

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

“So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in Him, ‘If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’” JOHN 8:31-32

October is a great month in the Lutheran Church. On the last day of October 1517, working through Martin Luther, God began calling His people back to the truth.

But what is truth? Today, truth is considered to be relative, that is, you have your truth and I have my truth. But this is not truth at all.

It is important to know **The Truth**, because **The Truth** sets us free. It is the truth of God’s Word, the truth of Christ’s teaching that is our freedom.

The truth that Scripture tells us is that we are sinners, rebelling from God’s rule and desiring to be our own God. We are in bondage to sin, death and the devil.

The truth that Scripture reveals to us is that the Father loves us so much that He sent His Son Jesus Christ to remove our sins from us. Jesus loves us so much that He claimed our sins as His and suffered the penalty of death that those sins have earned. He has given us His righteousness, that we might have life eternal lived in God’s presence. The Holy Spirit loves us so much that He has made us His dwelling place, working through Word and Sacrament to create and sustain life-giving faith in Christ Jesus.

God truly sets us free from sin, death and the devil and makes us His beloved children.

Rev. Anthony Cloose
Park Region Pastoral Counselor

Scholarship recipients

For more than 50 years, the LWML Minnesota North District has been offering scholarships for those seeking full-time church work. The delegates at our district conventions have voted to fund these scholarships through our mission grants, which are funded through generous mite giving.

The nine scholarship recipients, who are full-time church-work students and men studying to be pastors, for the 2015-16 school year include:

Concordia University St. Paul

Jessica Borchardt, MacKenzie Lindquist, Madison Schellack, Laura Kester and Josef Muench

Concordia University Nebraska

Stephanie Wilde



Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.

John Koopman

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Andrew Coop and Jeffrey Manthe

Scholarships are available to residents of the Minnesota North District who are also members of an LCMS congregation. Applicants must be preparing for full-time church work for the LCMS. An application and informational flyer are available for download at www.lwmlmn.org/resources.html.

The application deadline is May 15, 2016.

Download a mission-grant application

The mission-grant application form for the 2016 district convention is available to download at lwmlmn.org/resources.html. The application must be

postmarked by Feb. 15, 2016. For more information, contact Carol Westendorf at missiongrants@lwmlmn.org or 218-389-6916.

Are you a future leader?

The elected positions to be filled at our 2016 district convention will be District President, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer Regional Vice-President for Arrowhead I, Lakeland I and Park I, and Pastoral Counselor from Ar-

rowhead Region. If you have a name or names to submit, contact Marilyn Hittel, Nominating Committee chairman, at bmhittel@jetup.net or 320-387-2219.



Centennial celebration

Ann Lundstrom, seated at left, celebrated her 100th birthday on July 30. She is a member of St. John’s Lutheran Church, Barnesville. (Photo submitted by Phyllis Mulari, member of St. John’s.)



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