



Northwest Washington Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

# Soundings

Vol. 27, Issue 8

September 2011

## Leadership And Mission In An Age of Urgency

The Rev. Dr. Emlyn Ott, Director of Healthy Congregations, will be the featured speaker at the 2011 Fall Bishop's Convocation, to be held this year from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 18 at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Kirkland.

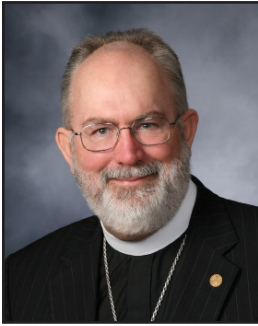
Dr. Ott teaches at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, where she also serves as Director of Supervised Clinical Ministry. She is a 12 year veteran of crisis work in congregations and the proactive ministry of systems analysis in businesses, schools, and judicatory and church organizations. A Clinical Fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, she is beginning a fifth year of study at the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family.

Early registration will open on Thursday, Sept. 1; registration forms are available on the synod web site. Spouses and partners of rostered leaders are welcome, but also must register. Registrations at the door will be limited to the number of meals available. Childcare registration deadline is Tuesday, Oct. 11.

Early Registration – Form received in synod office by Oct. 1: \$30; Interns and Retired: \$20. Registration – Form received in synod office between Oct. 2 and Oct. 18: \$35; Interns and Retired: \$25. Registration at Door: \$40; Interns and Retired: \$30.

Registration and fellowship time begins at 8 a.m. Worship and Eucharist begins at 9 a.m. Registration form is available on the Calendar at [www.lutheransnw.org](http://www.lutheransnw.org).

## A Word From The Bishop



**The Rev. Wm  
Chris Boerger**

Let us then pursue what makes for peace  
and for mutual upbuilding.

Romans 14:19 NRSV

We live in that wonderful time where communication opportunities abound and people are feeling more isolated and cut off from each other. One of the regular comments I hear is that we do not know what the larger church is doing. Why didn't someone tell us about (fill in the blank). I know that I have difficulty keeping up with the multitude of emails, text messages and other forms of communication.

In the midst of all of this I want to let you know of a new communication tool for us living in the territory of Region 1. The site, [www.soulcafe.org](http://www.soulcafe.org), is a new tool for the members, congregations and synods of Region 1 to share in a wide variety of ways. Congregations can establish a group for public sharing of information. Congregation Councils can have public groups for their work. Worship Committee leaders could form a group of other leaders to share ideas with worship leaders in with others across the synod or region. The possibilities are countless. The fact is that it will be the members of our congregations who will define how this tool will benefit the church.

Bishop David Brauer-Rieke and the Oregon Synod are the idea and process facilitators for this project. The Northwest Washington Synod is a participant in the establishment of this idea. All congregations, agencies and institutions of this synod and their members are welcome to participate in Soulcafé.

I will be quick to confess that I am a technological dinosaur when it comes to the full potential for this tool. I barely understand Facebook. This is not a churchly

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Facebook. It is more than that. It is however a public space. This is not the tool to share confidential or sensitive information. It is a way of building the church by sharing our ideas, passions and questions. It is a place for mutual upbuilding.

For this to work we need our members to sign up and be involved. The first step is to establish an account on Soulcafé. I want to encourage you to check this out. Setting up an account is relatively easy. I have even found that establishing a group is a painless process. As the idea began in the Oregon Synod, the early participants are largely from that synod. I encourage you to check out this website and imagine how it might assist you and your congregation in the many things you are asked to do. As with all new tools there will be issues to resolve as we get this up and running. Until we start using it, we do not know all that it will do. I invite your participation in [www.soulcafe.org](http://www.soulcafe.org).

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## **A Word From The Bishop**

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206-783-9292 or 1-800-244-6997 (Wash. State); Fax: 206-783-9833.  
[office@lutheransnw.org](mailto:office@lutheransnw.org); [www.lutheransnw.org](http://www.lutheransnw.org)

Deadline for copy of the October 2011 issue of *Soundings* is Wednesday, September 3.  
Current and archived issues can be found on the synod's website.

