

BUSINESS SESSION GUIDE & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS



FORWARD IN HOPE MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

The Northwest Conference in its 134th Annual Meeting // April 26-28, 2018

Friday, April 27

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 James Volling, NWC Chair

Host Greeting from Buffalo Grove Covenant Church Geoff Bohleen, Executive Pastor

Bearing Witness

Approval of Minutes by NWC Executive Board from 2017 Annual Meeting

Approval of Agenda for 2018 Annual Meeting

NWC Superintendent Report Mark R. Stromberg, Superintendent

Ministry Director Panel: The Priority of Children, Youth & Family Ministry

Ginny Olson, Director of Youth Ministry

Jon Kramka, Director of Congregational Vitality

Mike Brown, Director of Church Planting

Jeff Burton, Director of Pastoral Care & Development

Kara Stromberg, Director of Children & Family Ministry

Bearing Witness

Living Legacy Church First Covenant Church, Ashland, WI

Church Withdrawing from the ECC Elim Evangelical Covenant Church, Stockholm, SD

Bearing Witness

New Church Fellowship Groups

Crossroads Covenant Church—Pastor Tim Stanley, Hastings, MN

Eden Covenant Church—Pastor Trin Peterson, Coon Rapids, MN

Epiphany Covenant Church—Pastor Kevin Farmer, Minneapolis, MN

Genesis East Covenant Church—Pastor Aaron Freer, White Bear Lake, MN

New Evangelical Covenant Church—Pastor Erico Ortega, Fridley, MN

New Churches to be received at the 2018 ECC Annual Meeting

Catalyst Covenant Church—Pastor Jeff Olson, St. Paul, MN

City of Lakes Covenant Church—Pastor Dave Berge, Minneapolis, MN

Genesis Covenant Church—Pastor Steve Wiens, St. Louis Park, MN

Grace Outreach Covenant Church—Pastor Paul Robinson, Coon Rapids, MN

New Evangelical Covenant Church—Pastor Mauricio Dell'Arciprete, Minneapolis, MN

Renew Covenant Church—Pastor Jamie Staples, Eau Claire, WI

Presentation of the Northwest Conference Budget David Brown, NWC Treasurer

Sandy Norris, Director of Finance

Presentation of the Northwest Conference Ballot Sheila Anonsen, NWC Secretary

Bearing Witness

The Mission & Ministry of Minnehaha Academy

Presentation of Minnehaha Academy Budget

Donna Harris, President
Dan Bowles, Director of Finance
& Business Operations

Bearing Witness
Camping Ministry in the NWC

Bluewater Covenant Bible Camp—Chadwick Persons
Covenant Park Bible Camp—Kaela Strom
Covenant Pines Ministries—Dave Cairns
Lake Beauty Ministries—Brian Alnes

5:30 p.m.	Dinner (Reservations Required)
6:45 p.m.	Worship Celebration
	"Sharing Faith on the Road of Life" - Message by
	Tiger McLuen - Former President of Youth Leadership
	Introduction and Dedication of Ordinands
	Living Legacy Church
	Generations Choir
	Minnehaha Academy Madrigals
	New Church Fellowship Groups & Churches
	Special Offering for CHIC
	BLESS Intentional Evangelism

Dessert Reception for Ordinands, New Fellowship Groups & Churches Following Service

Saturday, April 28

8:15 a.m. Worship

Business Session #2

Greetings & Update from the Evangelical Covenant Church Ed Gilbreath

Executive Director of Communication

National Covenant Properties Rollie Persson, Vice President of Real Estate Services

Covenant Trust Company Steve Allison, Financial Services Representative

Bearing Witness

Covenant Enabling Residences Dana Norton, Executive Director, CER-MN

Covenant Village of Golden Valley Jim Angell, Executive Director

CHET NWC Greg Ellis, Coordinator

NWC Women Ministries Rachel Kleinschmidt, Consultant
NWC Ministerial Association Darren Olson, Chair

Bearing Witness

Approval of Northwest Conference Budget Approval of Minnehaha Academy Budget

Ballot Results

Invitation to the 135th Northwest Conference Annual Meeting—Pastor Paul Knight

April 25-27, 2019 at Hope Covenant Church, Grand Forks, ND

Theme: "Sharing our Hope: Reclaiming Evangelism"

10:00 a.m. Elective Workshops

12:00 noon Lunch (Reservations Required)

March 2018

TO: Annual Meeting of the Northwest Conference

Rev. Mark Stromberg, Superintendent Mr. Jim Volling, Conference Chair

Grace and peace to you as you gather in the bond of Christ with other churches of the Northwest Conference.

Each and every one of our 11 regional conferences is vital to our overall Covenant life and mission, as is your own congregation. Indeed, we talk about being 3StrandStrong: Congregation, Conference, Covenant. Our one Covenant is comprised of 11 regions with 875 congregations, with all parties partnering to go deeper in Christ and further in mission.

As I prepare to retire this upcoming summer, I want to thank the Northwest Conference and your church for your commitment to our three-strand partnership.

We base our collective efforts around five focused mission priorities. Together, we start and strengthen churches; make and deepen disciples; develop leaders; love mercy and do justice; and serve globally. Collectively, we are a growing, multi-generational, multi-ethnic mosaic of churches impacting more lives in more ways than at any point in our 133-year history.

Yet we know the Kingdom of God moves forward only one way: through countless faithful acts carried out by countless faithful people. And therein lies my greatest appreciation for who we are, a fellowship less intent on calling attention to itself than it is to point people to Christ. Yes, maybe we are a small obscure denomination that no one has ever heard of, but to the people we serve, we are the hands and feet of Jesus bringing and being the good news of new life and renewed hope.

And let me say a special word of appreciation for your superintendent, Rev. Mark Stromberg. All our leaders, including Mark, are people of great character, competence, and Christ-honoring conviction. Pray for Mark regularly, as I hope you would for your conference and for the Covenant.

In addition to this gathering, please make it a priority for your church to be represented at the Covenant Annual Meeting, June 21-23, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This will be an especially consequential year as we elect a new ECC president, as well as a new president for North Park University and an executive minister for our Develop Leaders priority.

Every position I have held in my 42 years of Covenant service has been a distinct honor. Thank you for your support and partnership, and may God continue to lead us into a faithful and fruitful future.

In It Together,

Gary B. Walter

Lung & Walter

133rd ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH // APRIL 28-29, 2017 // MAPLE GROVE COVENANT CHURCH, MAPLE GROVE, MN // "DEVELOP LEADERS"

Northwest Conference (NWC) Chairperson James Volling called the meeting to order at 2:36 pm. Jim introduced this year's theme as Develop Leaders. He said that he asks himself what a Christian leader is like—not defined by culture, but by our leader, Jesus Christ. Leaders exemplify sacrifice; they offer Biblical Leadership. Chairperson Volling then led in prayer.

MINUTES OF THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING AT DULUTH, MN

It was noted by Chairperson Volling that the Minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting at Lakeview Covenant, in Duluth, MN were approved by the NWC Executive Board, on behalf of the delegates. Further, Chairperson Volling stated the following Motion: That the Executive Board of the Northwest Conference, on behalf of the delegates to the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Northwest Conference, be authorized to approve the Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting at the next formal meeting of the NWC Executive Board. A second was made and motion approved.

AGENDA FOR 2017 MEETING APPROVED

Chairperson Volling asked for a motion to approve the Agenda as noted in the Business Guide. Motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded. Motion carried.

