

## DISTRICT UPDATES

# Sems Announce Calls, Placements

April was a momentous month for students at both Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod seminaries as candidates received their first calls and future pastors learned where they would serve their year-long vicarages.

## Concordia Seminary-St. Louis

On April 22, calls to serve as LCMS pastors were issued to 134 students at Concordia Seminary-St. Louis. In addition, 147 students received assignments to serve as vicars. Of the 134 Concordia Seminary students called to serve as pastors in the LCMS, one is from the Seminary's Center for Hispanic Studies (CHS) and one is from

the Seminary's Deaf Institute of Theology (DIT).

Of the 147 students who received vicarage assignments, nine are from the CHS. The vicarage assignments included one to serve in a mission field outside the continental United States in Kampala, Uganda, in East Africa, which was arranged through the LCMS Board for Mission Services.

Called to serve Florida-Georgia congregations were:

- Eric Estes to Redeemer Lutheran-Columbus, GA
- Gene Johnson to Grace Lutheran-Port St. Lucie, FL
- Aaron Neugebauer to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Lehigh Acres, FL

- Daniel Prugh to First Lutheran-Gainesville, FL
- Peter Weeks to Zion Lutheran-Fort Myers, FL

Vicars who will be serving in the Florida-Georgia District next year include:

- Andrew Becker - Trinity-Orlando, FL
- Stephen Carretto - St. Paul-Boca Raton, FL
- Luis Diaz (CHS) - Our Savior-Lake Worth, FL
- Anthony Durante (DTEP/SMP) - Trinity-Delray Beach, FL
- Luke Kammrath - First Lutheran-Gainesville, FL

- Albert Matlock (DTEP/SMP) - Hope-Pompano Beach, FL
- Kevin Ogle (DTEP/SMP) - Miramar Lutheran-Miramar, FL
- Joshua Schmidt - Grace Lutheran-Winter Haven, FL
- Dwain Thomsen - Mt. Calvary Lutheran-Warner Robins, GA

## Concordia Theological Seminary-Fort Wayne, IN

Some 58 men received their first calls as LCMS pastors at Concordia Theological

Seminary- Fort Wayne on April 23. In the last several years, CTS graduates have been placed in all 35 LCMS districts to serve in hundreds of our congregations.

On April 24, vicarages were announced for 60 future pastors studying at CTS. Ten deaconesses were also assigned an internship.

Called to serve in the Florida-Georgia District:

- Peter D. Grana to Trinity Lutheran-Toccoa, GA.

Vicaring next year in Florida-Georgia:

- J. Philipp Augustine at Lutheran Church of the Cross-Port Charlotte, FL. □

# A Proposal for Your Planning: Make Worship Central

(Continued from page 2)

Our liturgy has great value to it. Through the combination of the Ordinary (those parts which basically remain the same week after week) and the Propers (those parts which

change each week as we go through the seasons of the church year), we have both predictability and variety. The predictability helps us feel "at home"; and the variety keeps us

alert and maintains our interest. The sameness helps our children (and us adults) internalize the richness of the liturgy and make it our own, a resource for living the Christian life, as the songs of the liturgy, and the words of the Creed bring their wisdom into our hearts and heads.

We are a missionary people, and our worship plays a critical role in carrying out this critical responsibility. In worship we withdraw into the sanctuary to hear from the One who has

called us to be his people and sends us forth into the world as his representatives. In worship we are helped to see and understand how things are meant to be from God's perspective. In worship we experience anew God's gracious presence to empower us for living as God's people in the world.

Because worship is this lively connection between God, us, and one another, I believe it is the critical component in parish planning. Let this aspect

of parish life be given its proper place, and we will find both direction and power for carrying out our responsibilities at home, in the workplace and in the community. Since worship has this tremendous potential, I believe that we will be served best by not overlooking the importance of planning it well.

-gcm

**Urge our pastors to be heavily involved in the worship planning process ... Plan emphases for the whole year so that the "whole counsel of God" is given its due, and that the worshippers are helped toward genuine Christian maturity.**

## CAPSULES

by Rev. Gerhard Michael Jr.  
President, Florida-Georgia District

### Calling Congregations Pastor

Bartow FL ..... Redeemer (Pastor)  
Boca Raton FL St. Paul (Sr. Pastor)  
Brunswick GA ..... (Mission Developer)  
Clearwater FL ..... First Ev. (Clewiston FL ..... Faith (Pastor)  
Crawfordville FL ..... Trinity (Pastor)  
Estero FL Estero Lutheran Mission (Mission Planter)  
Eustis FL ..... Faith (Sr. Pastor)  
Gainesville FL ..... Abiding Savior (Associate)  
Gainesville GA ..... Good Shepherd (Pastor)  
LaBelle FL Christ the King (Pastor)  
Middleburg FL ..... St. Peter's (Associate)  
Newnan GA ..... Zion (Pastor)  
North Dade County (Miami Shores FL) ..... Redeemer (Mission Developer)  
North Miami FL ..... Holy Cross (Pastor)  
St. Cloud FL ..... Grace (Pastor)  
Sarasota FL ..... Good Shepherd (Associate Pastor)  
St. Petersburg FL ..... Our Savior (Assistant)  
Tavernier FL ..... Immanuel (Pastor)  
Titusville FL ..... Good Shepherd (Pastor)  
West Palm Beach FL ..... Redeemer (Pastor)

### Principal/Administrator

Orlando FL ..... Trinity  
Peachtree City GA ..... St. Paul

### DCE/DCO/Music

Boca Raton FL ..... St. Paul  
Largo, FL ..... Christ the King  
North Palm Beach FL ..... Faith  
Orlando FL ..... Trinity  
Plant City FL ..... Hope