### **Synod Staff:**

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## **Boundaries Training Opportunity**

The ELCA requires that all rostered leaders attend Boundaries Training at least once, early during their period of rostered service.

Boundaries Training provides clear information on sexual misconduct prevention for people in positions of power, which includes pastors and lay leaders, and everyone who works with children and other vulnerable people. The training helps us understand how to keep ourselves healthy, to ensure that our personal needs are met without coercive participation by those we serve.

The next training session in our area is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 20, at Faith Lutheran in Seattle.

Barbara Keller will be the presenter; she is a consultant to the ELCA on sexual misconduct issues and presents a clear program for misconduct prevention. The cost for the seminar is \$20 and includes lunch and morning refreshments. Rostered leaders, church staff and volunteers are welcome at these training sessions.

Call or email the synod office for further information, 206-783-9292 or [office@lutheransnw.org](mailto:office@lutheransnw.org).

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## **Horn of Africa**

More than 500,000 people have left their homes because of the drought in the Horn of Africa. Many are receiving life-saving water and food at Lutheran-managed camps. The Lutheran churches in Kenya and Ethiopia are taking the lead on providing assistance to more than 10,000 households so that more will not need to leave their homes. At the same time, hundreds of communities that could be in crisis are safe because of the long-range drought protection projects supported by ELCA World Hunger.

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### **Lunch-Time Conversation With Dr. Root**

Join professor, speaker, and author Dr. Andrew Root for a lunch-time conversation about youth ministry and relationships from noon to 2 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24, at Scuttlebutt Brewery in Everett.

Relationships will be explored not as ways to influence kids, but as sacred place-sharing. Dr. Root, one of the emerging voices in post modern youth ministry and understanding youth ministry as practical theology, teaches at Luther Seminary and is the author of several books, including *Revisiting Relational Youth Ministry*, *The Children of Divorce*, and (with Dr. Kenda Creasy Dean) *The Theological Turn in Youth Ministry*.

Registration is required; cost is \$15 per person (lunch included). For more information and/or to register visit [www.tlc.edu/cyfcenter](http://www.tlc.edu/cyfcenter) or [mark.jackson@tlc.edu](mailto:mark.jackson@tlc.edu). Hosted by Trinity Lutheran College.

### **Dialogue and Lecture with Dr. Root**

*CYF Ministry in the 21st Century: The Melting of Identity* event will be a dialogue and lecture with Andrew Root, Ph.D. Dr. Root is Associate Professor of Youth and Family Ministry at Luther Seminary. This event will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24. Free and open to the public.

“...One of the greatest pursuits for late modern people (especially those of younger generations) is to construct an identity for themselves. But as we have seen recently, the fluidity of our culture does not allow for our identities to be carved in stone. Instead our identities are always transitioning with new jobs, new marriages, and new ideas. The cultural necessity of identity transition can be painful and difficult; it is easy to feel lost within the transition. What then should the church do?”

--Andrew Root, PhD

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## **Two Events On Children, Youth And Family**

## Ethiopian Chicken Hatchery Update

by Ken Halvorson,  
Chair, Synod Global  
Mission Committee

The Northwest Washington Synod has raised \$45,157.94 towards the Ethiopian Chicken Hatchery project through the generosity of individuals, Sunday Schools, Vacation Bible Schools and congregations. Creativity has been in abundance as people have backed the project. Our goal is to send \$35,440 this year, \$14,400 next year and \$12,000 in 2013.

In two to three years, we expect the Ethiopian Chicken Hatchery to begin paying for itself and start producing income. When this happens, we will reduce our contributions except to buy additional equipment as needed. Our long-range goal, and theirs, is to make this project stand on its own and be productive in protein, jobs, community and money for Ethiopian Church leadership training.

