

2019 National Rural & Small Town Mission Conference

RUNNING WITH ENDURANCE:

EYES FIXED ON JESUS

“... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross ...” Hebrews 12:1b-2a



CONFERENCE BOOKLET

LCMS RURAL & SMALL TOWN MISSION



CrowdCompass AttendeeHub



- 1 Download the “LCMS ONM Events” app from the iOS or Google Play Store.



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- 2 Search for “Rural 2019” and download the “2019 Rural & Small Town Mission Conference” event to your device.
- 3 Log in to the app for personalized schedules and event notifications.
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Hotel Wi-Fi Information

NETWORK: DT-Meeting

PASSWORD: LCMS2019

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, NOV. 14

11 a.m.–1 p.m. Registration (Lunch on your own)

1 p.m. Welcome and Introductions
GRAND BALLROOM WEST

1:15–1:45 p.m. Bible Study
GRAND BALLROOM WEST

Hebrews 12:1b–2a – ... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross ... (Part 1)

Rev. Robert Zagore, executive director, LCMS Office of National Mission
Running with endurance requires training, but what kind of training allows us to be equipped for what we will endure?

1:45 p.m. Plenary

Running with Endurance
GRAND BALLROOM WEST

Rev. Todd Kollbaum, director, LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission
The race is long and sometimes arduous, but it has been given to us by God. As the church, we seek to faithfully run the race in rural and small-town congregations, yet endurance is often in short supply. Let us discover the riches of God's gifts to run with endurance.

2:30–2:45 p.m. Break
Please be prepared to leave the room and move for your session of choice during the break. These break times are for your convenience.

SESSION 1 2:45–3:45 p.m.

Speaking the Truth in Love: Youth (Part 1)
ATRIUM 8
Angie Kollbaum, youth director, Trinity Lutheran Church, Madison, Neb., and youth peer leaders

This learning track will equip youth and youth leaders to better engage their communities and each other while speaking the truth in love. Resources will be provided to help participants better serve as leaders in today's church. (NOTE: This is a six-part intensive track on Youth Ministry. Please sign up for all six sessions. Seating is limited.)

Dealing with Addictions in RST Settings
ATRIUM 7
Rev. Gary Griffin, pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lockwood, Mo.

It may take months or years for a person to heal, but you can ground your hope for healing in Jesus. Learn ways to help the hurting and restore hope against addictions. Join the discussion to assist people with recognizing triggers, setting boundaries and changing habits.

Active Stewardship in the Rural/Small-town Parish
GRAND BALLROOM WEST

Rev. Dr. Nathan Meador, assistant coordinator of LCMS Stewardship Ministry and senior pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Plymouth, Wis.
Understanding the biblical basis for stewardship is a blessing in itself. However, living out that stewardship in our daily lives is often a challenge. This session will assist congregational leaders with ways to model that life of stewardship to their congregation and community.

Inheriting in Harmony – Keeping the Farm in the Family
ATRIUM 2

Joan Bartz, Certified Kingdom Advisor, ChFC®, CLTC®, RICP®, financial consultant, Thrivent
Large assets like cabins, farms and small businesses are a part of the fabric of your church's culture. Transferring them to the next generation can be tricky. Managing the emotional connections is just as important as navigating the financial and legal processes and requires more than deeds and keys. Join us to learn how to start — and shape — the inheritance process.

Online Education
ATRIUM 1
Jocelyn Benson, head teacher at Wittenberg Academy

Technology can be a great tool for education, as well as for mission and ministry. What online education opportunities are available for you or your student? Come discuss opportunities for outreach, community building, best practices and more.

3:45–4 p.m. Break
Please be prepared to leave the room and move for your session of choice during the break. These break times are for your convenience.

SESSION 2 4–5 p.m.

Speaking the Truth in Love: Youth (Part 2)
ATRIUM 8
Angie Kollbaum, youth director, Trinity Lutheran Church, Madison, Neb., and youth peer leaders

This learning track will equip youth and youth leaders to better engage their communities and each other while speaking the truth in love. Resources will be provided to help participants better serve as leaders in today's church. (NOTE: This is a six-part intensive track on Youth Ministry. Please sign up for all six sessions. Seating is limited.)



