

# **Minutes of the Pacific Northwest District Delegate Conference “One in Christ”**

**Held Evergreen Lutheran High School, Tacoma, WA – June 11-12, 2015**

## **Convention worship**

The opening Communion service for the conference was held at 8:30 a.m. Prof Jeff Schone preached the sermon from 1 John 5:1-5: *We Are Conquerors over the World!* Pastor David Birsching served as liturgist. Offering gathered was \$548.00.

## **Opening**

District President John Steinbrenner opened the convention at 10:10 a.m. Comments were made on details with the first “digital conference.”

## **Reports**

Attendees stood and introduced themselves.

Excused: Pastor Fred Schleg, Beautiful Savior, Everett, WA  
Teacher Geoff Cortright, St. Matthew’s, Spokane, WA  
Pastor Andy Schwartz, Christ the King, Bremerton, WA  
Pastor Dan Kramer, Peace in Jesus, Boise, ID  
Warren Ehlke, SC Rep  
Pastor Ray Beckman, Good Hope, Ellensburg, WA and Good Faith, Cle Elum, WA  
Pastor Matthew Kimmel, St. Matthew’s, Spokane, WA  
Pastor Duane Vanselow, Beautiful Savior, Corvallis, OR  
Teacher Bryan Schneck, Grace, Kenai, AK  
Pastor Bryan Schwarz, Our Savior’s, East Wenatchee, WA  
Teacher Allen Ash, Evergreen Lutheran High School  
Teacher Bruce Babler, Christ the King, Bremerton

Unexcused: Pastor Edward Frey, Messiah, Nampa, ID  
Pastor Mark Cares, Truth in Love to Mormons, Nampa, ID

Visitors to the District Conference: Prof. Jeff Schone, presenter  
Ted Lambert, DP emeritus  
John Rittierodt, retired teacher  
Pastor Peter Kruschel, Mission Counselor

Pastor Steinbrenner then presented his DP report. During his report he introduced our district’s delegates to the Synod convention that were present:

Mr. James Bennington, Calvary, Bellevue, WA  
Mr. Harold Wellnitz, Grace, Kenai, AK  
Mr. Brian Saatkamp, Grace, Portland, OR  
Mr. Lance Barton, Holy Trinity, Des Moines, WA  
Mr. Earl Lackey, King of Kings, Wasilla, AK  
Mr. David Stuhlmiller, Our Savior, E. Wenatchee, WA  
Mr. Kim Starling, Salem, Edmonds, WA  
Teacher Allen Ash, Evergreen Lutheran High School, Tacoma, WA  
Staff Minister David Malnes, Truth in Love Ministries, Boise, ID  
Pastor Thomas Gumm, Grace, Seattle / Salem, Edmonds  
Pastor Gary Kraklow, Peace, Vancouver, WA  
Pastor Fred Voss, Shepherd of the Hills, Anchorage, AK  
Pastor Daniel Kramer, Peace in Jesus, Boise, ID

## **New members to the district:**

Edward Frey to Messiah, Nampa, ID as Associate Pastor (June 29)  
Kevin Schultz to St. Matthew, Spokane, WA as Associate Pastor (June 29)

Noah Herrmann to Calvary, Bellevue, WA (August 3)  
Ben Workentine to Cross of Christ, Boise, ID as Grad. Associate Pastor (August 24 – ord./inst.)  
Geoff Cortright to Saviour of the Nations, Vancouver, BC (September 14)  
Timothy Wilkens to King of Kings, Kennewick, WA (March 8)  
David Salinas to Grace, Yakima, WA (April) Call made permanent  
James Getka to Evergreen LHS, Tacoma, WA as Campus Pastor and Spanish Teacher (TBD)  
Jason Kelley to Holy Trinity, Des Moines, WA as Principal, upper gr. teacher (August 17)  
Alyssa Kelley to Holy Trinity, Des Moines, WA as Kindergarten teacher (August 17)  
Paul Leifer to Faith, Tacoma, WA as Principal, upper grade teacher (July 6)  
Ryan Schmeling (MLC 2014) assigned to Grace, Portland, OR as Prin. Apprent., teacher, AD (September 7)  
Jason Schleeef (MLC 2013) assigned to Immanuel, Salem, OR as teacher, PE (August 17)  
Laura Schleeef (MLC 2013) assigned to Immanuel, Salem, OR as teacher (August 17)  
Anna Flunker (MLC 2009) to Immanuel, Salem, OR as ECE (August 17)  
Jennifer Keller (MLC 2013) assigned to Peace, Eagle River, AK as Preschool teacher (July 13)  
Ashley Mozak (MLC 2010) to Saviour of the Nations, Vancouver, BC as Staff. Min. for ESL, women's ministries (September 14)  
Chris Hintz to Christ the King, Bremerton, WA as Principal, upper gr. teacher (TBD)  
Brian Humann to Faith, Tacoma, WA as middle gr. teacher (TBD)  
Amanda Humann to Faith, Tacoma, WA as ECE (TBD)  
Marilee Nolte to Grace, Yakima, WA (finish 2015 school year) limited Call  
Marilee Nolte to Grace, Yakima, WA (2015-2016 school year) 1-yr. Call  
Rebecca Hussman (MLC 2014) to Grace, Yakima, WA (TBD) 1-yr. Call  
Melissa Mittelstadt (MLC 2015) to Faith, Anchorage, AK (TBD) ECE Dir.