Last spring five of us went to Ethiopia to check on the development of the hatchery. It seemed that God arranged this team because each person brought different skills and perspectives. One is a retired lawyer who was invaluable in the business end of discussions. Another is a builder who was impressed with the basic serviceability of the future hatchery buildings. The third person had excellent skills at relating and visiting with people. Each team member came home convinced that this is a worthwhile project.

We had very good discussions with the Mekane Yesus Church leaders and others. The government approved this project due to great need, but also wanted assurance that it was a viable and well funded program. The government wanted the project to be larger to raise more chickens because of the great need. The Ethiopian Church stood their ground saying they would start small and grow into a larger hatchery.

Upon our return to Washington, at our team's

The Northwest Washington Synod's Youth *Serve* event will be held from 7 p.m. Friday, October 7 through late afternoon Saturday, October 8.

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## Synod Youth *Serve* Event

The event will begin at Peace Lutheran in West Seattle, moving to Compass Housing Alliance on Saturday (Saturday only is also an option). This event is for all youth in grades 9 through 12.

Come together Friday night to meet other youth in the area. We will spend the night at Peace Lutheran Church in West Seattle. Friday night will include games, snacks and worship/devotional time centered on what it means to live out your baptismal call in service to others.

Saturday will start with a pancake breakfast for those who spent the night. Others will join us at 9 a.m. for registration and a commissioning for service for the day. Service sites will be in downtown Seattle and West Seattle. We are partnering with Compass Housing Alliance.

At the end of the day, we'll come together for celebration, pizza and commissioning for service in your community as you leave.

See you in October!

recommendation, the Synod Council Executive Committee and Bishop Boerger approved a letter of intent to support the chicken hatchery. The letter of intent stated that our Synod will provide \$102,000 (including money already raised) for six years as the hatchery develops. With this assurance the government gave its approval for the Mekane Yesus church to use the land and buildings at Haik for development of the chicken hatchery.

The Ethiopian Church is now hiring a manager, choosing equipment and supplies, and modifying the buildings on the hatchery site.

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## Chicken Hatchery

## Seeing God Clearly

by Rachel, age 15

Pastor Matt Maas and seminary student Caitlyn Melillo led six high school youth (including myself) from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Lynnwood on a summer mission trip to Los Angeles, Calif., leaving on June 28.

Our mission was to do an urban immersion study with a group called New City Parish (NCP), a group of nine ELCA congregations that focus on transforming urban communities through ministry and social outreach. We arrived at our church location that evening and were welcomed with open arms. There we learned what we would be doing in the coming days. We also met Pastor Brian Eklund who is one of the founders of NCP. He accompanied us throughout our mission and taught us all about the urban Los Angeles (L.A.) community. Without him our mission would not have been a success.

Early the next morning we drove through downtown L.A. and visited a place called Homeboy Industries. Homeboy, founded by Father Greg Boyle, is a place where former gang members can be employed with jobs in a safe environment. Hearing individual stories of people who have been able to get back on their feet after having been in a gang and experienced consequences from gang violence was astounding. It would have been impossible for most of them to turn their lives around without the support of Homeboy Industries.

*Editor's Note: In the full article Rachel describes their experiences on Skid Row, distributing health kits, helping the burrito lady and attending the Western States Youth Gathering. To read the article please visit [www.lutheransnw.org](http://www.lutheransnw.org) and click on the link on the homepage.*



Learn more about your personal responsibility to the earth and what your congregation can do to be more green at the *Greening Your Congregation* event from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24, at St. John United Lutheran Church, 5515 Phinney Ave. North, Seattle. (Registration opens at 9:30 a.m.)

Keynote speaker is Dr. Paul Johnson, Professor of Marine Geology and Geophysics at the University of Washington. His topic is *Climate Change*.

Afternoon workshops include these and more: *Electric cars and getting churches plugged in* (Jim Billmaier, JOLT!); *Church grounds as wildlife habitat*; *Free toilets and other flashes of flushing wisdom*; *Community gardens*; *Cleanliness is...Godliness? A journey through your cleaning supply bin*; and *Greening Congregations Program*.

