

Acknowledgements

Co-Workers for the Kingdom: Our Contributors





Russell P. Dawn, DPhil, JD
President, Concordia University Chicago

Dr. Russell P. Dawn is the 12th president of Concordia University Chicago. He holds three degrees from Oxford University, including a doctorate in historical theology. He also holds advanced degrees in law and business from the University of Colorado. An award-winning historian of Lutheran higher education, he has taught in History, Political Thought, Theology, and Religious Studies.

Prior to his academic career, he practiced corporate law in Denver, Colorado. He is devoted to his wife and two daughters, dotes on his three small dogs, and delights in swimming and traveling. He and his family are members of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Forest Park, Illinois.



Rev. David Fleming
Chaplain
DOXOLOGY Executive Director of Spiritual Care

Rev. David C. Fleming is DOXOLOGY's Executive Director for Spiritual Care and a Collegium Fellow. He remains a part time pastor at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, MI where he served as Senior Pastor from 1993-2019.

He previously served in Warrenville, IL, a Chicago suburb, and is a 1986 graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN. Fleming and his wife, Jo Marie, née Wunderlich, have three married children and several grandchildren.





Benjamin Fluga
Religion Teacher
Walther Christian Academy, Melrose Park

Ben Fluga is the Religion Teacher at Walther Christian Academy in Melrose Park. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Theology from Concordia University Chicago, with minors in Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Biblical Language. He also holds a Master of Art in Teaching: Secondary Education English.

He has been married to his wife, Arien, for 7 years. They have one daughter, Esmae, and another baby due at the beginning of April. He enjoys teaching Lutheran systematics in class, along with the original language. He enjoys taking time to get to know students and being a servant-leader on campus. He aims to live by the words of 1 Peter 3:15, “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”



Rev. Dr. Robert Lee Hagan IV
LCMS Missouri District President

Rev. Dr. R. Lee Hagan was born in Birmingham, Alabama and graduated from Concordia in Seward, Nebraska in 1992. He holds both a Master of Divinity Degree (1996) and Doctorate of Ministry (2011) from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Hagan served as Senior Pastor of St. Paul’s Lutheran in Concordia, Missouri (2002-2015) and was previously an Associate Pastor at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Evansville, Indiana (1996-2002).

He has been President of The Missouri District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod since June 2015. Hagan also served as Interim Director, LCMS Rural and Small Town Mission (2011-12), on numerous District Boards both in Missouri and Indiana, and during multiple Synodical Conventions as a delegate and on Floor Committees. He is married to Jill, and they have two children and one grandchild.





Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison
LCMS President

The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison has served as president of The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod (LCMS) since 2010. In addition to serving as Synod president, he is also assistant pastor of Village Lutheran Church, Ladue, Mo.

Before being elected president, Harrison served nine years as executive director of LCMS World Relief and Human Care which extended mercy to victims of 9-11, Katrina, the Asian Tsunami, the Haiti Earthquake, among other disasters and humanitarian efforts. From 1995 to 2001, Harrison served as pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, Ind. He also served St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Westgate, Iowa from 1991 to 1995.

A native of Sioux City, Iowa, Harrison has also translated, edited, and written numerous books to benefit the church, including *A Little Book on Joy* and *At Home in the House of My Fathers*. Harrison and his wife, Kathy, have two sons and two grandchildren.



Rev. Andrew Hatesohl
Trinity Lutheran Church, Huntley

Pastor Andrew Hatesohl has served as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Huntley, Illinois, since 2020. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry (2013) from Concordia Nebraska and a Master of Divinity (2018) and a Master of Sacred Theology (2019) from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Committed to Christ-centered preaching and teaching, his greatest joy as a pastor is giving people God's gifts and then watching them grow in their trust in God and love for their neighbor.

God has blessed Andrew with his wife, Alexa, and their three young children, Emma, Elinor, and Silas. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, cooking, and gardening.





Donna Laughlin
Principal
Immanuel Lutheran Church & School, Batavia

Donna Laughlin currently serves as the principal at Immanuel Lutheran Church and School in Batavia, Illinois. She has also served as the principal at Zion Lutheran Church and School in San Francisco, California. She has eighteen years of experience as an administrator, as well as eleven years of teaching experience in a variety of middle school subject areas at Lutheran and private schools in California and Wisconsin.

Donna received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Valparaiso University and her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Concordia University Portland. She enjoys mentoring and collaborating with other principals and teachers, as well as facilitating ongoing school improvement. She feels blessed to be involved in the lives of children and their families through church and school ministry. Her own family includes her husband Kevin and their daughter Jenna.