HOST GREETING FROM MAPLE GROVE COVENANT CHURCH

Pastor Craig Case, Lead Pastor, welcomed everyone and stated that that Maple Grove Covenant Church (MGCC) celebrated 30 years this year. Pastor Craig shared about their crucial time at MGCC and the impact that God had on his own call and on the call of their community as a whole. Pastor Craig stated that MGCC wants people to walk away from the time at their church feeling God's powerful love.

GREETINGS AND UPDATE FROM THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Mark Seversen, Director of Missional Congregations, ECC,

greeted the delegates with the news that he's heard there are 6 inches of snow coming! Mark shared that he is from the Twin Cities area and that it's nice to be home. He greeted everyone from the ECC and from the staff that works in Chicago. His position as Director of Missional Congregations is under the Serve Globally umbrella of the ECC. Mark shared two examples of resources that he is working on for the ECC. One is a leadership workshop for people that feel called to mission at their churches. The second is to help churches partner with MERGE Ministries to decide how they can serve, where they can serve, and most importantly, serve in a way that doesn't "break" the community they want to serve. Partnering with MERGE allows churches to do a lot with the most impact in that community by working with existing organizations. Mark also shared that it's important to give missional witness here on earth because that's one thing we won't get to do in heaven.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mark R. Stromberg, Superintendent, welcomed everyone and expressed his gratefulness to be able to serve the Northwest Conference. He also thanked the delegates and pastors for taking the time to be there. Mark mentioned the board and their hard work and prayerfulness and also pointed out the amazing conference staff and that the delegates can read more about them in the materials provided. He highlighted that we are focusing this year on developing missional leaders.

Mark gave a special thanks to Jan Bros and Marc Peterson for serving five years on the NWC Executive Board and for Troy Lucht and Polly Wright on the Minnehaha Academy (MA) board who are finishing their terms. He expressed his thankfulness for Dr. Donna Harris as president of MA. He thanked the Bible camps and their leaders and the Covenant Enabling Residences staff. Mark asked the delegates to prayerfully keep in mind people that the delegates know in their own congregations who are godly leaders who would fit well with the NWC board or the MA board.

Mark shared that we as Christians are called to do horizontal work within the churches, but must keep our eyes on the vertical as we serve God. It's not our job to make

Christianity more palatable, even while we do not want to be obstructionist. However, it is our mission to proclaim the entirety of the Gospel message, not just one part. People are still called to take up their crosses and follow Jesus. Mark shared a quote from C.S. Lewis which emphasized the essential nature of the resurrection in our faith; not simply doing "good things." He summed up by stating that we need to keep the main thing, the main thing. He encouraged our churches to continue to preach the Gospel and the hope of heaven. Mark finished by pointing out the 2nd Miler program in the folder to look at and prayerfully consider joining.

NWC MINISTRY DIRECTOR REPORTS

CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY: Jon Kramka, Director of Congregational Vitality, reminded the delegates that he is here to help add growth and vitality to their churches. He noted his report in the Ministry Guide. Jon introduced Todd Spieker, pastor from Bethel Covenant Church outside of Ellsworth. WI. Todd spoke briefly of his church and where they are. Jon asked Todd to speak to where Congregational Vitality has been helpful in his role at Bethel. Todd has walked alongside Jon to learn how to listen to his congregation and move forward with intention and the blessing of his people. He's connected with other pastors and leaders so that he has resources to go to when he needs them. Jon asked Todd a question regarding the leadership in his congregation. Todd said that through this process the leadership at Bethel has gone from anxious leadership to leadership that asks where God is working in their individual lives as well as their church life and then acting on that. He shared some examples about how their congregation has now sponsored a church plant, a youth pastor who is shared with a sister church and a young man who as a part of confirmation was invited to attend a council meeting for a better understanding of what it means to be a leader in a church.

CHURCH PLANTING: Mike Brown, Director of Church Planting, started by announcing the two Living Legacy Churches and our gratefulness for their legacy over the years and the great sacrifice they made in deciding to close.

Jim Volling stated that the NWC Executive Board has acknowledged receipt of the decision of each to close. Therefore, we are acknowledging the closure of these two churches to be included in the official Minutes of the NWC

2017 Annual Meeting. Jan Bros lifted up prayer for the two churches:

LIVING LEGACY CHURCHES

Emmaus Road Covenant Church - Hopkins, MN

Good Shepherd Covenant Church - Blaine, MN

Mike reminded everyone that his full report is in the Ministry Report Book. He then announced the new Fellowship Group, Lighthouse Covenant Church and its pastor, Dee McIntosh, and the sponsor churches, Grace Outreach Covenant, Christ Presbyterian Church and Genesis Covenant.

He then announced the three churches that have made it through the church planting assessment process and are signing their Church Planting Covenant Agreements during the meeting:

- Awaken Covenant Community, Pastor Dan Lukas St.
 Paul MN
- Midcurrent Covenant Church, Pastor Sten Carlson -Hudson, WI
- Lakeside Covenant Church, Pastor Steve Anderson -Chanhassen, MN

Eric Sparmann (Excelsior Covenant) prayed for these churches. Mike reminded the delegates that this goal of planting 50 churches by 2025 needs funding and encouraged everyone to prayerfully consider investing in this area of ministry, both individually and as churches.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY: Kara Stromberg, Director of Children & Family Ministry, stated that a little over one third of our churches have someone who is serving in a children's ministry position. Many are part time and have other jobs. We have three ordained pastors serving in the NWC in children's ministry. So that means that there are about 90 churches in the conference that have Children's Ministries that are 100% volunteer led. Kara shared that children's ministry is changing as she hears stories about creative outreach of churches to the children in their community, about kids whose behavior gets them kicked out of church yet they keep coming, and kids who come because they know that they will be fed and loved. Ministry is about more than good intentions and the leaders today have so much responsibility and so many roles beyond being Sunday School teachers. So the NWC goal is to equip these leaders for these roles, to support them against burnout and to be

a place to train and invest in these leaders in children's and family ministry.

YOUTH MINISTRY: Ginny Olson, Director of Youth Ministry, started by sharing about Generation Z. Gen Z is 70 million strong—a quarter of the population of the U.S. She shared that it is so important to equip our youth leaders to minister to this generation so that they are a generation who grows in God. Ginny said that our NWC youth leaders are both young and old—even retiring from youth ministry! Tim Ciccone, the ECC Director of Youth Ministry, pours into our youth leaders as well, for which she is so grateful. She highlighted the Adventures in Leadership (AIL) program where leaders are formed. CHIC—every three years—is an amazing ECC event for teenagers to learn more about growing in their faith. Ginny reiterated that it is VITAL that we reach out to youth and their families.

PASTORAL CARE & DEVELOPMENT: Jeff Burton. Director of Pastoral Care and Development, shared three words competency, caring and constancy. Competency is vital for a pastor because of the roles that pastors play today. How does a pastor remain competent in all of these areas, and if they are, maintain a healthy ego? Caring is important because they need healthy rhythms and rest. Constancy is critical as well. A Barna research report tells the realty of pastors today. There are more active, serving pastors 60+ then there are 40 and under. The average length of pastoral stays are longer, because it is the baby boomers who stay in place as they reach retirement. Another challenge relates to culture. In a poll, 60% of adults think that evangelism is religious extremism. Caring for these pastors who want to stay away from being branded as religious extremists means encouraging them to not turn away from biblical principles to fit cultural norms. Jeff shared examples from the Bible of how the early disciples were also considered religious extremists. 1 Thessalonians 2:6-10 has been shared twice, last night and now today again—a pay attention verse—and speaks to the boldness of Christ, Finally, he shared that it is a privilege to serve your pastors and being your hands and feet in doing that.