Moving Beyond Survival: DOXOLOGY and Your Church's Future

ATRIUM 7

Rev. Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil, executive director of Spiritual Care, DOXOLOGY

Join us to discuss resources, insights, teaching, admonition, encouragement, new tools and strategies needed to move beyond "survival functioning in pastoral ministry" to joyful service in the pastoral life and calling. This movement is accomplished through a program of soul care grounded in Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.

Rural and Small-town Ministry Resources

GRAND BALLROOM WEST

Rev. Todd Kollbaum, director, and Amy Gerds, project coordinator, LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission

Meet with the LCMS RSTM team and learn more about the array of resources available to help support your congregation. Learn, discuss and share ideas for rural and small-town congregations.

Inheriting in Harmony – Keeping the Farm in the Family

ATRIUM 2

Joan Bartz, Certified Kingdom Advisor, ChFC®, CLTC®, RICP®, financial consultant, Thrivent

Large assets like cabins, farms and small businesses are a part of the fabric of your church's culture. Transferring them to the next generation can be tricky. Managing the emotional connections is just as important as navigating the financial and legal processes and requires more than deeds and keys. Join us to learn how to start — and shape — the inheritance process.

Raising Young Leaders and the Lutheran Young Adult Corps

ATRIUM 1

DCE Julianna Shults, program manager of the Lutheran Young Adult Corps (part of LCMS Youth Ministry)

We know that having young leaders in congregations helps retain young people into adulthood. Come discuss how we can raise up young leaders in congregations and for programs like the Lutheran Young Adult Corps. This program from LCMS Youth Ministry provides opportunities for young adults (ages 18–26) to grow in a community of faith and service through long-term, full-time service.

5–5:15 p.m. **Break**
Please be prepared to leave the room and move for your session of choice during the break. These break times are for your convenience.

5:15–6:15 p.m. **Opening Worship**

6:30–7:30 p.m. **Dinner**

OPTIONAL EVENING SESSION

7:30–9 p.m.

Bi-vocational Roundtable

ATRIUM 1

Rev. Troy Neujahr, pastor, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Shaker Heights, Ohio, and Rev. Dr. Keith Schweitzer, pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greenfield, Iowa

Come join in this roundtable discussion about bi-vocational ministry from both the congregational perspective and the pastor's perspective. Learn, discuss and share ideas for rural and small-town congregations and pastors in this type of ministry.

Youth Roundtable

ATRIUM 8

Angie Kollbaum, youth director, Trinity Lutheran Church, Madison, Neb., and youth peer leaders

Come discuss the many possibilities for partnering with rural and small-town youth ministry in the LCMS. Come away with networking tips and resources and discuss your challenges and ideas for how LCMS RSTM and LCMS Youth Ministry might better support you in your various ministry locations. Bring your own ideas that you might want to share.



10:30–10:45 a.m.Break
Please be prepared to leave the room and move for your session of choice during the break.

10:45–11:30 a.m.Plenary
Sex and Marriage
GRAND BALLROOM WEST
Rev. Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil, executive director of Spiritual Care, DOXOLOGY

The Christian church of late antiquity called its faithful to a life of chastity in a world in which sexual hedonism prevailed. We in our time bring healing to embodied souls broken by their own and others' sins and provide a positive, hopeful witness as they learn how to live as created, redeemed and sanctified sons and daughters of God.

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Lunch

12:30–1:15 p.m.Plenary
The Light No Darkness Can Overcome
GRAND BALLROOM WEST
Rev. Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil, executive director of Spiritual Care, DOXOLOGY

Jesus has called His ministers and royal priests to faithful proclamation and living in every era. We must not shrink in the face of our current challenge. Confident mission in our tumultuous times rests securely on the efficacy of His Word, the Incarnation of His Son, the transforming power of His Sacraments, the *koinonia* of His body, the Church, and the sanctifying power of His Spirit.

1:15–1:30 p.m.Break
Please be prepared to leave the room and move for your session of choice during the break.

SESSION 4
1:30–2:30 p.m.

Speaking the Truth in Love: Youth (Part 4)
ATRIUM 8

Angie Kollbaum, youth director, Trinity Lutheran Church, Madison, Neb., and youth peer leaders

This learning track will equip youth and youth leaders to better engage their communities and each other while speaking the truth in love. Resources will be provided to help participants better serve as leaders in today's church. (NOTE: This is a six-part intensive track on Youth Ministry. Please sign up for all six sessions. Seating is limited.)

