

BUSINESS

SESSION GUIDE & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS



STRENGTHEN CHURCHES

SALEM COVENANT
CHURCH

**ANNUAL
MEETING**

NEW BRIGHTON,
MINNESOTA

APRIL 16-18, 2015



northwest conference

developing leaders. thriving churches.

The Northwest Conference in its
131st Annual Meeting // April 17-18, 2015

Friday, April 17

1:00 p.m.	Registration Begins	
2:00 p.m.	New Delegate Orientation	
2:30 p.m.	Business Session #1	
	Call to Order and Opening Prayer	Lowell Peterson, NWC Chair
	Approval of Minutes from 2014 Annual Meeting	
	Approval of Agenda for 2015 Annual Meeting	
	Host Greeting from Salem Covenant Church	Mark Pattie, Senior Pastor
	Greetings & Update from the Evangelical Covenant Church	Steve Dawson, President, National Covenant Properties
	NWC Superintendent Report	Mark Stromberg, Superintendent
	NWC Board Recommendation and Delegate Approval of Rev. Mark R. Stromberg as NWC Superintendent for a Second Term	
	Living Legacy Churches	Lynn Johnson, NWC Secretary Evangelical Covenant Church, Deer River, MN Maplewood Covenant Church, Maplewood, MN Cloverland Covenant Church, Maple, WI
	Church Withdrawal	
	NWC Ministry Director Reports	Jon Kramka, Director of Congregational Vitality Mike Brown, Director of Church Planting
	Introduction of New Fellowship Groups	
	<i>Catalyst Covenant Church, Jeff Olson, St. Paul, MN</i>	
	<i>Genesis Covenant Church, Steve Wiens, St. Louis Park, MN</i>	
	<i>New Covenant Church (Nuevo Pacto), Mauricio Dell’Arciprete, Minneapolis, MN</i>	
	<i>Renew Covenant Church, Jamie Staples, Eau Claire, WI</i>	
	Kara Stromberg, Director of Children & Family Ministry	
	Ginny Olson, Director of Youth Ministry	
	Jeff Burton, Director of Pastoral Care & Development	
	Judy Swanberg, Associate Director of Pastoral Care & Development	
	Presentation of the Northwest Conference Budget	David Brown, NWC Treasurer Sandy Norris, Director of Finance

	Presentation of the Northwest Conference Ballot	Lynn Johnson, NWC Secretary
	The Mission and Ministry of Minnehaha Academy	Donna Harris, President
	Presentation of Minnehaha Academy Budget	Dan Bowles, Director of Finance & Business Operations
	Covenant Trust Company	Kevin Lawson, Director of Financial Services Representatives
<hr/>		
“A Celebration of Mission” Ministry Fair		
<hr/>		
5:45 p.m.	Dinner (Reservations Required)	
<hr/>		
7:00 p.m.	Pre-Service Music	
7:30 p.m.	Worship Celebration	
	“The Holy Spirit and Congregational Vitality”	
	- Message by John Wenrich	
	Introduction and Dedication of Ordinands	
	Living Legacy Churches	
	Evangelical Covenant Church, Deer River, MN	
	Maplewood Covenant Church, Maplewood, MN	
	Special Offering for CHIC Scholarships	
	Dessert Reception for Ordinands and	
	New Fellowship Groups Following Service	
 Saturday, April 18		
8:00 a.m.	Registration	
8:30 a.m.	Worship	
9:00 a.m.	Business Session #2	
	Ballot Results	
	Approval of Northwest Conference Budget	
	Approval of Minnehaha Academy Budget	
9:45 a.m.	Morning Break	
10:00 a.m.	Workshop: “Current Challenges Facing Today’s Church”	
	John Wenrich, ECC Director of Congregational Vitality	
	<i>Invitation to the 132nd Northwest Conference Annual Meeting</i>	
	<i>April 28-30, 2016 at Lakeview Covenant Church, Duluth, MN</i>	
	Theme: “Develop Leaders”	
12:00 noon	Lunch (Reservations Required)	



The Evangelical Covenant Church

April 2015

TO: Annual Meeting of the Northwest Conference
Rev. Mark Stromberg, Superintendent
Mr. Lowell Peterson, Conference Chair

Grace and peace to you as you gather in the bond of Christ.

Multiply. How can 5 multiplied by 850 give a result of two and a half million? Only when God enters the equation.


There are five mission priorities around which we seek to follow the heart of God into the world. Together, we start and strengthen churches, make and deepen disciples, develop leaders, love mercy and do justice, and serve globally. That mission is only possible because of the combined efforts of the congregations in your region, together with all of the 850 churches that make up the ECC today in the United States and Canada.

Because of our strong partnership in our shared mission, we accomplish much. We invite you to visit www.CovChurch.org for information, stories, videos, and resources on all that is happening with the ministries and initiatives of the Covenant all around the world. While you're there, be sure to check out the Multiply video (www.covchurch.tv/multiply). It's an inspiring look at how the mathematics of the Holy Spirit yield amazing results through Covenant people.

In addition to this regional gathering, we'd love to have you join with hundreds of other Covenanters for **Gather 2015**, June 25-27, which encompasses opportunities to participate in mission and service projects as part of Experience Kansas City, as well as the annual meeting of the Ministerium, and the Evangelical Covenant Church's annual business meeting.

I am grateful to serve this movement in partnership with people like you. With God's help, may we continue to *multiply* in our shared mission and ministry.

In It Together,


Gary B. Walter,
President

8303 WEST HIGGINS ROAD, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60631
PHONE 773-784-3000 FAX 773-784-4366 WWW.COVCHURCH.ORG

2014

130th ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Northwest Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church // May 2-3, 2014 // Rochester Covenant Church, Rochester, MN // "Start Churches"

Northwest Conference (NWC) Chairperson Lowell Peterson called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM. He welcomed everyone stating leg measures are things that have already happened, lead measures are something we can yet influence, such as budgets, nominations of new board members and looking at new opportunities in starting churches. This will take faith and commitment. Chairperson Peterson led in a prayer of thanksgiving.

MINUTES FROM THE 2013 ANNUAL MEETING AT MINNEHAHA ACADEMY

It was noted by Chairperson Peterson that the Minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting at Minnehaha Academy were approved by the NWC Executive Board, on behalf of the delegates. Further, Chairperson Peterson stated the following motion: That the Executive Board of the Northwest Conference, on behalf of the delegates to the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Northwest Conference, be authorized to approve the Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting at the next formal meeting of the NWC Executive Board. A second was made and motion carried.