Cost is \$15 per person and includes lunch. Registration deadline is Thursday, Sept. 15. Workshop descriptions, registration form and schedule are available on the calendar at [www.lutheransnw.org/calendar](http://www.lutheransnw.org/calendar).

The event is sponsored by the Northwest Washington Synod Stewardship and Mission Support Team.

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## *Greening Your Congregation*

Join others to celebrate the launch of Faith Action Network: A Partnership for the Common Good (FAN) from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17, at University Congregational Church, 4515 16th Ave NE, Seattle. Please RSVP to Kathy or Kelle at 206-625-9790 or by email at [fan@fanwa.org](mailto:fan@fanwa.org).

This new statewide ecumenical and interfaith organization unites two faith action organizations: Washington Association of Churches and Lutheran Public Policy Office. FAN's office location is 766 John St. Suite B., Seattle, WA 98109; 206-625-9790.

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**FAN**

## Installation Offering

### For Pastor Kari Reiten, Lord of Life Lutheran in Renton

The offering for Pastor Kari Reiten's installation at Lord of Life in Renton went to four students at Pine Lake Academy in Koderia, Kenya. (Koderia is in Western Kenya near Lake Victoria.)

Members at Lord of Life have sponsored these children for about three years. The connection to them began through Christopher Sure, a former student at Trinity Lutheran College (TLC) in Everett.

The congregation met Christopher while he was studying at TLC and they have helped him with a couple projects in his home village. Currently he is a lay pastor and is the driving force behind a clinic and the school.

Lord of Life has matched the four Kenyan students with four Sunday School classes. The hope is that the children at Lord of Life will make a connection to the children in Koderia.

The Sunday School students send letters from time to time. Lord of Life also highlighted these four children at this summer's VBS. As a mission project the children at VBS colored cinch bags and then filled them with crayons, socks, a ruler, scissors and pencils. About 100 bags will be shipped to Pine Lake Academy.

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## Hearing The Cries

### Faith and Criminal Justice

The Faith and Criminal Task Force of the ELCA is in the process of developing a social statement on the wide-range and complex issues associated with criminal justice. The study is called *Hearing the Cries: Faith and Criminal Justice*. The task force needs to have input from groups and individuals as they gather information for a social statement. Responses are due by October 15. Information can be found at [www.elca.org/criminaljustice](http://www.elca.org/criminaljustice).

Homelessness is a serious and growing problem in King County. While there are shelters that house men, and shelters for women, there are currently few shelters for women with children. Since January, record numbers of homeless women with children have been seeking temporary shelter — only to find that there is none. Every night in our community, these women and their children find refuge where they can —in a car (for the “lucky” ones who have a car), on a bus, at the airport, or under a bridge.

As part of our ministry, Queen Anne Lutheran Church created *HomeBase* ([www.queenannelutheran.org/homebase](http://www.queenannelutheran.org/homebase)), an outreach program that provides temporary shelter and meals to homeless women and their children. Our partner in this effort is *Mary's Place* ([www.marysplace.org](http://www.marysplace.org)) the only weekday drop-in day program for homeless women and formerly homeless women and their children in King County. For two weeks several times a year, Queen Anne Lutheran Church will host up to 14 homeless women and their children in the building overnight.

With the congregation's newly remodeled kitchen and Fellowship Hall, Queen Anne was able to host their first families during the first two weeks in August.

Please refer all students headed to or already at a college or university to Lutheran Campus Ministry. Contact information will be forwarded to the appropriate Lutheran Campus Ministry site or partnership congregation if there is one. Sample referral form is on our website at <http://uwlutherans.com/>. Please email contact info to: [chscott@drizzle.com](mailto:chscott@drizzle.com), or mail it to: Lutheran Campus Ministry, 4525 19th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98105.