Moving Beyond Survival: DOXOLOGY and Your Church's Future

GRAND BALLROOM WEST

Rev. Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil, executive director of Spiritual Care, DOXOLOGY

Join us to discuss resources, insights, teaching, admonition, encouragement, new tools and strategies needed to move beyond "survival functioning in pastoral ministry" to joyful service in the pastoral life and calling. This movement is accomplished through a program of soul care grounded in Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.

Partnering with LERT

ATRIUM 7

Rev. Dr. Keith Schweitzer, pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greenfield, Iowa

"We love because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). Helping the hurting amid disaster. When disaster hits your community, do you know how to call for help? Are you prepared to partner with groups like LERT to help effect recovery efforts in your area? Join this session for discussion involving first-hand experience.



8:30 a.m. Plenary

Eyes Fixed on Jesus

GRAND BALLROOM WEST

Rev. Todd Kollbaum, director, LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission

Doing rural and small-town mission is impossible on our own. Yet, when we remember to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the mission of the church comes into true perspective. In this session we will learn how we “keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.”

9:15–9:30 a.m. Break

Please be prepared to leave the room and move for your session of choice during the break.

SESSION 6

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Speaking the Truth in Love: Youth (Part 6)

ATRIUM 8

Angie Kollbaum, youth director, Trinity Lutheran Church, Madison, Neb., and youth peer leaders

This learning track will equip youth and youth leaders to better engage their communities and each other while speaking the truth in love. Resources will be provided to help participants better serve as leaders in today’s church. (NOTE: This is a six-part intensive track on Youth Ministry. Please sign up for all six sessions. Seating is limited.)

Community Engagement

GRAND BALLROOM WEST

Rev. Dr. Keith Schweitzer, pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greenfield, Iowa

In our rural and small-town communities, our congregations have the opportunity to set the stage and lead the culture by becoming leaders in the community. Come discuss ways the pastor and congregation can engage the community without sacrificing the mission and ministry of the church.

Reaching All Women: LWML

ATRIUM 2

Char Kroemer, vice-president of Communication, Lutheran Women’s Missionary League

Learn and share about the opportunities for reaching out to all women in small parishes when your women, young and seasoned, are willing to use their assets to engage congregational members and the community.

Engaging Through Service and Servant Events

ATRIUM 7

DCE Julianna Shults, program manager of the Lutheran Young Adult Corps (part of LCMS Youth Ministry)

Local service and larger LCMS servant events give people an opportunity to live out their faith in new ways and connect congregations to their community. Join in this discussion about how to use service and LCMS servant events for engagement and discipleship.

The No-Casserole Illness and How the Church Can Respond

ATRIUM 1

Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff, director of Ministry Programs, The Lutheran Foundation, Fort Wayne, Ind.

When someone in our church family becomes physically ill (i.e., homebound or recovering from hospitalization), it’s not uncommon for others to bring a casserole to cheer them up and help them out. But what about when someone is struggling with mental health issues? Many have said mental health issues are the “no-casserole illness” because people don’t know what to say or do, and so consequently often do and say nothing. In this session, we will identify the commonness of mental and behavioral health issues among us, as well as explore opportunities for the faith community to respond. Too often there is silence and stigma related to mental health issues, but the Word of God has much to say on this issue.