AGENDA FOR 2014 MEETING APPROVED

Motion to approve was made and seconded. Motion carried.

HOST GREETING FROM ROCHESTER COVENANT CHURCH

Pastor Herb Frost, Lead Pastor, greeted all attending and stating that ministry and mission have been happening over fifty years in Rochester. The "Start Churches" theme of this year's meeting is consistent with the ministry of Rochester Covenant Church as two churches have been planted in Rochester out of this church, both Salem Road and New Day. We are better when we are in it together, even as churches coming from different geographic regions within the Conference, yet having mutual concern for one other and embracing the mutual mission. And we can celebrate this as we gather together.

GREETINGS AND UPDATE FROM THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Carol Lawson, Director of Ministry Services, Department of the

Ordered Ministry, greeted everyone from "8303" (address of ECC) and invited all to the ECC Annual Meeting which will be held in Chicago in June and which will, among other things, celebrate ordination and consecration services for seventeen candidates from the NWC, a total of 83 throughout the ECC. This will be streamed live on www.covchurch.org. Further, Carol shared about the organizational restructuring for the denomination that will be presented to delegates in Chicago.

A video was shown from President Gary Walter stating the 5 priorities of the ECC. These are: 1) Start and Strengthen Churches, 2) Make and Deepen Disciples, 3) Develop Leaders, 4) Love Mercy, Do Justice, 5) Serve Globally. President Walter also stated that one new congregation is started every two to three weeks nationally. Together we are following the heart of God into the world, grace and mercy will follow us. This will only happen if we journey together and follow God.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mark R. Stromberg, Superintendent, asked all attending to read the Ministry Report for all staff reports. He stated it is a privilege to serve the NWC and he does not take this responsibility lightly. He is also grateful to serve with a competent and godly staff and acknowledged them individually. He asked that we take time to thank them for their service. We are staffed according to our ministry priorities, being healthy missional churches, and existing to both serve our churches and unite our churches together in service. We are able to plant churches because churches have banded together to make it happen with member churches giving support by providing financial and prayer support to the NWC and the ECC.

Mark thanked outgoing Executive Board member and Treasurer, Bruce Peterson, for serving a five year term. He also acknowledged Jeff Burton for serving four years on the Executive Board and is now serving as Director of Pastoral Care and Development for the NWC. Further, he recognized both John Jacobi and Gwen Peters for serving five-year terms on the Board of Trustees for Minnehaha Academy. He also recognized existing board members for their service. He encouraged churches to display a strong commitment to the NWC and ECC for the broader work. He also encouraged delegates to help pastors keep their promises to support the NWC and ECC, as

each church is needed to engage in our joint mission of planting 50 x 25 (starting fifty churches by year 2025). He thanked Pastor Herb Frost and Rochester Covenant Church for hosting this Annual Meeting. Further, he thanked Rev. John Teter, Carol Lawson and Dave Kersten for their presence and participation with us.

Mark highlighted the ministry and new positions of Jeff Burton and Judy Swanberg and is grateful for their work and the budget approved last year that made room for these two new positions. CHET continues to meet at MA with 22 graduating last January. Our commitment is to further expand this ministry, with the offering tonight going to CHET NWC. Mark further stated that a three-quarter time position of Director of Finance is in the 2014-15 budget. Mark observed that God has been gracious and if we don't move mission forward now, when will we ever be able to do it? He also spoke of his four ministry priorities for the coming year. These include the further development of CHET, securing church planting resources, intentional resourcing of NWC staff members, and mentoring young leaders for future roles within the Church.

NWC DIRECTOR REPORTS

CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY: Jon Kramka, Director of Congregational Vitality, highlighted his printed report, Annual Meeting Imprints issue article in pursuing health, and Congregational Vitality brochure. Vitality is a journey symbolized by a path-way. It is also the direct result of God, through His Holy Spirit, breathing fresh and new seasons of faithfulness or fruitfulness into the collective hearts of our congregations. He invited Pastor Keith Meyer of Hope Covenant Church in St. Cloud to share the context of his journey beginning with his Interim pastoral position in 2011. At their initial Pulse Survey, Hope Covenant assessed itself to be a critical moment church, but now are clearly moving toward becoming more healthy and missional. A commitment to prayer has been foundational. The Holy Spirit lifted them up and Keith stated that God is moving in new and fresh ways and Keith is humbled to stand alongside both the church and the broader work of the NWC and ECC.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY: Kara Stromberg, Director of Children and Family Ministry, stated a person is a person no matter how small, and that children and youth are not only the future of our church, but an important part of it today. She fields a variety of questions which she seeks to respond to in collaboration with the rest of the NWC staff. She meets monthly with the Children and Family Commission and is

seeking to develop ways to assist churches throughout the NWC. In February, there was a small gathering of children & family staff at Covenant Pines. Kara also highlighted the new GO:SERVE for families at Redeemer Covenant Church in Brooklyn Park, MN.

YOUTH MINISTRY: Ginny Olson, Director of Youth Ministry, stated that the NWC values youth and is very supportive of youth events. Two things highlighted were "people" (discussion about a youth worker, pastor who supported them) and "place" (camps, retreats, CHIC, AIL, MOVE, RECHARGE, MUUUUCE, VIVE, RECHARGE, EMERGE). She spoke about each event and asked for continued prayer support. She also encouraged financial giving so students are able to attend events sponsored and subsidized by the NWC.

PASTORAL CARE & DEVELOPMENT: Jeff Burton, Director of Pastoral Care & Development, spoke of engaging and empowering ministry leaders as pastors have many challenges. He quoted ECC President Gary Walter stating the angle of the challenges for pastors has gotten steeper, leading to doubt, fatigue, burnout, and loss of motivation for many in ministry. Jeff stated that the NWC currently has around 300 church ministry staff members, plus 65 retired pastors, 30 chaplains, 25 serving in various Covenant institutions, 20 serving in other ministry contexts, and 35 currently seeking call for a total of 475+ staff serviced by the NWC.