NWC MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

Pastor Darren Olson, Chair of the NWC Ministerial Association, introduced himself as the chair of the NWC Ministerial Association. Darren shared a story about when he was a youth pastor and at a Promise Keepers Conference when

pastors stood, and the crowd chanted, "We love you." So he asked the NWC staff to stand to receive our love

Care and character (or conduct) are the words that Darren wanted to share today. He knows that being a pastor is difficult and asked pastors to stand if they have served for more than 25 years. He spoke to some of the worries and concerns of pastors in order to encourage the delegates to love their pastors, send them to retreats, allow them time at Midwinter, arrange a Sabbatical, see a Spiritual Director, and to sit at the feet of Jesus. This is one side of the Ministerial Association. The other side is character/conduct. The association is walking by pastors through misconduct: and through other issues that brings a pastor in front of the Ministerial Association. They recently made a motion to create a task force to re-examine the present structure of the Ministerial Association in this changing culture and climate among pastors. He encouraged the delegates and congregations to pray for their pastors, to remember that they aren't perfect, their kids aren't perfect, and to give them grace.

CHET NWC COORDINATOR

Greg Ellis, CHET NWC Coordinator, greeted us-Hola (hello)—and taught us Spanish—God Bless you, or Dios le bendiga. He shared that this is a hard time to be an immigrant, and so many of the Hispanic people here in the U.S. only attend work and church and are home the rest of the time because they are fearful. Enrollment this year in CHET-NWC is half of what it normally is partly because of this. When our conference started, it was in Swedish because people needed to hear the Good News in their own language. And now we have CHET. We teach in Spanish to Spanish speakers, so that they can hear the Good News and share the Good News in their language. When they go through the pre-ministerial program, they are ready to continue on the ministry track through CHET in Los Angeles. Currently we are evaluating CHET's role in the NWC. If you have guestions about how to partner with CHET, or want to reach out to Spanish speakers in your community, see Greg.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF WOMEN IN PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

Jan Bros, Pastor of Abbey Way, introduced herself and stated that, like the woman in the video, she is a "Deborah." For 40 years the ECC has ordained and invited women to be pastors in many roles. She asked, what will the next 40

years look like for women in ministry? Use your imagination—think about your congregation—young women and girls—whom God is choosing to lead in the coming days. What clergywoman is God calling to be the first female superintendent of the NWC, or the first president of the ECC? There are steps and call that need to come along the way. Jan's prayer is that God will open our eyes to see, ears to hear and voices to speak so that all may live in to the beauty and majesty of service for God's kingdom for both men and women.

"3-STRAND STRONG" CHURCH GIVING

Mark Stromberg, NWC Superintendent, and Mark Seversen. ECC Director of Missional Congregations, presented the concept of 3-Strand Strong Church Giving—ECC, NWC, and local church—to work together to do missions, church planting, youth and children's ministry, BLESS, Covenant Bible Experience, and missionaries around the world. Mark Seversen encouraged the delegates to go back to their congregations to share the good things the ECC and NWC are doing with the monies that they invest in the NWC and ECC. Mark Stromberg thanked the churches who give even more than the 6.5% to ECC and 3.5% to NWC. For those who haven't met that, please go back and encourage your church to add a percentage this year, working up to the 3.5% / 6.5%. As a church, model the very things that you are asking of your members—faithful and sacrificial giving. Jim Volling added his support to this 3-Strand Strong church giving initiative.

PRESENTATION OF THE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE BUDGET

David Brown, NWC Treasurer and Sandy Norris, Director of Finance. Sandy shared that the next Finance connection is June 1st. She introduced David Brown, who is the treasurer for the conference. He thanked the delegates for the giving that their churches contribute. Finance reports begin on page 15 in the Business Guide. He asked the delegates to review the reports and come with questions on Saturday morning. He shared that the audit was good with no material modifications needed. Sandy started with the Statement of Financial Position on page 16. She highlighted the member church contributions on page 17 in the Statement of Activities. These contributions were above the budgeted amount. Thank you again to churches for giving. The closed church income was primarily from the Maplewood Covenant property. Sandy reviewed Released from Restriction

funds. She is suggesting a guideline of not spending more than 40%. Sandy highlighted the Proposed Budget on page 23 of the Business Session Guide.

PRESENTATION OF THE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE BALLOT

Rebecca Nguyen, 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 Nichelle Kaul (Salem Covenant Church, New Brighton, MN) and Jeff Laabs (Mission Covenant, Poplar, WI) as well as nominee for NWC Executive Board Chairperson, James Volling (Excelsior Covenant, Excelsior, MN) for a one year term. Nominees for the Minnehaha Academy Board of Trustees – Tim Carlson (Crossroads Covenant, Eagan Campus, Eagan, MN), Vanda Niemi (Bethlehem Covenant Church, Minneapolis, MN) and David Sylvester (Bethlehem Covenant Church, Minneapolis, MN).

The NWC Executive Board previously made motion to accept nominees as presented. It was seconded and the motion carried. Jim Volling asked if there are any nominations from the floor. Jim asked for a motion to close the ballot. The motion was made and seconded. The motion carried. The ballots were distributed to each delegate with the results to be presented the following day.

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF MINNEHAHA ACADEMY

Dr. Donna Harris. President. welcomed everyone and stated that it warms her heart to see that video with the' little shoots,' as she calls the little kids. She shared that the "marriage is working"- the partnership of the NWC and MA. She pointed out the MA report in the Ministry Report Book. Dr. Harris stated that it's important to get leadership right—and at MA they are developing leaders to know the way, show the way and go the way—to our Lord Jesus Christ. She wanted to share developments from the last year at MA. One of the main goals has been to work with the grant they received to develop the spiritual formation priority within the school. A challenge to MA was to operationally define faith formation. They wanted to tie the language of the definition of faith formation in to MA's Core Values. They also asked about the "Why" of Our Mission and looked to Luke 2:52 for the answer and guidance. They created a position—Executive Director of Faith Formation—and have created the job description and Dr. Harris asks for prayer as they seek to fill this position. She presented several other

initiatives that MA will be working on in the coming years. She thanked the delegates for their time and commitment to MA. And then she introduced Dan Bowles, Director of Finance and Business Operations.

PRESENTATION OF MINNEHAHA ACADEMY BUDGET

Dan Bowles, Director of Finance and Business Operations. stated that they are rejoicing that they have more students this year than last year and hope to grow next year as well. He started with the MA audit on page 11 in the Business Session Guide. It was an unqualified opinion—which is the best that you can get. On page 13 on the bottom, he pointed out the total net assets are just over \$29 million. dollars. Just above the total line item—is the permanent restricted line—just over \$9 million. On the budget on page 14, he showed that the total actual students was higher than budgeted. For next year, they are calling for 841 students for their budget and an increase in total revenues of \$300,000. The Other Expenses category includes busing, debt service, heating/cooling, etc. They are proposing a budget of \$13,232,853. The board and school are working to create a balanced budget without drawing on reserves. He ended by thanking the delegates for their support and their church's support and NWC's support in enabling students to attend MA.

COVENANT TRUST COMPANY

Steve Allison, Financial Services Representative, asked the delegates to raise their hand if they have a church who has been blessed with a legacy gift. Every church has a person or people who are looking to leave a legacy. So will you partner with Covenant Trust to make these things happen?