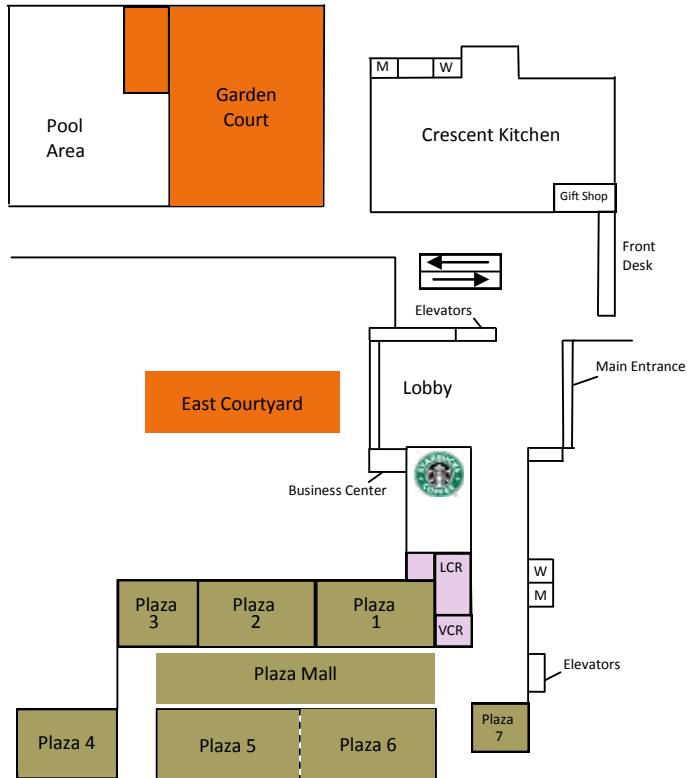
10:30–11:30 a.m. . . . Closing Worship and Announcements

GRAND BALLROOM WEST

HOTEL MAP

DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON BLOOMINGTON MINNEAPOLIS SOUTH

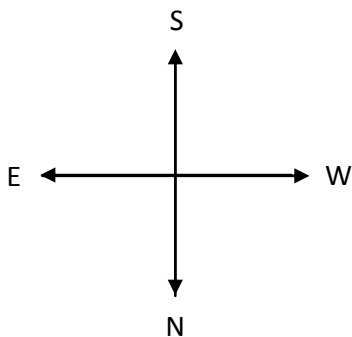
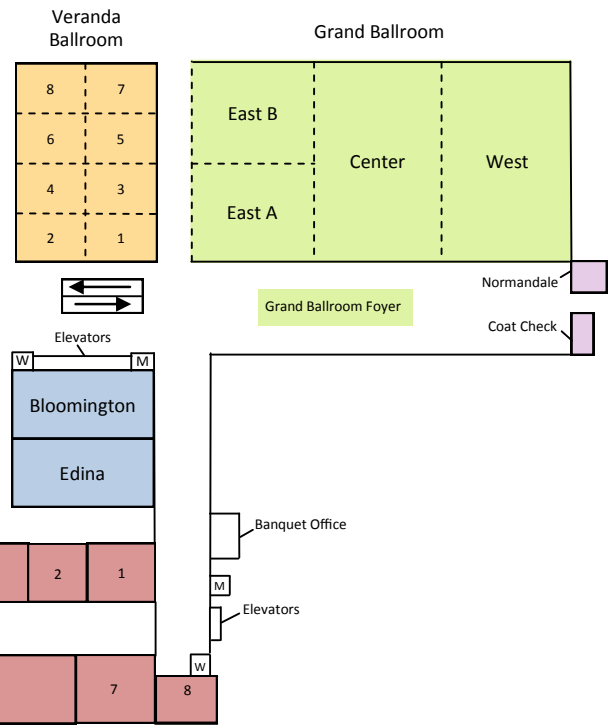
FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOMS



VISTA CONFERENCE CENTER, 22ND FLOOR

M	Vista 2208
W	Vista 2206
Vista 2207	Vista 2204
Vista 2205	Vista 2203
Vista 2201	Vista 2202

SECOND FLOOR MEETING ROOMS



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



REV. TODD KOLLBAUM

Director, LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission, and pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Madison, Neb.

As director of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Rural & Small Town Mission (RSTM), the Rev. Todd E. Kollbaum oversees the development of resources, leadership training and ministerial support programs to equip congregations in rural and small towns for local and regional outreach and engagement. Along with his duties as director of RSTM, Kollbaum serves as the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Madison, Neb.

Before accepting the call to RSTM in 2013, Kollbaum served as senior pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Cole Camp, Mo., a call he accepted in 2004. He also has served as chairman of the LCMS Missouri District’s Rural Small Town Ministry Task Force and as president of the Sedalia, Mo., Circuit Pastor’s Conference.



REV. DR. HAROLD L. SENKBEIL

Executive Director for Spiritual Care, DOXOLOGY

Rev. Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil has served faithfully in the parish for more than 31 years. His parish experience includes small-town/rural, campus, suburban, central city and mission planting settings. He served as Associate Professor in the Pastoral Ministry and Missions Department of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., from 2002–2008. In July 2008, he accepted the call to serve DOXOLOGY, a Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), as Executive Director for Spiritual Care.