Judy Swanberg, Associate Director of Pastoral Care & Development, stated that serving in a Regional Conference with so many ministry personnel can be challenging. Together, she and Jeff are visiting ministerial districts, as well as meeting with small groups and individuals. They are also working to develop resources and partnerships with groups such as the Clergy Care Team, Spiritual Directors network, NWC Ministerial Association officers, Committee on Ministerial Standing, and the ECC Department of Ordered Ministry. They serve pastors through discernment and counseling referrals. Their work fits well with the mission of the NWC to engage, empower and equip healthy missional leaders.

CHURCH PLANTING: Mike Brown, Director of Church Planting, asked delegates, "When is the time to plant?" He responded, "It is now!" He reminded delegates that each church has been planted to tell the good news and were initially started with the help of existing churches.

INTRODUCTION OF CHURCHES SEEKING MEMBERSHIP IN THE ECC

Mike gave introduction of two new churches seeking membership in the ECC:

- MainStreet Covenant Church, Mound, MN. Mike introduced Jeremy Berg, Senior Pastor, along with congregation and parenting church families. Chairperson Peterson read motion to approve recommendation by the NWC to ECC to be received into membership. No second required. Motion carried.
- New City Covenant Church, Edina, MN. Mike introduced John March, Pastor, along with congregation and parenting church families. Chairperson Peterson read motion to approve recommendation by the NWC to ECC to be received into membership. No second required. Motion carried.

The plan is to start 50 new churches by 2025. We need to start planting more churches to keep up with population growth and to reach more and diverse people with the gospel message. The Holy Spirit is at work in a dramatic fashion. Church planting is always a three way partnership (conference, denomination and local). Over the past decade, nearly forty NWC congregations have been actively involved in partnerships with planting churches. It is God's purpose to use each one of our churches to help plant churches. Help us reach our goal by saying "yes" to a commitment to partner. Today the Lord is asking, "Who shall I send?" Planting churches is evidence of our undeniable love for the unchurched. Yesterday (May 1) our newest church fellowship group was birthed; Catalyst Covenant Church led by Pastor Jeff Olson. A video was shown in which Pastor Olson thanked the NWC for its support. Mike also stated his thanks for faithful support given for the Conference ministry and staff members.

HONORING A FAITHFUL HERITAGE

Bethany Covenant Church – Richfield, MN / Slides on Redwood Tree Analogy

Superintendent Mark Stromberg recognized Bethany Covenant Church in Richfield, MN as a Living Legacy Church, as God has used them and continues to use their resources to plant new churches, even as the church has officially closed within the past year. By closing, the church did a courageous thing. Mark also affirmed the work of Pastor Greg Ellis in leading the church through this difficult process. Mark reminded the delegates that churches in need of revitalization can seek to

"move on" toward health and vitality, "hang on" for all the wrong reasons, or decide that it is time to "pass on" for all the right reasons. At times, it is important to do the courageous thing and obey if we believe that closing is the faithful response to current realities. Superintendent Stromberg told the story of the redwood tree which does not drop its seed unless under duress or burnt. However, when it does it produces many trees. Bethany was faithful and, therefore, will continue to produce fruit, even in its passing. Out of the ashes...for there is no resurrection without death. Mark shared how at their final service pine cone ornaments were given out to those in attendance as a reminder of the seeds that continue to be planted in the form of new churches. Mark also gave one of these to Pastor Herb Frost. He closed in prayer for Pastor Greg Ellis and the former Bethany congregation.

PRESENTATION OF THE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE BUDGET

Bruce Peterson, NWC Treasurer, highlighted the 2014-2015 Budget as seen on page 23 in the Business Session Guide. Two separate budgets were presented; one pertaining to operations and the other for church planting. Together, these form the entire recommended budgeted amount for the next year. He also referenced the Balance Sheet shown on page 16 in the Business Session Guide.

PRESENTATION OF THE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE BALLOT

Lynn Johnson, NWC Secretary, presented the ballots as shown on pages 25 and 26 in the Business Session Guide, showing nominees for the NWC Executive Board (5-year terms) as David Brown and Paul Knight. Nominees for the Minnehaha Academy Board of Trustees (5 year terms) are Marc Belton, Steven Larson, and Bob Swanberg. Tom Verdoorn is on the ballot for a 3-year term. The ballot also included Lowell Peterson for Executive Board Chairperson (1-year term). Secretary Johnson asked for nominations from the floor for the NWC Executive Board, hearing none, the ballots were closed. The NWC Executive Board previously made motion to accept nominees as stated, it was seconded and motion carried. Secretary Johnson asked for nominations from the floor for the MA Board, hearing none, the ballots were closed. The NWC Executive Board previously made motion to accept nominees as stated, it was seconded and motion carried. The ballots were distributed to each delegate and the results will be presented the following day.

CHANGES TO CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF MINNEHAHA ACADEMY

Dr. Donna Harris, President, spoke via video as she was not able to attend in person. She highlighted the school’s excellence in education and events held this past year.

PRESENTATION OF MINNEHAHA ACADEMY BUDGET

Dan Bowles, Director of Finance and Business Operations, reviewed the budget as presented on page 14 in the Business Session Guide as approved by the MA Board of Trustees and the NWC Executive Board. See page 11 for Scanlon, Nietz & Murch report and pages 12 and 13 for Statement of Financial Position.

INVITATION BY COVENANT TRUST COMPANY

Kevin Lawson, Director of Financial Services Representatives, stated that CTC does estate planning and also finds ways to partner with churches by developing and creating ways to strengthen the ministry of each church. He invited all to enjoy ice cream after the Friday evening worship service sponsored by CTC.

NWC Chairperson Lowell Peterson gave blessing for supper to be held at 6:15 pm.

Adjourned until Saturday

“CELEBRATION OF MISSION” MINISTRY FAIR

Held from adjournment to dinner
A Guide Booklet was given to delegates highlighting ministries with table displays

EVENING WORSHIP

7:30 PM worship included a message by John Teter entitled, “To the Ends of the Earth”. Other elements included: Handing in of names of 72: Ask the Lord of the Harvest by all attending, introduction and dedication of 17 Ordinands and 2 new churches, offering for CHET-NWC with over \$3,200 collected from individuals and churches, music provided by the Rochester choir and worship leaders, recognition of Bethany Covenant Church as a Living Legacy Church, a special program highlighting the history of each church attending by use of flashlights for special effects. There was also a reception for Ordinands and new churches following the service sponsored by Covenant Trust Company.

MAY 3

Worship began at 8:30 AM on Saturday morning with Super-

intendent Stromberg sharing what we do on the front end determines the outcome.

Business Session Part 2 started at 9:00 AM.