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## **A Safe Place For Homeless Women and Children**

**at Queen Anne  
Lutheran in Seattle**

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## **Off To College**

## September 11

The Rev. Maynard Atik (ret.) will be returning to the Ground Zero site to volunteer as chaplain at the World Trade Center Memorial on Sunday, September 11. He asks for all to offer the following prayers:

*Remember, O God, those who suffer the loss of loved ones;  
Remember all who have died in the conflict with terrorism;  
Remember those who are still filled with fear or anger;  
Remember this nation and those we call enemies;  
Stir your church to declare your peace where there is hatred;  
Hold all in your love and justice. Amen.*

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## Here 'n There

- **Our Redeemer's in Seattle** held a celebration on June 26. They celebrated the end of their mortgage by throwing shredded copies of the mortgage in the air like confetti.
- The August service project for members of **St. Luke's in Bellevue** is packing school supplies for *Congregations for Kids* ([www.congregations4kids.org](http://www.congregations4kids.org)). In 2010, in its 15th year, 38 congregations and organizations in Bellevue supplied 1,450 backpacks with school supplies and an additional 300 sets of school supplies. These supplies helped a total of 1,750 students in 28 different schools in Bellevue.
- **Trinity in Lynnwood** participated in the *Back to School Fair*, organized by the Family Center of Lutheran Community Services and other community partners. Trinity agreed to stuff 100 backpacks and stuff with the needed supplies. The *Back to School Fair* provides 1,000 needy students in the Edmonds School District with a backpack and school supplies.

**We Continue To Hold In Our Prayers:**

- ✝ **The Rev. Mary Bosell, on Disability**
- ✝ **The Rev. John Ericksen (ret.)** and his wife, Marita
- ✝ **The Rev. Jami Fecher**, pastor at Gift of Grace in Seattle
- ✝ **The Rev. Phil Petrasek (ret.)** and his wife Linda
- ✝ **The Rev. Donna Reilly Williams (ret.)**
- ✝ **The Rev. Paul Wuest (ret.)**

**Within Our Family**



**We Pray For:**

- ✝ **The Rev. Bob Weinman (ret.)** died on July 12 after having been moved to hospice care within the Ida Culver House Community. Bob and his wife Jan recently moved into the community. Cards may be sent to: Jan Weinman, Ida Culver House, 12503 Greenwood Ave N E303, Seattle, WA 98133. Peace to his memory.
- ✝ **The Rev. Jon Nelson (ret.)** died on July 24. He and his wife Juni were at their cabin in Moose Lake, Minn. Jon's cancer had spread throughout his body and he was in hospice care. Cards may be sent to: Juni Nelson, c/o Central Lutheran Church, 1710 - 11th Ave Seattle, WA 98122-2420. A memorial service will be held in the Seattle area at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17, at University Lutheran, 1604 NE 50th St, Seattle, 98105. Peace to his memory.
- ✝ **The Rev. Ben Bretheim (ret.)** died on Aug. 2. A memorial service was held on Aug. 16 at Saint Andrews in Bellevue, 2650 - 148th Ave SE. Ben is survived by Hildur, his wife of 64 years. Cards may be sent to: Hildur Bretheim, 9105 Fortuna Dr #8211, Mercer Island, WA 98040. Peace to his memory.
- ✝ **The Rev. Mark Nelson, Assistant to the Bishop of**

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## **Within Our Family**

**Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod, and his family** at the unexpected death of his 26 year old nephew Paul. Paul was a senior at the University of Washington and home for the summer. Cards may be sent to: The Rev Mark Nelson, Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod, 314 S. Spruce St Ste A, Spokane, WA 99201-5823.

✠ **The Rev. Brian Beistel (ret.)** who is at Foss Home recovering from a fall in July. He is doing well. Cards may be sent to: The Rev Brian Beistel, 14017 - 15th Ave NE #202K, Seattle, WA 98125.

✠ **The Rev. Bud Hutter (ret.)** fell and broke his hip and wrist in mid-July. He then had to have a partial hip replacement. He and his wife Nellie were visiting their daughter in Colorado. Cards may be sent to: Bud and Nellie Hutter, 390 E. Cambrae Drive, Camano Island, WA 98282.