NWC Chairperson James Volling gave a blessing for the supper and the rest of the evening. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm until Saturday morning, April 29, 2017.

MINISTRY TABLES AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING

Held from adjournment to dinner

EVENING WORSHIP

7:15 PM Worship Celebration included wonderful songs of praise, introduction and dedication of 5 Candidates for Ordination, a remembrance of the Living Legacy churches from 2016, recognition of the new Church Covenant Agreements and Fellowship Group along with their "teams"/people, blessing the BLESS Intentional Evangelism slips

from churches, an offering for Solid Rock School of Discipleship, and an amazing and powerful message from Marcy Baumann- Crossroads, Eagan Campus.

APRIL 29

Superintendent Mark Stromberg shared a reflection on his special needs son, Michael, and how his life is a metaphor for a time when we will be in the presence of God.

Business Session Part 2 began at 9:03 am.

COVENANT ENABLING RESIDENCES

Dana Norton, Executive Director, CER-MN, talked about the residences and the people that they serve. She talked about the jobs that some of the residents have and what great workers they are. Dana shared stories about some of the activities the residents do and ways that they are involved in the community. She mentioned the new MN mandate about being involved in the community—Dana said they are already doing this because of the churches that are involved. She encouraged the delegates to get involved in the CER's with their congregation.

CAMPING MINISTRY IN THE NWC

Brian Alnes, Executive Director, Lake Beauty, talked about his route to Lake Beauty. He spoke of the great camping ministry in the NWC, and how the camps work together to share Jesus with kids. Brian said that he loves confirmation Sundays because he always gets calls that the kids being confirmed spoke about Lake Beauty as significant.

NWC WOMEN MINISTRIES

Rachel Kleinschmidt, Consultant for NWC Women Ministries, gave some highlights from the year including the 130 women who traveled to Triennial. Next Triennial will be here in the Twin Cities in 2019. Renewal Conference in New London, MN had 220 women attending. She reminded people that the camp Women's Retreats in the fall are coming up and are great ways to join together. She is available to churches to consult and they are looking for a host church for the next Renewal Conference—March 2018.

APPROVAL OF NORTHWEST CONFERENCE BUDGET

David Brown, NWC Treasurer and Sandy Norris, Director of Finance, were available for questions. The Motion previously made by the NWC Executive Board regarding the 2017-

2018 Budget was seconded, and the Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINNEHAHA ACADEMY BUDGET

Dan Bowles, Director of Finance and Business Operations, was available for questions. Jim Volling gave a little bit more explanation regarding the enrollment initiatives. He asked that the delegates approve the budget as previously forwarded by the MA Board of Trustees but give permission to increase the budget by \$400,000 if needed. The Motion previously forwarded by the MA Board of Trustees and made by the NWC Executive Board regarding the 2017-2018 Budget plus permission to increase if needed by \$400,000 was seconded, and the Motion carried.

BALLOT RESULTS

Rebecca Nguyen, NWC Secretary, presented the ballot results stating that Nichelle Kaul and Jeff Laabs are elected to the NWC Executive Board for 5 year terms. James Volling was elected as NWC Chairperson for a one-year term. Tim Carlson, Vanda Niemi and David Sylvester are elected for 5 year terms to the MA Board of Trustees. Mark Stromberg prayed for both outgoing and incoming board members of MA and NWC boards.

WORKSHOP ELECTIVES

Delegates were invited to join a workshop as listed in the materials.

INVITATION TO THE 134TH NORTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING // APRIL 26-28, 2018- BUFFALO COVENANT CHURCH—BUFFALO, MN // THEME "FORWARD IN HOPE: MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES"

Pastor Max Frazier, Buffalo Covenant Church, on behalf of Buffalo Covenant Church, extended a warm invitation to the 134th Northwest Conference Annual Meeting in Buffalo, MN. He stated that he was excited about the topic of Forward in Hope: Ministry with Children, Youth and Families, because children, youth and families are the driving motivation for BCC.

NWC Chairperson James Volling thanked Maple Grove Covenant Church, the NWC staff, delegates and the NWC Executive Board for their involvement in the meeting and ministry in the NWC. He prayed for the NWC staff and MA staff

A Motion was both made and seconded for adjournment. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:43 am.

Respectfully Submitted, Rebecca Nguyen, NWC Secretary

CHANGES TOCHURCH MEMBERSHIP

CHURCHES JOINING THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH AND THE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

Catalyst Evangelical Covenant Church, St. Paul, MN Pastor Jeff Olson

City of Lakes Covenant Church, Minneapolis, MN Pastor Dave Berge

Genesis Covenant Church, St. Louis Park, MN
Pastor Steve Wiens

Grace Outreach Covenant Church, Coon Rapids, MN
Pastor Paul Robinson

New Evangelical Covenant Church, Minneapolis, MN Pastor Mauricio Dell'Arciprete

Renew Covenant Church, Eau Claire, WI Pastor Jamie Staples

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

Elim Evangelical Covenant Church, Stockholm SD

Organized: 1883 Joined the ECC: 1896 Joined the NWC: 1947 Withdrawn: 2017

First Covenant Church, Ashland, WI

Organized: 1892 Joined the NWC: 1974

Closed: 2017





INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Trustees and Finance Committee Minnehaha Academy Minneapolis, Minnesota

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Minnehaha Academy (a nonprofit organization) which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2017 and 2016, 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.

Auditors' 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.



Board of Trustees and Finance Committee Minnehaha Academy

Clifton Larson Allen LLP

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, 2017 and 2016, 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.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Minneapolis, Minnesota December 11, 2017

MINNEHAHA ACADEMY STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION JUNE 30, 2017 AND 2016

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,242,099	3,327,746
Accounts Receivable, Net	499,231	391,658
Promises to Give, Net	729,930	889,616
Investments	11,608,694	10,797,207
Inventories	11,771	13,036
Prepaid Expenses	120,547	58,972
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Land	1,092,952	1,092,952
Construction in Progress		247,564
Buildings and Improvements	40,900,772	39,868,373
Furniture and Equipment	3,668,392	3,303,360
Total	45,662,116	44,512,249
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(18,106,723)	(16,947,629)
Net Property, Plant and Equipment	27,555,393	27,564,620
Total Assets	42,767,665	43,042,855
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	85,210	256,987
Accrued Expenses	28,100	29,537
Accrued Salaries	593,425	589,048
Accrued Sick Pay	246,758	274,020
Prepaid Tuition and Programs	705,030	688,463
Capital Leases Payable	191,374	27,564
Long-Term Debt, Net	11,737,739	12,149,643
Total Liabilities	13,587,636	14,015,262
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	16,790,453	16,839,128
Temporarily Restricted	2,898,117	3,047,404
Permanently Restricted	9,491,459	9,141,061
Total Net Assets	29,180,029	29,027,593
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	42,767,665	43,042,855

MINNEHAHA ACADEMY STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 AND 2016