BALLOT RESULTS

NWC Chairperson Lowell Peterson presented the ballot results stating David Brown and Paul Knight were elected to the NWC Executive Board and Marc Belton, Steven Larson, Bob Swanberg and Tom Verdoorn were elected to the MA Board of Trustees. Lowell Peterson was elected as NWC Chairperson for a one-year term. Chairperson Peterson gave a welcome to the new NWC and MA Board members.

APPROVAL OF NORTHWEST CONFERENCE BUDGET

Bruce Peterson, NWC Treasurer, asked for questions and comments. The motion previously being made by the NWC Executive Board regarding the 2014-2015 Budget was seconded and motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINNEHAHA ACADEMY BUDGET

Dan Bowles, MA Director of Finance, asked for questions and comments. Hearing none, the motion previously being forwarded by the MA Board of Trustees and made by the NWC Executive Board regarding the 2014-2015 Budget was seconded and motion carried.

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

At 10:00 AM John Teter presented a workshop to delegates entitled “Church Planting in a New World”. He ended his workshop with a question and answer time. He then closed in prayer.

INVITATION TO THE 131ST NORTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 16-18, 2015, SALEM COVENANT CHURCH, NEW BRIGHTON, MN, THEME “STRENGTHEN CHURCHES”

NWC Chairperson Lowell Peterson thanked the NWC staff, Rochester Covenant Church and the NWC Executive Board for their part in this meeting. He acknowledged and thanked outgoing NWC Executive Board members, Treasurer Bruce Peterson and Pastor Jeff Burton. He closed with asking staff to stand in the aisles and to be prayed over.

Following this time of prayer, a motion was made to adjourn, seconded, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Lynn Johnson, Secretary

CHURCHES TO BE DELETED FROM THE ROSTER OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Evangelical Covenant Church, Deer River, MN

Organized: 1935
Joined the NWC: 1936
Closed: March 2015

Maplewood Covenant Church, Maplewood, MN

Organized: 1945
Joined the NWC: 1946
Closed: February 2015

Cloverland Mission Covenant Church, Maple, WI

Organized: 1920
Joined the NWC: 1930
Withdrew: April 2014

LIVING LEGACY CHURCHES



Maplewood Covenant Church

Maplewood, MN / 1932-2015

Maplewood Covenant Church began as a Sunday School ministry by Marian Johnson in 1932, eventually forming a new church with 30 charter members in 1945. After purchasing land across the street from the school where the church began, the congregation moved into its new basement in 1947. The new sanctuary, with a bell from the old school, held its first worship service in 1952 and an education wing was then added in 1967.

A generation of faithful members shared the fellowship of church picnics, Bible studies, New Year's Eve Parties and spaghetti dinners; raising their children through confirmation classes and youth groups; supporting missionaries, Covenant Pines Bible Camp, and Minnehaha Academy; reaching out to the neighborhood through summer Bible School and other evangelistic endeavors.

The church was served by seven full-time pastors (Paul Bjorklund, Don Krause, Eldon Johnson, Don Ostrom, Dick Schriber, Roger Mollett and Don Ebb) and many interim ones.

In God's timing, Maplewood's final service was held on February 1, 2015. A weekend of work, worship and remembrance will be held May 9-10. A "Friends of Maplewood" Facebook page has been established as well as an email for memories: maplewood.cov.archives@gmail.com



Evangelical Covenant Church

Deer River, MN / 1935-2015

In the city of International Falls, lived Harvey Jackson, a godly man who was concerned about his unsaved relatives and friends in Deer River. He agonized in intercessory prayer to God for their salvation. In the fall of 1933, Rev. Alrick Olson of Little Falls came to Deer River and held meetings in various homes. A number of souls were won for the Lord. Harvey Jackson's prayers were answered. Among the first who were saved was Harvey's brother and his family. Later, other relatives and friends found Christ. Interest grew, souls were being saved and it became evident the seed sown with tears and much prayer was bringing forth fruit.

Before the church was organized, meetings and Sunday School were held in the Deer River Village Hall while the church was being built. It was finished in 1935. Much of the material and labor was donated. The Northwest Conference helped with a substantial loan. In the summer of 1935, the church was organized with thirty-four members. Dedication services were held December 1, 1935 and the church officially joined the Northwest Conference and the Evangelical Covenant Church in 1936.

In 1955, the church was extensively remodeled with new Sunday School classrooms, kitchen and restrooms. In the sanctuary, walls were covered with knotty cedar and ceilings and floors were tiled. New pews were installed and a new piano was added.

The church has continued to preach the good news of Jesus Christ up to this very day, but a decision was made by its members to become a Living Legacy church in order to provide resources for the development of new churches, as well as to help resource other NWC churches that remain viable in their communities. The final service was held on March 8th.

We thank God for both Maplewood and Deer River! We are grateful for the willingness of each to give of their lives so that others might live through Christ our Lord.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors
Minnehaha Academy
Minneapolis, Minnesota

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Minnehaha Academy (a non-profit organization) which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2014 and 2013, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Minnehaha Academy as of June 30, 2014 and 2013, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Scanlon, Murch & Associates, LLC

August 15, 2014

	ASSETS	
	2014	2013
Cash	\$ 2,084,712	\$ 2,429,045
Accounts receivable, net	540,905	622,981
Inventories	13,132	14,897
Prepaid expenses	126,259	118,059
Marketable securities	5,484,028	4,079,259
Promises to give	233,736	261,251
Cash - temporarily and permanently restricted	65,150	24,060
Marketable securities - temporarily and permanently restricted	7,392,750	5,160,759
Promises to give - temporarily and permanently restricted	2,831,262	1,850,362
Fair market value of interest rate contract	(1,091,669)	(1,180,957)
Property, plant and equipment		
Land	1,092,952	1,092,952
Construction in progress	324,559	43,507
Buildings and improvements	38,178,913	38,096,278
Furniture and equipment	3,353,325	3,266,270
	42,949,749	42,499,007
Less accumulated depreciation	(15,652,988)	(14,606,658)
Net property, plant and equipment	27,296,761	27,892,349
Total assets	\$ 44,977,026	\$ 41,272,065

