1996
The Rev. Gus Vinajeras - 06/23/1996
- 25** The Rev. John E. Bell - 05/31/1991
The Rev. Angelina Daniel - 12/22/1991
The Rev. Mark P. Galbraith - 07/14/1991
The Rev. Phillip R. Heinze - 8/25/1991
- 30** The Rev. John S. Barrington - 06/01/1986
The Rev. Patricia Dietrich - 08/03/1986
The Rev. Paul Dirksmeyer - 11/16/1986
AiM - Mr. James P. Rindelaub - 10/08/1986
- 35** The Rev. Michael C. Elias - 07/12/1981
The Rev. Charles H. Hubbard - 8/23/1981
The Rev. Peter E. Rupprecht - 6/6/1981
The Rev. Russell A. Vardell - 7/19/1981
- 45** The Rev. Michael J. Holmes - 06/27/1971
The Rev. Howard W. Stone - 09/16/1971
- 50** The Rev. Albert A. Kline - 08/28/1966
The Rev. Jon R. Lee - 06/19/1966
The Rev. Luis A. Pereyra - 11/13/1966
- 55** The Rev. Charles W. Pegg - 05/28/1961
The Rev. Eric N. Schulze - 06/25/1961
- 60** The Rev. Mark B. Herbener - 06/17/1956

2015 - 16 INTERNS:

Seminarian Anna Ernst - Calvary, Richland Hills - The Rev. Phil Heinze - supervisor
Seminarian Chris Perkola - Preston Meadow, Plano - The Rev. Paul Mussachio - supervisor

NT-NL'S LIST OF CURRENT SEMINARIANS (as of March 2016)

1. **Leslie Dunlap**, is a member of Trinity, Miles and is serving as a SAWL at Grace, Abilene. She is in her first year of the TEEM program at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. She is scheduled to begin her internship in April 2016.
2. **Mark Hadley**, is a member of Shepherd of Life, Arlington. He is in the second year of the TEEM program at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and has completed his internship.
3. **Miles Holder**, is a member of Grace, Carrolton. He is in the second year of the TEEM program at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and has completed his internship.
4. **Herry Hwie** is a member of Indonesian Christian Lutheran Church Gethsemane, Allen. He is in the TEEM program at Wartburg Seminary and is currently on internship.
5. **Nicole Martin** is a member of Trinity, Fort Worth and is in her fifth year of the Distributed Learning program at Luther Seminary, currently on internship in Williston, ND.
6. **Chris Michaelis** is a member of Calvary, Richland Hills. He is in his final year at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC). He will graduate in May 2016. He has had a positive "Approval" decision for ministry and is awaiting call.
7. **Dan Nelson** is a member of Christ the King, Fort Worth. He is in his final year at Luther Seminary.
8. **Juan Portillo** is member of Iglesia Luterana San Miguel, Fort Worth. He has been removed from the Candidacy process for schismatic behavior.
9. **Angela Remmers** is a member of King of Glory, Dallas. She is in her first year at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC).
10. **Jose Frank Salvador** is a member at Iglesia Luterana Santa Maria in exile, Irving. He is in the second year of the TEEM program at the Lutheran Seminary Program in the Southwest (LSPS) and is currently on internship.
11. **Kathryn Saunders** is a member of Abiding Grace, Southlake and is in her third year at Trinity Lutheran Seminary. She is currently on internship in Urbandale, IA.
12. **Laura Slezak** is a member of Calvary, Fort Worth. She is in her second year at Luther Seminary.
13. **Adam Stockland** is a member of Rejoice, Frisco. He received a positive "Entrance" decision for diaconal ministry and plans to enroll at Brite/Luther.
14. **Don Strickland** is a member of Trinity Lutheran, Fort Worth and is in his second year at Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth.