2017

2016

		Temporarily	Permanently			Temporarily	Permanently	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total
REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT								
Tuition and Fees	15,773,050			15,773,050	14,399,371			14,399,371
Less: Financial Aid and Tuition Remission	(4,927,712)			(4,927,712)	(3,887,254)			(3,887,254)
Net Tuition and Fees	10,845,338			10,845,338	10,512,117			10,512,117
Contributions	806,841	123,610	350,398	1,280,849	889,412	208,609	205,472	1,303,493
Loss on Restricted Promises to Give						(680,000)		(680,000)
Transportation	252,245			252,245	207,618			207,618
Auxiliary Activities	395,653			395,653	393,664			393,664
Rental Income	248,850			248,850	239,524			239,524
Special Events	277,819			277,819	189,028			189,028
Investment Income	10,216	172,367		182,583	(8,855)	145,035		136,180
Realized and Unrealized Loss on Investments	900'9	1,018,567		1,024,573	(46,858)	(166, 170)		(213,028)
Unrealized Loss on Interest Rate Contract					(21,389)			(21,389)
Other Income	20,202			20,202	7,764			7,764
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	1,463,831	(1,463,831)		0	1,811,938	(1,811,938)		0
Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	14,327,001	(149,287)	350,398	14,528,112	14,173,963	(2,304,464)	205,472	12,074,971
EXPENSES								
Program Services	12,268,404			12,268,404	12,254,869			12,254,869
Management and General	1,456,238			1,456,238	1,491,831			1,491,831
Fundraising	651,034			651,034	561,592			561,592
Total Expenses	14,375,676			14,375,676	14,308,292			14,308,292
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	(48,675)	(149,287)	350,398	152,436	(134,329)	(2,304,464)	205,472	(2,233,321)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	16,839,128	3,047,404	9,141,061	29,027,593	16,973,457	5,351,868	8,935,589	31,260,914

29,027,593

9,141,061

3,047,404

16,839,128

29,180,029

9,491,459

2,898,117

16,790,453

NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR

MINNEHAHA ACADEMY FY2019 BUDGET PROPOSAL NWC ANNUAL MEETING 2018

	_	BUDGET	PRO	PROJECTED		BUDGET	
		FY2018	ΕY	FY2018		FY2019	BUDGET COMMENTS
INCOME NET TUITION AND FEES	\$	10,634,184	\$	10,917,200	8	11,392,200	Based on projected enrollment of 795, Includes Insurance Reimb: 62 students
CONTRIBUTION INCOME-UNRESTRICTED	↔	1,044,000	↔	2,369,000	8	1,055,000	Budget assumes return to historical giving level
OTHER INCOME DRAW - ANDERSON CLAWSON	५ ५	650,500	& &	723,200 126,000	⇔ ↔	739,700 126,000	Rentals, Summer Programs, Extended Day Same as FY18
DRAW - ENDOWMENT FUND	↔	437,000	↔	437,000	8	476,800	Growth in Endowment balance supports an increased draw
TOTAL INCOME	₩.	12,891,684	€9-	14,572,400	↔	13,789,700	Post-explosion giving in FY2018 was major reason for bump in total income
EXPENSE							
WAGES	မှာ မ	7,849,000	⇔ €	7,882,000	↔ €	8,464,000	Assumes average 3% pay increases
BENEFILS TOTAL WAGES AND BENEFITS	.	1,619,000 9,468,000	Э УЭ	1,543,000 9,425,000		1,628,000	Assumes typical increased premium tor employee nealth plan
OTHER EXPENSES							
ADMIN, ADVANCEMENT, MARKETING, ADMISSIONS	ક્ક	543,220	↔	563,000	↔	549,100	
GENERAL OPERATIONS	s	576,600	↔	543,100	↔	582,600	Higher phone, internet, & annual software licenses
INSTRUCTIONAL and CURRICULUM	ક્ક	238,800	ક	230,800	↔	238,000	
ATHLETICS	ક્ર	163,900	s,	163,900	↔	163,400	
SUMMER PROGRAM & EXTENDED DAY	ક્ક	306,000	\$	337,900	↔	324,500	Higher Extended Day Wages
FACILITIES OPERATIONS	↔	618,500	S	753,200	s	626,400	Increased FY2018 spending primarily due to refrigerant leak in ice arena
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	ક્ક	55,400	ક્ર	55,400	↔	62,500	Funds shifted from Facilities Operations to FY2019 Capital Expenditures
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION EXPENSE	ક્ક	518,633	\$	558,200	\$	553,800	Includes insurance reimbursement
OTHER EXPENSES	s	3,021,053	\$	3,205,500	\$	3,100,300	
BOND DEBT SERVICE	ss.	743,800	↔	743,800	↔	710,900	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	13,232,853	\$	13,374,300	↔	13,903,200	
BUDGETED DRAW FROM RESERVES	\$	(341,169)	₩.	1,198,100	\$	(113,500)	



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

To the Executive Board and Management Northwest Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church Minneapolis, Minnesota

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial statements of Northwest Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2017 and 2016, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of the organization's 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's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

Accountant's Conclusion

Carlson SV 200

Based on our review, 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.

Amery, Wisconsin March 27, 2018

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

June 30, 2017 and 2016

ASSETS

	2017	2016
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 194,887	\$ 222,874
Short-term investments	1,374,858	1,317,270
Due from churches	650	1,833
Endowment fund investments	807,498	451,252
Due from church plants	12,233	-31,232
Prepaid expense	35,066	28,835
Prepaid rent	5,380	5,380
Total Current Assets	2,430,572	2,027,444
OTHER ASSETS	40.50	10.000
Long-term prepaid lease	13,522	18,830
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Property and equipment	265,150	264,150
Accumulated depreciation	(195,140)	(170,326)
Property and Equipment, Net	70,010	93,824
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,514,104	\$ 2,140,098
	, , , , ,	
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Short-term loan payable	\$ 288,939	\$ 288,939
Accounts payable	11,666	6,272
Accrued and other liabilities	6,396	8,208
Due to church plants	-	11,375
Total Current Liabilities	307,001	314,794
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		
Undesignated	1,359,591	1,343,953
Board designated	829,362	463,549
Total Unrestricted	2,188,953	1,807,502
Temporarily restricted	13,150	12,802
Permanently restricted	5,000	5,000
Total Net Assets	2,207,103	1,825,304
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 2,514,104	\$ 2,140,098

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES For the Years Ended June 30, 2017 and 2016

		20	2017			20	2016	
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT Mambar church contributions	\$ 915 515	¥	S	\$ 015 515	\$ 032.202	s	S	\$ 637.707
A	(10)	•	•			•	•	
Appropriations from Evangencia Covenant Cirucia Beginests and memorials	190,201			27 639	205,304			25.161
Interest income	42.705	•	•	42,705	38 391	,	•	38 391
Individual and organization contributions	75,828	•	1	75,828	81,342	1	1	81,342
Churches planting churches	4,640	1	•	4,640	4,588	•	1	4,588
Net realized and unrealized losses on investments	91,783	,	1	91,783	(2,431)	•	1	(2,431)
Proceeds from church closures	453,302	•	•	453,302	347,860			347,860
Miscellaneous income	27,728	1	•	27,728	71,184	1	1	71,184
Restricted contributions		7,835	•	7,835	1	33,358	1	33,358
Net assets released from restrictions Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	7 487	(7 487)			22.133	(22.133)	•	
Total Revenue and Other Support	1,836,888	348	ı	1,837,236	1,725,734	11,225	1	1,736,959
EXPENSES Ministries								
Leadership development	12,350		1	12,350	19,122	1	1	19,122
Evangelism and church planting	385,351	•	•	385,351	400,483	1	1	400,483
Healthy churches	37,907	•	•	37,907	46,896	•	•	46,896
Total Ministries	435,608	1	1	435,608	466,501		1	466,501
Ministries (Non-budget) Second Miler fund	5,936	•	1	5,936	6,879	1	1	6,879
CHIC fund	1,551	•	•	1,551	15,254	•	•	15,254
Total Ministries (Non-budget)	7,487		1	7,487	22,133	1		22,133
General and Administrative	F12 C20			F13 C38	000 230			000 730
Administrative	002,017			149 725	213 235			020,030
Total General and Administrative	1 012 342			1 012 342	1 069 265			1 069 265
Total Expenses	1,455,437		,	1,455,437	1,557,899			1,557,899
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	381,451	348	1	381,799	167,835	11,225		179,060
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,807,502	12,802	5,000	1,825,304	1,639,667	1,577	5,000	1,646,244
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 2,188,953	\$ 13,150	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,207,103	\$ 1,807,502	\$ 12,802	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,825,304