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## **To All The World**

*To All The World* is the very first fundraiser to benefit the ministry of The Church of Steadfast Love.

The fundraiser will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10, at Holy Trinity Lutheran, 8501 SE 40th St., Mercer Island. The fundraiser will feature appetizers from around the world, a raffle and live music.

Event tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at [www.compasshousingalliance.org/new-amp-events](http://www.compasshousingalliance.org/new-amp-events). Please RSVP by August 15. For more information email [pastorkristy@compasshousingalliance.org](mailto:pastorkristy@compasshousingalliance.org) or call 206-357-3112.

The Church of Steadfast Love is located on the first floor of the Compass Housing Alliance in Pioneer Square 77 South Washington St., Seattle 98104). The congregation welcomes its neighbors, who are people from all walks of life.

## Northwest Washington Synod Transitions

	Location/Event	Effective Date
<b>Calls Accepted</b>		
Jacque Berlien	St. John's Parish Lancaster/ Bendena KS	8/1/2011
Joanne Engquist	Gethsemane, Seattle	8/29/2011
Wesley Howell	Trinity, Pullman WA	8/31/2011
Jerry R O'Neill	Trinity, Freeland	7/1/2011
Jana Schofield	Christ, Ferndale	7/1/2011
<b>Closing</b>		
Lord of Life, Duvall	Duvall, WA	7/24/2011
<b>Death</b>		
Ben Bretheim	Seattle, WA	8/2/2011
Jonathan Nelson	Moose Lake, MN	7/24/2011
Robert G Weinman	Seattle, WA	7/12/2011
<b>Installations</b>		
Joseph Li	Bethel Chinese, Seattle	9/18/2011
Jana Schofield	Christ, Ferndale	7/10/2011
<b>Ordinations/ Commissionings/ Consecrations</b>		
Jacque Berlien	Trinity, Lynnwood	7/25/2011
<b>Resignations</b>		
Elwood Carlson	Wooden Cross, Woodinville	8/31/2011
Douglas Lindsay	From ELCA Roster	8/11/2011
A. Milton Lundeen	From ELCA Roster	8/12/2011
<b>Transfers In/Out Of Synod</b>		
Wesley Howell	To Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod	9/1/2011
Jerry R O'Neill	From Minneapolis Area Synod	7/1/2011
Jana M Schofield	From Southwest California Synod	7/1/2011

## Northwest Washington Synod Mobility

You can check for the most recent updates on the synod website at [www.lutheransnw.org/leadership/transitions](http://www.lutheransnw.org/leadership/transitions).

In Call Process	Position	Status	Current, Interim/Supply Pastor
Arlington, Our Saviour	PR	I	Paul Anderson, Interim
Bellingham, Our Saviour's	PR	P	Supply
Burien, Glendale	PR	TR	Red Burchfield, Interim
Everett, Faith	PR	TR	Michael Ross, Interim
Maple Valley, Shepherd of the Valley	PR	NV	Interim Pending
Monroe, Morning Star	PR	I	Tim Wolbrecht, Interim
Mount Vernon, Fir-Conway	PR	TR	Michael Swain, Interim
Nooksack, Clearbrook	PR	TR	Supply
Point Roberts, Trinity Community	PR	TR	Supply
Seattle, Bethany	PR	TR	Kathleen Anderson, Interim
Seattle, Magnolia	PR	P	Doug Stensby, Interim
Shoreline, Bethel	PR	NV	Interim Pending
Stanwood, Freeborn	PR	TR	Supply

Mobility Position Key:	
PR	= Pastor
A	= Associate
AIM	= Associate in Ministry
DM	= Diaconal Minister
A/SP	= Associate with Special Emphasis contact Synod Office)

Mobility Status Key:	
I	= Interviewing
C	= Calling
NV	= New Vacancy
V	= Vacancy
SC	= Synod Call
TR	= Transition process
P	= Profile presented (receiving nominations)
TR/DO	= Div for Outreach Transformation Process