Senkbeil served as an elected member of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations of the LCMS (1998–2002) and an elected member of the Board of Regents of Concordia Seminary, St.

Louis (2010–2018). In 2001 that institution awarded him the degree of Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*. He is the author of a number of books, plus contributions to many other books and professional theological and pastoral journals. His book on pastoral work, *The Care of Souls: Cultivating a Pastor’s Heart*, is slated for publication by Lexham Press in 2019.

Senkbeil is a frequently invited guest speaker at LCMS district pastoral conferences and other foreign and domestic settings, including twice presenting at the annual Reformation Lectures of Bethany Lutheran College and Seminary (ELS), Mankato, Minn. He is known as a pastor to pastors, providing colleagues with theological resources, enrichment, encouragement and personal pastoral care.



REV. ROBERT ZAGORE

Executive Director, LCMS Office of National Mission

The Rev. Robert Zagore serves as executive director of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Office of National Mission, where he oversees the implementation of the policies that direct the domestic ministries serving the congregations, schools and districts of the Synod. He began serving in this position in May 2018.

To this role, Zagore brings 27 years of experience as a parish pastor in both urban and rural congregations. He spent 17 of those years as senior administrative pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Traverse City, Mich. Prior to that, he was pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church (1997–2001) in Niles, Mich., and Hope Lutheran Church (1991–97) in Stanton, Mich. He also has served as a pastoral

delegate at three LCMS conventions, as a circuit counselor in the LCMS Michigan District, and as a vicarage and seminary field work supervisor.

Zagore received his Master of Divinity degree from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. (1990), and he later completed additional coursework toward a Master of Sacred Theology degree. He also holds a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind. (1983).

Before becoming a pastor, Zagore worked as an accounting consultant for Cleveland Business Consulting Services.

Zagore and his wife, Gwen, have four adult children: Christopher (married to Leah), Katie, Elise and Faith.



REV. TROY NEUJAHR

pastor, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Shaker Heights, Ohio

DR. REBECCA SCHMIDT

director, LCMS School Ministry

REV. DR. KEITH SCHWEITZER

pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greenfield, Iowa

REV. DR. HAROLD L. SENKBEIL

executive director of Spiritual Care, DOXOLOGY

DCE JULIANNA SHULTS

program manager of the Lutheran Young Adult Corps
(part of LCMS Youth Ministry)

REV. DR. MARK WOOD

director, LCMS Witness & Outreach Ministry
and LCMS Revitalization





OPENING WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LSB 790

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -

a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall

health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -

tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.

5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

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OPENING VERSICLES

- L** Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,
C have mercy and hear us.

READING

Psalm 148

Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
 praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels;
 praise him, all his hosts!
Praise him, sun and moon,
 praise him, all you shining stars!
Praise him, you highest heavens,
 and you waters above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the LORD!
 For he commanded and they were created.
And he established them forever and ever;
 he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.
Praise the LORD from the earth,
 you great sea creatures and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and mist,

 stormy wind fulfilling his word!
Mountains and all hills,
 fruit trees and all cedars!
Beasts and all livestock,
 creeping things and flying birds!
Kings of the earth and all peoples,
 princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and maidens together,
 old men and children!
Let them praise the name of the LORD,
 for his name alone is exalted;
 his majesty is above earth and heaven.
He has raised up a horn for his people,
 praise for all his saints,
 for the people of Israel who are near to him.
Praise the LORD!

- L** This is the Word of the Lord,
C Thanks be to God.

READING

2 Thessalonians 2:1–8, 13–17

Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. ... But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord,
C Thanks be to God.

READING

Luke 20:27–40

There came to [Jesus] some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. Now there were seven brothers. The

first took a wife, and died without children. And the second and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. Afterward the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife.” And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.” Then some of the scribes answered, “Teacher, you have spoken well.” For they no longer dared to ask him any question.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord,
- C** Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

LORD’S PRAYER

- C** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

APOSTLES’ CREED

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

AFTERNOON

- L** Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,
- C** and grant us Your salvation.

- L** Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness;
- C** and let Your saints shout for joy.