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

For the Years Ended June 30, 2017 and 2016

	2017	2016
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in net assets	\$ 381,799	\$ 179,060
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash		
provided by operating activities		
Depreciation	24,814	23,369
Decrease in long-term prepaid lease	5,308	5,380
Net realized and unrealized losses on investments	(91,783)	2,431
Net operating changes in		
Due from churchses	1,183	12,827
Due to/from church plants	(23,608)	(1,529)
Prepaid expense	(6,231)	(632)
Accounts payable	5,394	(978)
Accrued and other liabilities	(1,812)	(16,202)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	295,064	203,726
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of investments	(486,657)	(126,432)
Redemption of investments	164,606	10,580
Acquisition of property and equipment	(1,000)	(28,923)
Net Cash Used by Investing Activities	(323,051)	(144,775)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(27,987)	58,951
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	222,874	163,923
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 194,887	\$ 222,874

3STRANDSTRONG CHURCH GIVING

At the 2017 Annual Meeting you heard a lot about 3StrandStrong: the reminder to all of us—CONGREGATIONS, CONFERENCE AND COVENANT—that we all are stronger when we work together. Toward that end it is suggested that congregations support the Conference with 3.5% of their weekly offerings and the Covenant with 6.5% of their weekly offerings. Following is a list of annual (calendar year) contributions we received from our member churches that help make us 3StrandStrong.

CHURCH	2017 Giving	2016 Giving	2015 Giving
IOWA			
Larchwood - Grandview	3,000	3,000	3,000
MINNESOTA			
Alexandria - Catalyst	0	3,573	6,702
Alexandria - Covenant	34,300	31,442	30,233
Anoka - Evangelical	4,325	3,050	3,050
Apple Valley - Restoration	3,750	217	1,524
Baudette - Evangelical	1,500	1,500	1,500
Bemidji - Evangelical	13,000	13,000	13,000
Big Falls - Evangelical	0	0	0
Big Lake - Community	942	0	0
Biwabik - Evangelical	663	720	813
Blaine - Door	0	1,140	0
Blaine - Good Shepherd	Closed	3,341	1,100
Bloomington	6,051	4,893	4,592
Braham - Evangelical	1,199	463	1,097
Brooklyn Center - Brookdal	e 3,000	6,040	6,038
Brooklyn Center - Laotian	0	0	0
Brooklyn Park - Blue Oaks	0	0	0
Brooklyn Park - LaBendicio	n 1,021	1,762	1,657
Brooklyn Park - Redeemer	8,000	8,000	7,333
Buffalo - Evangelical	34,000	34,000	34,000
Burnsville - Faith	10,000	9,400	4,148
Chanhassen - Lakeside	655		
Cloquet - Big Lake	275	300	300
Cokato - Elim Mission	0	2,000	2,000
Cook - Evangelical	900	900	1,200
Crookston	6,026	7,100	7,100
Dassel - Evangelical	14,375	13,874	14,376
Dassel - Lake Jennie	850	850	1,030
Dawson	4,000	4,000	4,000
Duluth - First	8,710	10,782	10,331
Duluth - Lakeview	30,042	20,330	20,330

CHURCH	2017 Giving	2016 Giving	2015 Giving	
Duluth - Salem	9,000	9,000	9,000	
Edina - Mercy Commons	0	6,005	7,744	
Edina - New City	11,360	5,914	10,189	
Evansville - Calvary	800	800	0	
Excelsior	14,000	14,000	14,271	
Fairmont - Evangelical	3,865	3,516	3,459	
Foley - Maywood	2,450	4,370	4,288	
Forest Lake - Crossroads	9,300	9,650	10,465	
Fridley	5,460	5,460	5,460	
Greenfield - Riverwood	5,672	4,832	2,125	
Harris - Covenant	1,200	1,200	1,200	
Hector - Palmyra	1,000	0	1,000	
Hermantown - Gethsemane	3,856	4,189	4,571	
Hopkins - Emmaus Road	Closed	294	0	
Huntley - Community	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Hutchinson - Oak Heights	12,671	12,348	11,806	
International Falls - Evangel	ical 6,000	6,000	6,000	
Kennedy - Evangelical Missi	on 1,900	1,900	1,815	
Kensington	600	1,200	0	
Lake Bronson - Community	500	500	500	
Lancaster	4,265	2,500	1,500	
Lino Lakes - Rice Creek	5,267	5,267	4,828	
Little Falls - Grace	5,004	5,804	5,079	
Lowry - Community	0	0	0	
Mahtowa	3,850	3,900	3,900	
Maple Grove	29,687	23,901	55,203	
Maplewood	Closed	Closed	23	
Maplewood - Awaken	2,098			
Minneapolis - Abbey Way	250	4,245	6,300	
Minneapolis - Bethlehem	7,617	7,625	8,116	
Minneapolis - City of Lakes	2,208	2,015	1,868	
Minneapolis - Community	2,000	2,500	1,250	
Minneapolis - Crosstown	9,000	9,000	9,000	
Minneapolis - First	0	0	1,660	
Minneapolis - Lighthouse	2,745	0		
Minneapolis - New	3,876	3,385	1,915	
Minneapolis - Sanctuary	20,200	33,774	22,540	
Minneapolis - Seeds	1,583	969	0	
Minneapolis - Story	1,570	2,040	373	
Minneapolis - True Light	Closed	Closed	2,128	
Minneapolis - Verbo	2,324	2,495	2,005	

PAGE 21

CHURCH	2017 Giving	2016 Giving	2015 Giving
Monticello	2,418	4,236	4,236
Moose Lake - Evangelical	3,650	7,480	8,639
Mound - Fairview	0	0	0
Mound - Mainstreet	4,675	6,600	5,925
New Brighton - Salem	34,276	33,976	35,298
New London - Evangelical	10,354	11,795	11,795
New Richland - Vista	6,000	6,000	6,000
North Mankato - Crossview	25,800	25,800	25,800
Northome - Calvary	0	0	75
Ogilvie - Lewis Lake	1,500	1,300	3,500
Owatonna - Christ Commun	ity 419	274	318
Pennock - Salem Mission	5,500	5,500	5,500
Plymouth	23,000	20,500	17,500
Princeton - Karmel Evangeli	cal 3,599	3,254	2,440
Red Wing - First	8,100	7,382	16,410
Rochester - Covenant	10,320	10,320	10,320
Rochester - NewDay	3,996	3,996	3,996
Rochester - Salem Road	6,000	6,000	6,800
Rogers - Nueva Vida	0	0	25
Roseau - Evangelical	4,941	4,797	4,658
Roseville	19,924	21,763	21,535
Rush City - Evangelical	0	0	0
Saginaw - New Life	5,000	5,000	5,000
Shoreview - Emmanuel	14,300	13,017	10,620
South Haven - Lake Union	2,000	2,000	1,100
St Cloud - Hope	9,000	6,000	6,000
St Louis Park - Genesis	15,609	20,895	16,032
St Paul - Awaken	15,750	16,820	11,495
St Paul - Catalyst	8,589	7,754	4,057
St Paul - First	3,533	5,487	4,749
St Paul - Gallery	150	0	205
St Paul - Grace	3,560	3,342	2,449
St Paul - Roots	3,905	5,590	2,985
Staples - Thomastown	0	0	1,000
Stillwater - Bethany	1,500	1,000	1,500
Thief River Falls - Evangelica	al 1,254	1,392	1,200
Trimont - Evangelical	5,000	5,000	5,000
Upsala - Community	5,775	5,775	4,794
Viking	0	20	0
Virginia - First	3,064	2,530	3,083
Warren - Evangelical	1,500	1,500	1,500