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

	2014	2013
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 106,658	\$ 119,455
Contracts payable	-	43,160
Accrued salaries	443,092	456,995
Other accrued expenses	40,983	43,253
Prepaid tuition and programs	887,083	971,261
Accrued sick pay	316,837	289,980
Agency deposits	338,726	270,186
Capital leases payable	153,681	207,966
Long term debt	12,237,660	12,705,004
Total liabilities	14,524,720	15,107,260
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted:		
Undesignated	1,694,478	1,760,710
Designated - quasi endowment	1,788,097	1,080,101
Designated - bond debt service and financial aid	1,562,733	2,034,559
Net investment in plant fund	13,821,847	13,796,262
Total unrestricted	18,867,155	18,671,632
Temporarily restricted	4,106,154	1,435,405
Permanently restricted	7,478,997	6,057,768
Total net assets	30,452,306	26,164,805
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 44,977,026	\$ 41,272,065

MINNEHAHA ACADEMY FY2016 BUDGET

	FY2015 BUDGET	FY2015 PROJECTION	FY2015 BUDGET
Enrollment Basis	840	824	810
INCOME			
Net Tuition and Fees	\$ 10,584,000	\$ 9,906,000	\$ 9,994,000
Contribution Income - Unrestricted	\$ 1,352,000	\$ 1,352,000	\$ 1,225,000
Other Income	\$ 233,000	\$ 233,000	\$ 233,000
Draw - Anderson Clawson	\$ 110,000	\$ 126,000	\$ 126,000
Draw - Endowment Fund	\$ 374,000	\$ 374,000	\$ 435,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 12,653,000	\$ 11,991,000	\$ 12,013,000
EXPENSE			
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 9,369,000	\$ 8,955,000	\$ 9,030,000
Admin, Advancement, Marketing, Admissions	\$ 319,100	\$ 399,100	\$ 410,000
General Operations	\$ 474,100	\$ 474,100	\$ 479,100
Instructional and Curriculum	\$ 387,200	\$ 387,200	\$ 388,000
Athletics	\$ 175,400	\$ 175,400	\$ 175,400
Facilities Operations	\$ 567,400	\$ 567,400	\$ 567,400
Capital Exensitures	\$ 180,600	\$ 180,600	\$ 180,600
Student Transportation Expense	\$ 456,000	\$ 456,000	\$ 479,000
Bond Debt Service	\$ 1,357,200	\$ 1,357,000	\$ 955,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 13,286,000	\$ 12,951,800	\$ 12,664,500
Apply One-time Agency Transfer	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	
NET INCREASE (DECREASE)	\$ (613,000)	\$ (940,800)	\$ (651,500)

APPROVED:
Board of Education 3/10/2015
Northwest Conference Executive Board 3/16/2015

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT’S REVIEW REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Northwest Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church
Minneapolis, Minnesota

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial position of Northwest Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church (a non-profit organization) as of June 30, 2014 and 2013, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management’s financial data and making inquiries of The Conference management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. We believe the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our report.

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Carlson Highland & Co., LLP

Amery, Wisconsin
October 31, 2014

**NORTHWEST CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL
COVENANT CHURCH
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**
June 30, 2014 and 2013

ASSETS

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 262,946	\$ 241,855
Short-term investments	1,377,958	816,717
Endowment fund investments	355,627	182,739
Due from church plants	-	1,252
Prepaid expense	30,218	16,115
Prepaid rent	5,380	5,380
Total Current Assets	<u>2,032,129</u>	<u>1,264,058</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Long-term prepaid lease	29,589	34,969
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Property and equipment	248,289	237,471
Less accumulated depreciation	138,629	132,410
Net Property and Equipment	<u>109,660</u>	<u>105,061</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 2,171,378</u>	<u>\$ 1,404,088</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Short-term loan payable	\$ 288,939	\$ -
Accounts payable	6,192	5,739
Accrued and other liabilities	5,687	3,956
Due to church plants	35,202	-
Total Current Liabilities	<u>336,020</u>	<u>9,695</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		
Undesignated	1,460,837	1,202,174
Board designated	358,563	182,243
Total Unrestricted	<u>1,819,400</u>	<u>1,384,417</u>
Temporarily restricted	10,958	4,976
Permanently restricted	5,000	5,000
Total Net Assets	<u>1,835,358</u>	<u>1,394,393</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 2,171,378</u>	<u>\$ 1,404,088</u>

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL
COVENANT CHURCH
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
For the Years Ended June 30, 2014 and 2013

	2014			2013				
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT								
Member church contributions	\$ 868,817	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 868,817	\$ 836,035	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 836,035
Appropriations from National Covenant	486,843	-	-	486,843	106,795	-	-	106,795
Bequests and memorials	82,565	-	-	82,565	-	-	-	-
Interest income	34,098	-	-	34,098	22,305	3	-	22,308
Individual and organization contributions	85,697	-	-	85,697	124,566	-	-	124,566
Churches planting churches	-	-	-	-	133	-	-	133
Net realized and unrealized gains on investments	35,169	-	-	35,169	217	-	-	217
Miscellaneous income	17,119	-	-	17,119	1,600	-	-	1,600
Restricted contributions	-	10,907	-	10,907	-	12,877	-	12,877
Net assets released from restrictions	-	(4,925)	-	-	21,617	(21,617)	-	-
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	4,925	5,982	-	1,621,215	1,113,268	(8,737)	-	1,104,531
Total Revenue and Other Support	1,615,233							
EXPENSES								
Ministries								
Leadership development	11,290	-	-	11,290	891	-	-	891
Evangelism and church planting	271,831	-	-	271,831	223,511	-	-	223,511
Healthy churches	33,845	-	-	33,845	41,189	-	-	41,189
Total Ministries	316,966	-	-	316,966	265,591	-	-	265,591
Ministries (Non-budget)								
Second miler	4,925	-	-	4,925	8,159	-	-	8,159
CHIC fund	-	-	-	-	10,565	-	-	10,565
HELP fund	-	-	-	-	1,986	-	-	1,986
Total Ministries (Non-budget)	4,925	-	-	4,925	20,710	-	-	20,710
General and Administrative								
Personnel	660,392	-	-	660,392	546,922	-	-	546,922
Administrative	197,967	-	-	197,967	174,038	-	-	174,038
Total General and Administrative	858,359	-	-	858,359	720,960	-	-	720,960
Total Expenses	1,180,250	-	-	1,180,250	1,007,261	-	-	1,007,261
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	434,983	5,982	-	440,965	106,007	(8,737)	-	97,270
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,384,417	4,976	5,000	1,394,393	1,278,410	13,713	5,000	1,297,123
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,819,400	\$ 10,958	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,835,358	\$ 1,384,417	\$ 4,976	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,394,393