Deaconess Dr. Tiffany Manor
Managing Director, LCMS National Mission

Deaconess Dr. Tiffany Manor serves as Managing Director of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod leading Life & Health Ministry, Worker Wellness and other national mercy departments. Previously she was an executive in New England District focused on church worker wellness, human care and school ministries. She has also served with LCMS Recognized Service Organizations; at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; and at various congregations.

After a first career in marketing, Deaconess Tiffany received an M.A. from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne and earned a doctorate from Bethel University.

She is married to the Rev. Jonathan Manor. The Lord has blessed Tiffany and Jonathan with four children, and three grandchildren.





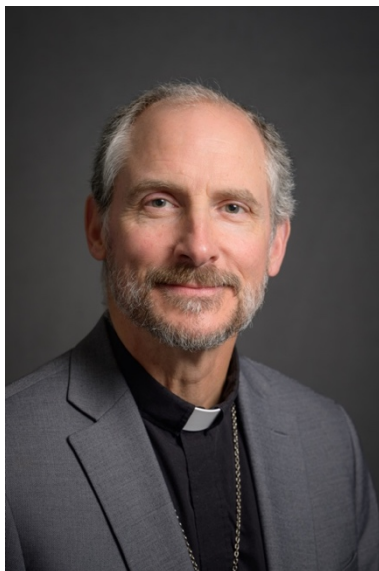
Torkild Masvie
Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Norway and Iceland

Torkild Masvie serves as Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Norway and Iceland. He spent much of his childhood in Argentina and Japan and moved to Norway at 13 years old.

He received his Candidate of Theology Degree from MF School of Theology in Oslo, Norway. He has completed additional studies in theology, missiology, and Judaism in Celle, Germany, at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA, and at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

He was ordained into the Church of Norway (CON) in 1982.

From 1982-1992, he served as a military chaplain, university chaplain, and Bible college teacher in various places through Norway. He served as CEO of the Caspari Center for Biblical and Jewish Studies in Jerusalem from 1992-2005. He lived in Illinois from 2002-2005 to fundraise for the Caspari Center, resigned his membership in the CON and became a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Carol Stream. He then moved to Oslo, Norway in 2005 to start a confessional Lutheran church with the help of the NID District President and with additional financial help from several NID congregations. He was consecrated as Bishop in 2017. He and his wife, Inger, have three children.



Rev. Jeffrey Miskus
Bishop and President of the English District - LCMS

The Rev. Jeffrey Miskus served as 1st Vice President of the English District from 2016-2024. Since July 2024, he has served the English District as Bishop and President. He has oversight in caring for 160 congregations and pastors across over 22 American states and one Canadian province.

A native of Windsor, Ontario, Miskus holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree majoring in Psychology from the University of Windsor. He attended both Ft. Wayne and St. Catharines Seminaries and received his M.Div. in 1994. Over his 30 years as a pastor Jeff has served three congregations.



Rev. Miskus has a passion for memorizing large portions of Holy Scripture. In 2010 he memorized Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5-7). Over the following years he "preached" this sermon in a dramatic presentation to congregations all over North America.

Jeff and his wife, Sylvia, have been married for thirty-four years, have three married children and three grandchildren. Jeff enjoys exercising daily, playing guitar, fishing, and listening to 70's rock and country music.



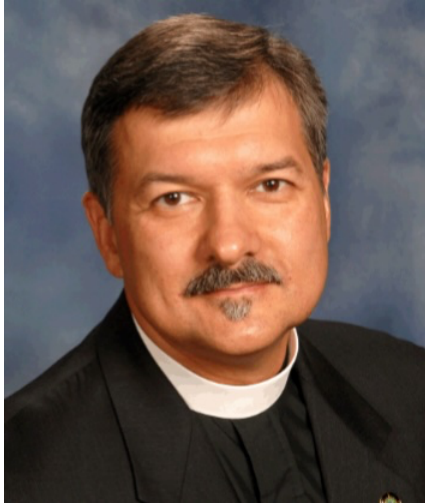
Rev. Dr. John Sias
LCMS Secretary

The Rev. Dr. John W. Sias has served as Secretary of the Synod since 2016, prior to that time having been a pastor (Colstrip first, then adding Forsyth and Hysham) in Eastern Montana since 2009.

He serves on the Commission for Constitutional Matters (2013–), Board of Directors of the Synod, Commission on Handbook, and Board of Governors for Concordia Historical Institute, and has served as circuit visitor and district vice-president, and on the Synod's Committee for Convention Nominations (2013).