Pastor Craig Wasser presented the WELS BHM and the PNW DMB report.

Prof. Jeff Schone presented Part 1 of his spiritual growth presentation.

Pastor Nathan Seiltz presented his final report on Evergreen Lutheran High School. The conference showed their appreciation for his service to the district with their applause.

### **Break for lunch**

The conference reconvened at 1:02 p.m.

Prof. Jeff Schone presented Part 2 of his spiritual growth presentation.

### **Break**

Pastor Howard Mohlke summarized pp. 113-121 of BORAM (Board for World Missions and Joint Mission Council).

Prof. Jeff Schone presented the reports from the WELS Board for Ministerial Education.

Pastor Tom Voss summarized pp. 185-195 of BORAM (Ad Hoc Commission 2).

Pastor Joel Nitz summarized pp. 201-204 of BORAM (Memorials).

Pastor Tim Schwartz summarized pp. 42-44 of BORAM (Evangelism).

Pastor Rob Guenther summarized pp. 13-20 of BORAM (Continuing Education and Task Force).

Pastor Jeremy Schulz summarized pp. 21-27 of BORAM (Translation and CICR).

Pastor Matt Zimpelmann summarized pp. 27-28 of BORAM (Ministry of Christian Giving). He also highlighted p. 54 in BORAM (Youth and Family Ministry).

Pastor Dan Lange summarized pp. 36-42 of BORAM (Worship).

### **Break.**

Prof. Jeff Schone presented Part 3 of his spiritual growth presentation.

Pastor Mark Schewe summarized pp. 45-47 of BORAM (CCC).

Pastor Tom Gumm summarized pp. 48-52 of BORAM (Special Ministries).

Pastor Joel Hoff summarized pp. 52-53 of BORAM for Pastor Fred Schleg (Adult Discipleship).

Pastor Patrick Cortright summarized pp. 55-57 of BORAM (Commission on Lutheran Schools).

### **Closing devotion**

Pastor Kevin Schultz gave the closing devotion based on Philippians 1:12-14 – *“Conquering by Confessing the Truth!”* The conference closed the day with the singing of hymn 529, *Built on the Rock*.

## **Friday, June 12, 2015**

### **Opening devotion**

Pastor Rob Guenther opened the conference shortly after 8:30 a.m. He led a devotion based on John 3: *“Conquering through Prayer.”* The conference sang the hymn *What A Friend We Have in Jesus*.

Prof. Jeff Schone presented Part 4 of his spiritual growth presentation.

Pastor Ben Workentine summarized pp. 167-171 in BORAM (NPH).

Discussion ensued on the Wartburg Project’s work, and the pros and cons. It was noted that the concerns surrounding this project will likely be raised at the synod convention.

Pastor Gary Kraklow summarized pp. 199-200 in BORAM (Committee on Constitutional Matters).

Mr. Ted Weiss presented the PNW Kingdom Workers report.

Pastor Howard Mohlke stood in for Mr. Warren Ehlke and presented the Synodical Council report.

The offering (\$548) was designated to go to Evergreen Lutheran High School.

The conference M/S/P a motion to thank Evergreen Lutheran High School, the presenter, and those who helped with the various aspects of the conference.

### **Closing Devotion**

Pastor Todd Goldschmidt gave the closing devotion, based on Titus 2:11-15: *“Conquering by Grace Alone.”* We will one day be freed in Christ and experiencing perfection. Until that day we strive with the Spirit’s power to live for him. We sang *Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone*, and closed with prayer and the blessing.