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL
COVENANT CHURCH
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
For the Years Ended June 30, 2014 and 2013

	2014	2013
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in net assets	\$ 440,965	\$ 97,270
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation	25,016	18,157
Decrease in long-term prepaid lease	5,380	5,380
Net realized and unrealized gains on investments	(35,169)	(217)
Net operating changes in		
Due to/from church plants	36,454	22,069
Prepaid expense	(14,103)	6,096
Accounts payable	453	1,619
Accrued and other liabilities	1,731	1,293
Net Cash Provided from Operating Activities	460,727	151,667
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of investments	(1,070,936)	(653,331)
Redemption of investments	660,915	637,346
Acquisition of property and equipment	(29,615)	(85,714)
Net Cash Used from Investing Activities	(439,636)	(101,699)
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	21,091	49,968
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	241,855	191,887
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 262,946	\$ 241,855

CHURCH GIVING

TO ASSIST CHURCHES IN COMPLETING 2015 GIVING AND SETTING BUDGETS FOR 2016

The Northwest Conference established a local church giving to the Conference goal of 5% at its 1988 annual meeting. Giving by church for 2014 and 2013 is listed below. 2014 giving numbers will not be available until later this year so the gift percentage is calculated using 2013 giving and income. An analysis of these figures will help you determine how your church is progressing toward the 5% goal.

* Gift percentage cannot be calculated because income was not reported

CHURCH	2014 Giving	2013 Giving	2013 Income	2013 Gift %	2014 Appropriations
IOWA					
Larchwood - Grandview	3,000	2,500	No report	*	
MINNESOTA					
Alexandria - Catalyst	8,215	8,844	235,948	3.7%	
Alexandria - Covenant	31,400	28,900	1,332,039	2.2%	
Anoka - Evangelical	3,082	4,000	359,045	1.1%	
Apple Valley - Restoration	920	4,120	185,494	2.2%	
Baudette - Evangelical	1,500	1,500	No report	*	
Bemidji - Evangelical	12,500	14,500	1,110,046	1.3%	
Big Falls - Evangelical	0	0	No report	0.0%	
Big Lake - Community	0	0	67,527	0.0%	
Biwabik - Evangelical	915	165	75,679	0.2%	
Blaine - Good Shepherd	3,725	3,417	197,083	1.7%	
Bloomington	8,945	8,726	545,908	1.6%	
Braham - Evangelical	534	1,212	119,055	1.0%	
Brooklyn Center - Brookdale	6,040	8,040	524,986	1.5%	
Brooklyn Center - Laotian	0	0	14,138	0.0%	15,174
Brooklyn Park - Blue Oaks	600	1,000	No report	*	
Brooklyn Park - LaBendicion	1,600	1,780	35,734	5.0%	3,600
Brooklyn Park - Redeemer	11,333	6,667	780,645	0.9%	
Buffalo - Evangelical	34,000	34,000	1,620,435	2.1%	
Burnsville - Faith	6,098	6,400	1,347,518	0.5%	
Cloquet - Big Lake	325	275	14,579	1.9%	
Cokato - Elim Mission	2,667	0	412,520	0.0%	
Cook - Evangelical	0	300	61,855	0.5%	
Crookston	7,500	7,750	142,003	5.5%	
Dassel - Evangelical	13,609	14,275	358,967	3.9%	
Dassel - Lake Jennie	1,030	1,000	81,401	1.2%	
Dawson	3,500	3,500	180,465	1.9%	
Deer River	0	0	No report	0.0%	
Duluth - First	9,927	10,989	366,327	3.0%	
Duluth - Lakeview	23,330	25,680	1,296,020	2.0%	

CHURCH	2014 Giving	2013 Giving	2013 Income	2013 Gift %	2014 Appropriations
Duluth - Salem	9,750	9,000	280,976	3.2%	
Edina - Covenant	6,333	2,500	213,172	1.2%	
Edina - New City	17,287	15,220	116,728	13.0%	
Evansville - Calvary	0	0	93,066	0.0%	
Excelsior	14,000	14,000	1,113,334	1.3%	
Fairmont - Evangelical	3,567	3,817	298,708	1.3%	
Foley - Maywood	4,862	2,775	145,453	1.9%	
Forest Lake - Crossroads	9,155	10,260	671,126	1.5%	
Fridley	6,571	5,460	159,016	3.4%	
Greenfield - Riverwood	1,500	1,500	371,426	0.4%	
Harris - Covenant	1,490	900	162,740	0.6%	
Hector - Palmyra	2,000	4,157	121,684	3.4%	
Hermantown - Gethsemane	2,887	3,501	106,108	3.3%	
Hopkins - Emmaus Road	0	0	164,209	0.0%	
Huntley - Community	2,000	1,500	113,541	1.3%	
Hutchinson - Oak Heights	13,933	13,634	357,425	3.8%	
International Falls - Evangelical	6,000	7,500	350,640	2.1%	
Kennedy - Evangelical Mission	1,650	1,500	191,000	0.8%	
Kensington	0	600	No report	*	
Lake Bronson - Community	500	500	54,730	0.9%	
Lancaster	1,000	1,000	164,091	0.6%	
Lilydale - Awaken	9,395	9,440	202,917	4.7%	
Lino Lakes - Rice Creek	4,828	4,756	155,653	3.1%	
Little Falls - Grace	6,129	5,415	403,441	1.3%	
Lowry - Ben Wade	0	0	66,801	0.0%	
Mahtowa	3,600	3,800	195,399	1.9%	
Maple Grove	15,000	15,000	1,262,866	1.2%	
Maplewood	293	312	No report	*	
Minneapolis - Abbey Way	6,511	6,220	119,174	5.2%	
Minneapolis - Bethlehem	7,875	8,125	514,978	1.6%	
Minneapolis - City of Lakes	729	Started in 2013			56,016
Minneapolis - Community	2,500	2,500	200,200	1.2%	
Minneapolis - Crosstown	9,000	12,000	474,244	2.5%	
Minneapolis - First	4,988	4,587	789,096	0.6%	
Minneapolis - New		Started in 2014			15,729
Minneapolis - Sanctuary	31,008	46,265	1,493,933	3.1%	
Minneapolis - True Light	0	400	126,414	0.3%	
Minneapolis - Verbo	1,860	2,068	32,767	6.3%	3,804
Monticello	4,616	4,348	152,943	2.8%	
Moose Lake - Evangelical	6,375	11,688	575,581	2.0%	
Mound - Fairview	0	0	69,420	0.0%	