- L** Lord, keep this nation under Your care,
- C** and guide us in the way of justice and truth.

- L** Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
- C** for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth.

- L** Let the peoples praise You, O God;
- C** let all the peoples praise You!

- L** For the needy shall not always be forgotten,
- C** and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.

L Create in me a clean heart, O God,
C and renew a right spirit within me.

L Hear my prayer, O Lord;
C let my cry come to You.

L O Lord, keep Your household, the Church, in continual godliness that through Your protection she may be free from all adversities and devoutly given to serve You in good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Additional prayers may be offered.

L Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being, we humbly pray You so to guide and govern us by Your Word and Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget You but remember that we are ever walking in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

L Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

L The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: O Word of God Incarnate

LSB 523



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
2 The Church from You, dear Mas - ter, Re - ceived the gift di - vine;
3 O make Your Church, dear Sav - ior, A lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
And still that light is lift - ed O'er all the earth to shine.
To bear be - fore the na - tions Your true light as of old!



We praise You for the ra - diance That from the hal - lowed page,
It is the chart and com - pass That, all life's voy - age through,
O teach Your wan - d'ring pil - grims By this their path to trace



A lan - tern to our foot - steps, Shines on from age to age.
Mid mists and rocks and quick - sands Still guides, O Christ, to You.
Till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, They see You face to face!

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Acknowledgments

Responsive Prayer 1 from *Lutheran Service Book*.

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CLOSING WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN: Jesus Shall Reign

LSB 832



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -
 2 To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And end - less
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on His
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns: The pris - 'ners
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from
 prais - es crown His head; His name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es
 leap, un - loose their chains, The wea - ry find e -
 cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scend with



shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud a - men.

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OPENING VERSICLES

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
 - C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.
 - L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
 - C** make haste to help me, O Lord,
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

READING

Psalm 98

Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.
The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight
of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and
faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!
Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together
before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord,
- C** Thanks be to God.

READING

2 Thessalonians 3:6–13

Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord,
- C** Thanks be to God.

READING

Luke 21:5–28

While some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, [Jesus] said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." And they asked him, "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. You will be hated by all for my name's sake. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives. "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains,

and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord,
- C** Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

KYRIE

- L** O Lord,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Christ,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Lord,
- C** have mercy.

LORD’S PRAYER

- C** Our Father who art in heaven. hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

APOSTLES’ CREED

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

VERSICLES

- L** Hear my prayer, O Lord;
- C** let my cry come to You.
- L** In the day of my trouble I call upon You;
- C** for You answer me.
- L** Hide Your face from my sins,
- C** and blot out all my iniquities.

- L** Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- C** **and renew a right spirit within me.**
- L** Cast me not away from Your presence,
- C** **and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**
- L** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
- C** **and uphold me with a willing spirit.**
- L** Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
- C** **my lips will praise You.**
- L** For You have been my help,
- C** **and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.**
- L** Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;
- C** **unite my heart to fear Your name.**
- L** I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
- C** **and I will glorify Your name forever.**
- L** May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.
- C** **May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"**
- L** Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
- C** **Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**
- L** Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
- C** **listen to my plea for grace.**

COLLECTS

- L** Let us pray.
O Lord, keep Your household, the Church, in continual godliness that through Your protection she may be free from all adversities and devoutly given to serve You in good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

BEFORE TRAVEL

- L** Lord God our Father, You kept Abraham and Sarah in safety throughout the days of their pilgrimage, You led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea, and by a star You led the Wise Men to the infant Jesus. Protect and guide us now in this time as we set out to travel. Make our ways safe and our homecomings joyful, and bring us at last to our heavenly home, where You dwell in glory with Your Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS AND BLESSING

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- L** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
- C** **Amen.**



1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus cry - ing, "Who will go and work to - day?
 2 If you can - not speak like an - gels, If you can - not preach like Paul,
 3 If you can - not be a watch - man, Stand - ing high on Zi - on's wall,
 4 Let none hear you i - dly say - ing, "There is noth - ing I can do,"



Fields are white and har - vests wait - ing— Who will bear the sheaves a - way?"
 You can tell the love of Je - sus, You can say He died for all.
 Point - ing out the path to heav - en, Of - f'ring life and peace to all,
 While the mul - ti - tudes are dy - ing And the Mas - ter calls for you.