### Calls Extended

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer-Sanford FL, extended a call to Rev. Ed DeWitt, Sanford FL, as pastor.  
Concordia-Kendall FL, extended a call to Rev. Christopher Patterson, Greenwood SC, as pastor.  
Good Shepherd-Chiefland FL, extended a call to Rev. Lou Abel, Homosassa FL, as pastor.  
Lamb of God-Lithia FL, extended a call to Ms. Kristina Stanski, Indiana, as Director of Early Childhood Ministry.  
Grace-Jacksonville FL, extended a call to Ms. Linda Sasse, Living Word-Rochester MI, as teacher.  
St. Paul-Boca Raton extended a call to Ms. Christina Kolstedt as teacher.  
Trinity-Rockledge extended a call to Ms. Katharine Pratt as early childhood teacher.  
Trinity-Orlando extended a call to Mrs. Danielle Schaeffer, Bethlehem-Jacksonville Beach FL as Director of Christian Education

### Calls Received

Rev. David M. Tilney, Christ the King-Orlando FL, received a call from Ascension Ev.-Daphne AL, as pastor.  
Rev. Richard Browning, Hope-Bonita Springs FL, received a call from Prince of Peace-Carrollton TX, as associate pastor.  
Ms. Julianna Shults, Hope-Plant City, FL, received a call from St. Paul-Chicago, IL as DCE  
Mrs. Danielle Schaeffer, Bethlehem-Jacksonville Beach, FL, received a call from Trinity-Orlando, FL as DCE

### Calls Accepted

Rev. David M. Tilney, Christ the King-Orlando FL, accepted the call from Ascension Ev.-Daphne AL.  
Rev. Ed DeWitt, Sanford FL, accepted the call from Lutheran Church of the Redeemer-Sanford FL.  
Rev. Lou Abel, Homosassa FL, accepted the call from Good Shepherd-Chiefland FL.  
Rev. Scott McLean, Sebring FL, accepted the call from Christ-Avon Park FL.  
Rev. Christopher Patterson, Greenwood SC, accepted the call from Concordia-Kendall FL.  
Ms. Kristina Stanski, Indiana, accepted the call from Lamb of God-Lithia FL.  
Ms. Julianna Shults, Plant City, FL, accepted the call from St. Paul Lutheran-Chicago, IL

### Calls Declined

Rev. Richard Browning, Hope-Bonita Springs FL, declined the call from Prince of Peace-Carrollton TX.  
Rev. Thomas Pfothner, St. Paul-Boca Raton FL, declined the call from St. John-Defiance OH.  
Rev. Paul J. Pfothner, Westmont IL, declined the call from Faith-Eustis FL.  
Mr. Chris Hansell, Immanuel-Bay City MI, declined the call from Grace-Jacksonville FL.

### Transferred from Other Districts/partner Church

Rev. Scott J. McLean from the American Association of Lutheran Churches.

Dr. Donald Ross from the Mid-South District.  
Ms. Staci Welburn from the Ohio District.  
Ms. Sandra Berns from the Ohio District.  
Ms. Jessica Popp from the Iowa East District.  
Ms. Kristina Stanski from the English District

### Transferred to Other Districts

Rev. David M. Tilney to the Southern District.  
Ms. Pamela G. Mobley to the SELC District.  
Ms. Morgan Grillot to the Southern Illinois District.  
Ms. Sarah Grillot to the Southern Illinois District.  
Mr. Robert Burgess to the Pacific Southwest District.  
Ms. Rebecca Rhodent to the Mid South District.  
Ms. Patricia Smith to the South Wisconsin District.  
Ms. Julianna Shults to the Northern Illinois District.

### Commissioned Minister Assignments

Ms. Joy Irish - Concordia-Ann Arbor MI - St. Paul-Lakeland FL  
Mr. William Patrick - Mequon WI - Faith-Marietta GA  
Ms. Kathryn Pratt - River Forest IL - Trinity-Rockledge FL  
Ms. Laura Schlichting - Seward NE - Trinity-Delray Beach FL  
Mr. Nathanael Trah - Seward NE - Faith-Eustis FL  
Mr. Jared Juszcak - Austin TX - Grace-Winter Haven FL  
Ms. Elizabeth Borth - River Forest, IL - Trinity-Orlando FL  
Ms. Kami Jo Kuesel - St. Paul MN - Grace-Naples FL

Mr. Andrew Stumpf - River Forest IL - Bethel-Clearwater FL  
Ms. Jamie Bass - Seward, NE - Faith-Marietta GA  
Mr. Daniel Meissner - Bronxville NY - Grace-St. Petersburg FL

### Reinstated

Mr. Dennis Meunier, November 20, 2007.

### Resignations

Rev. John Koczman resigned from Grace-Winter Haven FL. (Candidate Status)  
Ms. Ginger Vose was removed from the Commissioned Minister Roster of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, February 15, 2008.  
Mr. Steve A. Gerth was removed from the Commissioned Minister Roster of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, March 18, 2008.  
Ms. Barbara Fahsholz resigned from the Commissioned Minister Roster of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, April 1, 2008.  
Ms. Jennifer Blackwood resigned from the Commissioned Minister Roster of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, May 15, 2008.  
Ms. Jill Stafford resigned from the Commissioned Minister Roster of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, April 20, 2008.  
Ms. Michelle McClure resigned from the Commissioned Minister Roster of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, May 15, 2008.

### Church Triumphant

Rev. Raymond P. Malotky, May 25, 2008.