	2014				
CHURCH	2014 Giving	2013 Giving	2013 Income	2013 Gift %	Appropriations
Mound - Mainstreet	6,000	1,125	143,478	0.8%	
New Brighton - Salem	33,954	31,550	1,600,268	2.0%	
New London - Evangelical	11,766	10,401	395,442	2.6%	
New Richland - Vista	6,000	6,000	192,972	3.1%	
North Mankato - Crossview	25,800	25,800	No report	*	
Northome - Calvary	900	900	No report	*	
Ogilvie - Lewis Lake	1,000	1,000	254,165	0.4%	
Owatonna - Christ Community	349	428	110,002	0.4%	
Pennock - Salem Mission	5,500	5,600	275,702	2.0%	
Plymouth	14,000	11,000	2,400,798	0.5%	
Princeton - Karmel Evangelical	2,192	1,500	231,350	0.6%	
Red Wing - First	16,864	17,572	593,871	3.0%	
Richfield - Bethany		3,043	207,571	1.5%	
Rochester - Covenant	10,320	8,160	748,671	1.1%	
Rochester - NewDay	3,996	2,667	258,713	1.0%	
Rochester - Salem Road	6,800	6,800	322,124	2.1%	
Rogers - Nueva Vida	24	94	2,940	3.2%	3,600
Roseau - Evangelical	4,522	4,390	288,732	1.5%	
Roseville	19,482	26,412	1,086,395	2.4%	
Rush City - Evangelical	0	0	No report	0.0%	
Saginaw - New Life	4,000	4,250	157,998	2.7%	
Shoreview - Emmanuel	8,475	7,150	509,214	1.4%	
South Haven - Lake Union	1,000	1,000	128,540	0.8%	
St Cloud - Hope	6,000	6,000	347,814	1.7%	
St Louis Park - Genesis	2,155	Started in 2014			38,000
St Paul - Catalyst		Started in 2014			42,400
St Paul - Compass	150	200	88,942	0.2%	
St Paul - First	3,265	3,692	No report	*	
St Paul - Gallery	0	100	209,032	0.1%	
St Paul - Grace	2,377	Started in 2013			36,012
St Paul - Roots	1,272	Started in 2013			46,660
Staples - Thomastown	1,000	1,250	No report	*	
Stillwater - Bethany	3,000	0	107,130	0.0%	
Thief River Falls - Evangelical	1,200	1,200	114,719	1.0%	
Trimont - Evangelical	5,000	5,000	275,081	1.8%	
Upsala - Community	5,500	5,500	411,287	1.3%	
Viking	30	0	78,191	0.0%	
Virginia - First	3,181	3,527	83,498	4.2%	
Warren - Evangelical	1,400	1,300	169,890	0.8%	
Waseca - Real Life	6,796	5,980	134,275	4.5%	
Waverly - Oster First	500	500	No report	*	

	2014				
CHURCH	2014 Giving	2013 Giving	2013 Income	2013 Gift %	Appropriations
Wheaton - Bethlehem	1,868	1,407	163,636	0.9%	
Willmar - First	15,200	15,200	943,663	1.6%	
Winthrop - Evangelical	2,625	5,000	153,067	3.3%	
Woodbury - Crossroads	20,000	20,000	3,475,856	0.6%	
Worthington - First	4,848	4,848	311,832	1.6%	
Wyoming - Linwood	4,100	5,320	305,469	1.7%	
NORTH DAKOTA					
Drayton - Teien	500	0	No report	0.0%	
Fargo - Knollbrook	8,503	9,425	202,632	4.7%	
Grand Forks - Hope Evangelical	67,911	63,040	1,332,103	4.7%	
SOUTH DAKOTA					
Beresford - Komstad	1,395	1,738	No report	*	
Brandon - Living Springs	11,669	8,555	308,141	2.8%	30,000
Brandon - Swedona	480	480	29,933	1.6%	
LaBolt - Evangelical	700	700	141,993	0.5%	
Lake Norden - Evangelical	400	0	No report	0.0%	
Sioux Falls - Prairie Hills	14,946	13,707	673,449	2.0%	
Sioux Falls - South Sudan	0	0	No report	0.0%	
Stockholm - Elim Evangelical	150	300	14,671	2.0%	
WISCONSIN					
Ashland - First	900	750	62,875	1.2%	
Chetek - Prairie Lake	1,500	1,500	83,553	1.8%	
Clear Lake - United	4,968	4,008	234,923	1.7%	
Eau Claire - Renew		Started in 2014			28,000
Ellsworth - Bethel	1,680	1,680	173,023	1.0%	
Ellsworth - Zion	8,954	8,369	207,602	4.0%	
Grantsburg - Calvary	1,750	1,750	92,348	1.9%	
Menomonie - Cedarbrook	12,204	10,376	954,237	1.1%	
Mondovi - Prince of Peace	450	450	30,220	1.5%	
New Richmond - Prairieview	3,620	3,543	144,590	2.5%	
Poplar - Mission	19,800	18,871	676,501	2.8%	
River Falls - First	16,667	15,320	863,884	1.8%	
Siren	500	400	95,690	0.4%	
Stockholm - Calvary	800	600	31,636	1.9%	
Stockholm - Lund Mission	4,000	4,000	121,119	3.3%	
Superior - First	1,200	1,200	114,081	1.0%	
	875,545	869,416	47,421,949	1.8%	318,995

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE / FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

	Approved 2014/15	Projected 2014/15	Proposed 15/16 Budget
RESOURCES			
Church Contributions	850,000	860,000	875,000
Individuals & Organizations	75,000	75,000	75,000
Honoraria/Consultant Income	65,275	40,000	66,000
CHET Income	2,650	10,000	7,500
Interest/Investment Income	32,017	30,425	55,068
TOTAL RESOURCES	1,024,942	1,015,425	1,078,568
OPPORTUNITIES			
Congregational Vitality			
Revitalization and Training	11,000	5,000	12,000
Compassion, Mercy & Justice	5,000	2,500	4,000
Commissions/Task Forces	5,500	1,000	2,000
Pastoral Care and Support	13,000	10,000	10,500
CHET	10,000	16,000	10,000
Children, Youth and Family			
Youth	17,050	16,000	18,500
Children and Family	7,750	7,000	7,000
Supporting Expenses			
Personnel - Salary	624,388	622,625	666,158
Personnel - Benefits	181,953	168,960	194,934
Staff Travel	45,000	45,000	50,000
Boards/Commissions/Meetings	26,550	25,000	28,000
Office	37,345	40,000	36,758
IT/Communications	30,006	42,500	25,943
Insurance	7,000	6,900	7,000
Professional Services/Consultants	3,400	6,940	5,775
TOTAL OPPORTUNITIES	1,024,942	1,015,425	1,078,568