He holds B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Illinois in electrical and computer engineering and his 2009 M.Div. is from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. There he met his wife Heidi, who is a deaconess and originally from Rolling Meadows (he's from Rock Island, in Central Illinois). They live in the St. Louis area. He enjoys being a pastor, languages—human and computer, and promoting good governance.





Rev. Wally Vinovskis
SELC District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri
Synod President

Rev. Waldemar R. Vinovskis has served as President and presiding Bishop of the SELC District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod since 2018. He was recently reelected to his 3rd term in January, 2025. He oversees 50 congregations and pastors across the Eastern half of the United States and two Canadian provinces, about 17,000 souls.

He has served as a pastor of Concordia Lutheran Church in Macungie, Pennsylvania for the past 24 years. He and his wife Cyndi have four grown children:

Carissa, Micah, Noel and Oliver. In addition to his service in the parish, Pastor Vinovskis has been active serving in both the church at large and in the community. He has served the church on various Synod and district boards and committees, and has been a regular Bible Study leader for KFUE Lutheran radio out of St. Louis, Missouri and a Classical music programmer for WDIY in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.



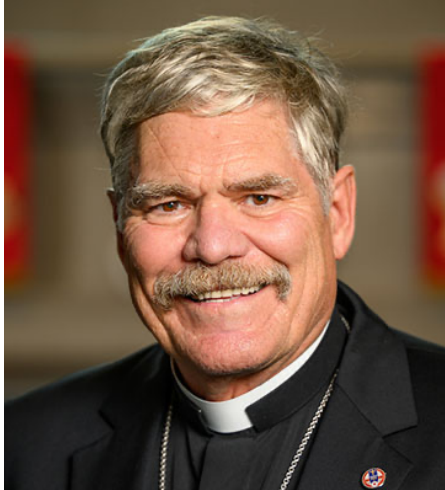
Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, VP Ministry Solutions
Grace Place Wellness, LCEF

Rev. Dr. Gregory Walton's passion is seeing healthier ministries by working with church workers and laity to see the benefits of intentional care for leading to a stronger ministry and the ongoing care of church workers.

Prior to his work at LCEF, Greg served over 22 years in parish ministry, first in a mission congregation and then a larger congregation, both in Georgia. During those years he served in a variety of roles in his community, and in the district, including on the circuit level, as a member of the District Board of Directors and on the District LCEF Finance Committee.

He later served as the district president for the Florida-Georgia District, LCMS for 13 years. Walton and his wife of 40 years, Edith, reside in the Atlanta area, close to their two married sons and six grandchildren.





**Rev. Dr. John C. Wohlrabe, Jr.
LCMS 6th Vice-President**

Rev. Dr. John C. Wohlrabe Jr. is sixth vice-president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and represents the Great Lakes Region.

Wohlrabe also serves as assistant pastor at Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church, Whitefish Bay, Wis.; as editor-in-chief for the *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly*; and as president of the Concordia Historical Institute (CHI) Board of Governors.

Previously, Wohlrabe has served as an LCMS vice-president since 2007. He also was regional chaplain for Naval District Washington (2007–2009). He retired with the rank of captain in May 2009, having served as an active duty U.S. Navy chaplain for 22 years.

A native of Mankato, Minn., he has published numerous articles and contributed to several books, including *Rediscovering the Issues Surrounding the 1974 Concordia Seminary Walkout* (CHI, 2023).

Wohlrabe and his wife, Julie, live in St. Francis, Wisconsin. They have three grown children: one daughter and two sons.



**Rev. Bill Yonker
Immanuel Lutheran Church, East Dundee**

Pastor Bill Yonker serves as the Senior Pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in East Dundee, Illinois.

He is an avid coffee drinker, lover of stories and storytelling, voracious reader of history, biographies, spy-thrillers, mysteries, and international intrigue stories. He is an ardent fan of the Green Bay Packers and is enthralled with Frank Sinatra music, classic rock and roll, and 60's bubblegum music.

He is married to Joanne, an occupational therapist, and is father to Becca (married to Tyler), Abby, and Josh (married to Emma). He is also the devoted grandpa to Nathan and Eloise Vachio.



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- Instrumentalists from Walther Christian Academy, Melrose Park (directed by Samantha Rose)
- Stirred to Love students from Immanuel Lutheran School, Batavia and St. John's Lutheran School, Chicago
- 7th & 8th grade students from St. Paul Lutheran School (Dorchester), Chicago