CHURCH 20	017 Giving	2016 Giving	2015 Giving	
Waseca - Real Life	12,835	3,612	7,302	
Waverly - Oster First	500	500	500	
Wheaton - Bethlehem	3,290	3,341	2,228	
Willmar - First	14,652	12,423	13,767	
Winthrop - Evangelical	2,625	2,625	2,625	
Woodbury - Crossroads	10,000	10,000	15,000	
Worthington - First	4,848	4,848	4,848	
Wyoming - Linwood	4,100	6,966	3,075	
NORTH DAKOTA				
Drayton - Teien	500	1,000	500	
Fargo - Knollbrook	7,500	5,000	8,485	
Grand Forks - Hope Evangelica		83,747	74,790	
SOUTH DAKOTA				
Beresford - Komstad	2,102	2,053	1,914	
Brandon - Living Springs	14,600	14,276	12,241	
Brandon - Swedona	528	530	480	
LaBolt - Evangelical	700	700	700	
Lake Norden - Evangelical	500	500	0	
Sioux Falls - Prairie Hills	11,381	10,567	13,297	
Sioux Falls - South Sudan	0	0	0	
Stockholm - Elim Evangelical	150	150	150	
WISCONSIN				
Ashland - First	1,005	900	900	
Chetek - Prairie Lake	1,500	1,500	1,500	
Clear Lake - United	4,068	4,231	4,192	
Eau Claire - Renew	7,760	4,915	1,348	
Ellsworth - Bethel	2,540	2,040	2,040	
Ellsworth - Zion	10,115	11,240	10,276	
Grantsburg - Calvary	1,950	1,750	1,750	
Menomonie - Cedarbrook	13,241	11,750	7,983	
Mondovi - Prince of Peace	450	450	450	
New Richmond - Prairieview	5,425	5,717	4,522	
Poplar - Mission	19,800	19,800	19,800	
River Falls - First	18,591	18,604	17,242	
Siren	700	500	500	
Stockholm - Calvary	800	800	800	
Stockholm - Lund Mission	4,500	4,500	4,500	
Superior - First	1,800	1,800	1,800	
	930,745	925,705	919,079	

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE / FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

	Budget 2017 2018	Proposed Budget 2018- 2019	
Released from Restriction			
For Planting	143,592	143,419	
For CYF	9,974	24,200	
For Vitality	9,973	32,000	
For Operations	42,391	69,408	
Total Savings/Investment Spending	205,930	269,027	•
Current Income			
Church Contributions	900,000	900,000	
Individuals and Organizations - Undesignated	65,000	45,000	
Individuals and Organizations - Designated	66,250	40,000	
Total Donations	1,031,250	985,000	
Total Donations	1,031,230	905,000	
ECC share New Church Appropriations	215,880	218,300	
Honoraria	1,000	1,000	
Bequests and Memorials			
CHET Income	10,200	0	transition to Hispanic ministries
Consultant/Service Income	18,750	6,000	
Interest/Investment Income	83,037	146,029	increased investment balance
Total Current Income	1,360,117	1,356,329	
Available to Fund Mission and Ministry	1,566,047	1,625,356	•
Congregational Vitality	0.500	0.000	
Revitalization and Training	8,500	9,000	
Compassion, Mercy & Justice	2,500	3,000	
Commissions/Task Forces	5,000	5,000	Transition to staff (Demonstral) sale
Hispanic Ministries (formerly CHET)	17,410		Transition to staff (Personnel) role
Pastoral Care and Support	8,000	8,000	Cundinh Donkhou
Missionary Support	0	6,000	Sundinh Penkhay
Church Planting	124 561	426 600	
New Church Appropriations	434,561	436,600	
Assessment and Training	29,900	36,900	
New Church Support	13,250	8,300	
Children, Youth and Family	E 000	F 250	
Children and Family	5,000	5,250	
Youth Ministry	18,950	18,950	
Supporting Expenses Personnel - Salaries	606 200	747.054	
	686,309	717,351	
Personnel - Benefits	208,618	211,198	
Staff Travel	27,000	38,400	
Boards/Commissions/Meetings	25,475	26,150	Dividing an arms and an alates
Office	23,757		Building repairs and updates
IT/Communications	38,195	47,247	
Insurance	7,500	6,749	
Professional Services/Consultants	6,122	6,122	
Total Mission and Ministry Expense	1,566,047	1,625,356	

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE / CASH RESERVES

(designated accounts as of December 31, 2014)

Northwest Conference Accounting of Closed Church Property Proceeds July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

	Good Shepherd Covenant Church Blaine, MN
Liquidated Asset Value	904,635
Forward 50% to ECC	-452,318
Invested at Covenant Trust for Church Planting Congregational Vitality Children, Youth and Family	-219,933 -45,232 -45,232
Invested at NCP for Church Planting	-141,921
	0

Ashland, WI property was sold in Fiscal Year 2017-2018; will be reported next annual meeting.

Investment Summary as of June 30, 2017

	National		
	Covenant Trust	Covenant	
	Company	Properties	Total
For Church Planting	524,850	230,113	754,963
For Congregational Vitality	150,160	33,592	183,752
For Children, Youth and Family	152,787	33,592	186,379
Unrestricted Reserve	788,622		788,622
	1,616,419	297,296	1,913,716

BIOGRAPHICAL INFO BALLOT CANDIDATES

MINNEHAHA ACADEMY BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS



Sue Poston (5 year term)

Sue Poston is a third-generation Covenanter, and has been blessed by opportunities to use her gifts at Salem Covenant Church (New Brighton), the Northwest Conference, and in the community. She has also served on the executive board for the Evangelical Covenant Church. God has gifted Sue with leadership, administrative and educational skills. She has a heart for

leadership in school improvement work, missions and works of compassion mercy and justice. She would be honored to continue to use her gifts in service to Minnehaha Academy. Sue has a Master of Arts in Elementary Curriculum from the University of Minnesota and Specialists degree in Educational Administration from St Mary's College of Minnesota. A retired Elementary School Principal, all of her teaching and administrative experience has been with the Minneapolis Public School system. In the community she served two three-year terms on the Board of Governors of the Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis and did adjunct work with the University of St. Thomas and the Minneapolis Public Schools in the area of Leadership Development. In 2000, she received the Arts Education Leadership Award from the Minnesota Alliance for Arts in Education.