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth; Rich re - ward He of - fers thee.
 If you can - not rouse the wick - ed With the judg - ment's dread a - larms,
 With your prayers and with your boun - ties You can do what God com - mands;
 Take the task He gives you glad - ly, Let His work your plea - sure be;



Who will an - swer, glad - ly say - ing, "Here am I, send me, send me?"
 You can lead the lit - tle chil - dren To the Sav - ior's wait - ing arms.
 You can be like faith - ful Aar - on, Hold - ing up the proph - et's hands.
 An - swer quick - ly when He call - eth, "Here am I, send me, send me!"

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Acknowledgments

Responsive Prayer 2 from *Lutheran Service Book*.

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2020 RSTM EVENTS

Mark your calendars! The following LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission events are being planned. Have your district contact us if you are interested in having an event in your area.

MAKING DISCIPLES FOR LIFE CONFERENCES, TBD

Regional events coming to a city near you. Watch for more information about these events on the RSTM website and social media, as well as in RSTM's monthly newsletters.

ENGAGING THE WANDERING EVENTS

Saturday, April 4, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
Our Savior Lutheran Church, Waldport, Ore.,
presented with the LCMS Northwest District

TBD
presented with the LCMS Minnesota North District

TBD
presented with the LCMS Iowa District West

TBD
presented with the LCMS Ohio District

ENGAGING YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

TBD
presented with the LCMS Rocky Mountain District

SPECIAL EVENTS

Worker Priest "Respite And Revitalization" Retreat, TBD
Retreat experience for bi-vocational pastors and families on the campus of Saint Paul Lutheran High School, Concordia, Mo. Presented with Grace Place Wellness.

Deaconess Training For RST Areas, TBD
Training and retreat experience for deaconesses and students on the campus of Saint Paul Lutheran High School, Concordia, Mo.

RSTM WEBINARS (All times, 1-2 p.m. CST)

Thursday, Jan. 16
Rev. Todd Kollbaum and Amy Gerds, LCMS RSTM
LCMS Rural and Small-town Church Dynamics

Thursday, Feb. 13
Rev. James Daub, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Havelock, N.C.
Rural/Small-town Disaster Response

Thursday, March 12
Dr. Kim Schave, Humanitri
Domestic Abuse in RST Settings

Thursday, April 23
Rev. Dr. Mark Wood, LCMS Witness & Outreach Ministry and LCMS Revitalization
re:Vitality

Thursday, May 14
Rev. Todd Kollbaum, LCMS RSTM
Counting Your Blessings: Hope for RST Congregations

Thursday, June 18
Rev. Dr. Steve Schave, LCMS Urban & Inner-City Mission
Opioid Abuse in RST Settings

July, TBD
Sharon Oetting, Steve Krause and Stan Oetting, Concordia, Mo.
Agribusiness and the RST Congregation

August, TBD
Rev. Darrell Zimmerman, Grace Place Wellness Ministries
Grace Place Wellness Ministries

September, TBD
Trinity Lutheran Church, Algona, Iowa, Partnership Ministry
Thinking Outside the Box: Partnerships

Thursday, Oct. 15
Deaconess Faith Swenson, Fairbank, Iowa
Deaconess and the RST Congregation: Partnership and Ministry Models

Thursday, Nov. 19
Matthew Bergholt, LCMS School Ministry
Technology and the Church in RST Areas

Thursday, Dec. 10
Rev. Todd Kollbaum, LCMS RSTM
Congregational Partnership Training

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»» AFTER THE CONFERENCE ««««



Post-Conference Survey

If you wish to electronically complete an evaluation of this year's conference, use this link: lcms.org/survey/rstm-conference

LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission will also be emailing this link out following the conference for your convenience. Thank you for your feedback! We listen!

Conference Materials

Digital copies of the plenary speakers' general sessions will be available for purchase by contacting our office.

If you need copies of the handouts or PowerPoint presentations from one of the breakout sessions, sign up in the session with your email or contact our office by email at rstm@lcms.org.

Coming Soon

Plan to attend next year's Making Disciples For Life conferences where RSTM resources will be available. Watch for more information about these events on the RSTM website and social media, as well as in RSTM's monthly newsletters.





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