CHURCH PLANTING BUDGET

Resources			
Contributions	75,000	0	75,000
Appropriations	164,730	191,423	181,835
Church Planting Designated Funds	141,830	222,196	161,610
TOTAL RESOURCES	381,560	413,619	418,445
Opportunities			
New Church Appropriations	355,060	384,869	388,070
Assessment and Training	17,750	20,000	18,125
New Church Support	8,750	8,750	12,250
TOTAL OPPORTUNITIES	381,560	413,619	418,445

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE CASH RESERVES

(designated accounts as of December 31, 2014)

	Held at National Covenant Properties	Held at Covenant Trust Company	Total
<i>Restricted for:</i>			
Congregational Vitality	32,356.91	78,453.85	110,810.76
Church Planting	328,940.79	196,608.37	525,549.16
Children, Youth & Family	32,356.91	79,063.55	111,420.46
Unrestricted/Discretionary		707,877.32	707,877.32
Total	393,654.61	1,062,003.09	1,455,657.70

MINNEHAHA ACADEMY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (5 YEAR TERM)



Chris Gehrz is professor of history and chairperson of the History Department at Bethel University in St. Paul, MN. He holds a PhD in history from Yale University and is the author or editor of multiple books and articles, including “The Pietist Vision of Christian Higher Education: Forming Whole and Holy Persons” (IVP Academic, 2015). He also blogs regularly about Christianity, history and education at The Pietist Schoolman. Chris grew up in Evangelical Covenant churches in the Twin Cities and has been a member of Salem Covenant Church (New Brighton, MN) since 2003, serving as its chairperson from 2009 to 2015. Chris lives in Roseville with his wife, Katie, and their five-year-old twins.



Greg Karpenko is a shareholder at the Minneapolis law firm of Fredrikson & Bryon, P.A. Greg’s law practice focuses on commercial and health litigation. Greg has served as Fredrikson’s Recruiting & Hiring Chair for many years, and has been active in the firm’s associate development and diversity initiatives. Greg is a graduate of Valparaiso University and the University of Minnesota Law School. Greg and his wife, Karen, are members of Bethlehem Covenant Church. Greg and Karen have two boys, Andrew and Jonathan, who are in seventh and fourth grade at Minnehaha Academy.



Jane Matheson attends Linwood Covenant Church where she is the ministry team leader for Christian Formation and leader of a women’s Bible study. She has spent the majority of her professional career as a science teacher in the Anoka-Hennepin School district. She is presently the curriculum integrator for Jackson Middle School which is a specialty school for math and science that serves 2,000 6th-8th graders. She began her teaching career at Minnehaha Academy in 1982 and taught life science and physical science for 3 years. She has been married to her husband, Sheldon, for almost 30 years and they have two adult daughters. Jane has just completed a 5-year term on the MA board of trustees and is being nominated once again to serve a second term.

The mission of the Northwest Conference can be fulfilled, in large part, due to the support of its constituent churches and their members. This support comes in a variety of ways, one being the willingness of individuals to serve in positions of leadership on various boards, committees, commissions and task forces.

Therefore, Northwest Conference leadership is continually seeking names of qualified candidates to serve in this way. If you, or someone you know, would be open to being considered for a role in broader church leadership through the work of the NWC, please contact NWC Superintendent Mark Stromberg by phone at 612-721-4893, or by email at mark@northwestconference.org.

Thank you in advance for your help!



northwest conference
developing leaders. thriving churches.

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE BOARD (5 YEAR TERM)



Sheila Anonsen is a member of Knollbrook Covenant Church in Fargo, ND, where she is also the secretary and church treasurer. Along with husband, Steve, she has been at Knollbrook for over 25 years. The Anonsens have 2 grown daughters and a two-year-old grandson. Sheila has been a follower of Jesus Christ for 33 years. Beyond her ministry at the church, she feels called to intercessory prayer, though she really likes numbers, too.



Dennis Edwards has been the senior pastor of The Sanctuary Covenant Church in Minneapolis, MN, since May 2012. Prior to his call to the church, he was the founding pastor of Peace Fellowship Church in Washington, D.C. Dennis has been married to his wife, Susan, for 32 years and they are the parents of four adult children. Dennis also holds a PhD in Biblical Studies and for several years has taught as an adjunct professor at various institutions.

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRPERSON (1 YEAR TERM)



Jim Volling grew up in Le Sueur, MN. He is a graduate of The Taft School in Connecticut, Harvard University, and George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C., where he was Executive Editor of the Law Review. After law school, Jim had the opportunity to serve as a law clerk to Chief Justice Warren E. Burger of the United States Supreme Court. He is currently a partner at Faegre Baker Daniels LLP; one of the 100 largest law firms in the United States.

Jim became a member of the Minnehaha Academy Board of Trustees in 2002, and then assumed the role of Chair in 2005. He also served as Chair of the Search Committee in 2009 that recommended Dr. Donna Harris to be Head of School. He completed his term as Chair of the Board of Trustees in 2012, and delivered the commencement address for the class that same year. Jim has also been Chair of the Boards of Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights and of Charis of Minnesota, Inc., a prison ministry, and has been Vice Chair of the Board of Covenant Pines Bible Camp.

He has also been active in leadership at Excelsior Covenant Church, serving twice as Church Chair and twice as Building Committee Chair for two significant building projects at the church.

Jim and his wife Connie have been married for almost 40 years. Connie, a graduate of North Park College, is a Registered Nurse and serves as Parish Nurse at Excelsior Covenant Church. They have three grown sons, as well as two granddaughters, who are the delight of their grandparents.

a region of the evangelical covenant church



3106 47th Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55406

p: 612.721.4893
f: 612.721.4895

800.756.6692
(within the conference)

northwestconference.org
info@northwestconference.org