Jon Taylor (5 year term)

Jon Taylor was born and raised in the Highland Park neighborhood of St. Paul, MN. He began attending Minnehaha Academy in 7th grade. He, along with his siblings and cousins, occupied these hallways for the next decade. Jon graduated from the school in 1992. While attending MA, he participated in football and baseball and was active in the German Club as well as stu-

dent government. Since then, Jon has assisted in the planning for all the reunions for the famed class of '92. From there he attended Bethel University and graduated with a BA in Economics and a BA in Business – Finance in 1996. After 7 years in Equity Capital Markets at Piper Jaffrey in Minneapolis, he started a private real estate investment company based in St. Paul. The firm owns and manages real estate investments throughout the Midwest. He and his wife Lisa (Eng) reside in New Brighton, MN, where they are proud parents to three children. Lisa is a 2nd grade teacher in the Mounds View public school system. Together they are active members of Emmanuel Covenant Church in Shoreview, MN. There they work with the children's ministry and serve as the church delegates for Covenant Pines Bible Camp.



Dave Cairns (5 year term)

Dave Cairns is the father of three Minnehaha students: Drew '17, Trent '18 and Annis '22. Married to Becky, Dave currently serves as the Executive Director of Covenant Pines Ministries. While living in Brooklyn Park, Dave often commutes physically and digitally to camp properties in McGregor and Grand Marais. Dave has served on multiple national, regional and de-

nominational boards focusing on Christian camping. In recent years, Dave has taught various workshops on leadership and ministry in Russia and Ukraine. He is a graduate of Drake University and North Park Theological Seminary and a member of Maple Grove Covenant Church.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFO BALLOT CANDIDATES

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE BOARD



Hollis Kim (2 year term)

Hollis Kim is currently Transition Pastor at Brookdale Covenant Church. Prior to this, Hollis served as Associate, then Lead Pastor at Good Shepherd Covenant in Blaine, MN; Pastoral Team Leader, Parkwood Community Church, Elmhurst, IL; Couples Pastor & College Pastor at two English-speaking Korean churches in N. VA; College Age Ministry Director at Truro Epis-

copal Church, Fairfax, VA; Lay Minister at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Vancouver, Canada; Campus Minister, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, U. Nevada-Las Vegas and George Mason U, VA. Hollis is a 1996 graduate of the Arrow Leadership Program, which trains emerging leaders in evangelism. Hollis has also served on the NWC Committee on Ministerial Standing. He and his wife, Sue, have two grown sons.



Paul Robinson (5 year term)

Pastor Paul Robinson is the Lead Church Planter of Grace Outreach Covenant Church of Coon Rapids, MN. Grace Outreach is an intentionally multiethnic, culturally conscious church committed to reaching up to God, reaching into the Body and reaching out to the community and world. Paul also serves as the Senior Community Leadership Manager with the Wilder Center

for Communities and was former director of the organization's James P. Shannon Leadership Institute. Further, Paul previously served as Lead Pastor at Community Covenant Church in Minneapolis. He enjoys using his skills in leadership development, meeting design, facilitation and convening to catalyze meaningful connections to stimulate individual and community transformation. Paul and his wife have six children with one being a sophmore at Minnehaha Academy.



James Volling (4 year term)

Jim 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 Sates 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 M.A. 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 over 40 years. Connie is a Registered Nurse and serves as Parish Nurse at Excelsior Covenant Church. They have three grown sons, as well as three grandchildren, who are the delight of their grandparents.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFO BALLOT CANDIDATES

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE BOARD (CONT.)



Cindy Owen (5 year term)

Cindy Owen grew up in central Illinois and has a BA in Psychology from the University of Illinois – Springfield. Career experience includes 10-plus years as a human resource professional at the University of Illinois in Urbana and with the Illinois Department of Administration. She and her family moved to Minnesota in 1986 where they owned and operated the New

Life Christian Bookstore for 15 years. Since 1996 she has served as the Executive Director of Arc Midstate, a nonprofit organization that promotes and protects the human rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and other special needs. She joined Hope Covenant Church in St. Cloud as a member in 2000. She has served on the stewardship team and currently is serving as an elder. She and Richard have been married for 42 years and have two adult daughters and four amazing grandchildren.

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRPERSON



James Volling, NWC Board Chair (1 year 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!

LIVING LEGACY

CHURCH

First Covenant Church, Ashland, WI

First Covenant Church of Ashland, WI, had its official beginning in 1892 when a small group of young Swedish immigrants who had been exposed to the Mission Friends in Sweden began to meet. Five young men were the nucleus of this early church.

A Sunday School and a young people's program were the first ministries of the church. The first four Sunday School teachers were requested to find their own pupils. Classes were taught in



Swedish. A "Swede" school was held in the summer months. The first permanent pastor, the Rev. Isaac Skoog, was called in 1895.

The mission of First Covenant Church was "To Know Christ and To Make Him Known." Sunday School, Confirmation, Covenant Women, Brotherhood Group, Bible Study and the camping ministry at Covenant Park Bible Camp were an important part of living out that mission.

A church building was erected in 1893. It was moved to the current location in 1902. Several building projects were completed over the years, including the addition of a basement.

The church affiliated with the Evangelical Covenant Church in 1894 and was a part of the Central Conference. The church joined the Northwest Conference in 1974, making participation in district and Conference functions more feasible.

We give thanks to God for the ministry of First Covenant Church of Ashland, WI.

WHAT ARE WE EVEN TALKING ABOUT?!?

YOUR GUIDE TO COVENANT ACRONYMS

AC	Adventurous Christians (Camp on the Gunflint Trail, operated by CPM. See below.)	DOOM	Department of Ordered Ministry (Now they're part of Develop Leaders)
AIL	Adventures in Leadership (Intensive outdoor leadership experience for high schoolers)	ECC	Evangelical Covenant Church (If you didn't know this, we can't help you)
AM	Annual Meeting (Highest decision-making body of the NWC & ECC)	LBBC	Lake Beauty Bible Camp (Camp serving lots of MN, SD and WI)
BBC	Bluewater Bible Camp (Camp serving our churches in north central MN)	LMDJ	Love Mercy Do Justice (ECC ministry priority that engages with churches in develop-
ВООМ	Board of Ordered Ministry (Credentialing board for clergy the buck stops here)	MA	ing community ministries) Minnehaha Academy (NWC school in Min-
CER	Covenant Enabling Residences (Homes for		neapolis serving preK-high school students)
CHET	adults with disabilities) Centro Hispano de Estudios Teólogicos (Training program for Hispania loaders)	MDD	Make and Deepen disciples (ECC ministry priority overseeing Christian formation,
CHIC	(Training program for Hispanic leaders) Covenant High in Christ (Triennial senior high youth event)	MOVE	evangelism, and a bunch of other things) Mission Outreach Venture Experience (Service and learning overnight event for high
СКС	Covenant Kids Congo (Mission partnership with World Vision)	MUUUCE	school students) Most Ultimate Unbelievable Urban Camping
COMS	Committee on Ministerial Standing (NWC		Experience (Overnight middle school event)
	committee of credentialed pastors who	MW	Midwinter (Weeklong gathering for pastors
CDDC	screen pastors in the credentialing process)		each January or February)
CPBC	Covenant Park Bible Camp (Serving churches in NE region of the NWC not to be	NCP	National Covenant Properties (loans to churches)
СРВС	confused with Covenant Pines. See below) Covenant Pines Bible Camp (Serves Twin	NPTS	North Park Theological Seminary (Covenant Seminary in Chicago)
0. 20	Cities churches)	NPU	North Park University (Covenant University
CPM	Covenant Pines Ministries (Includes CPBC		in Chicago)
CDC	and AC. See above).	NWC	Northwest Conference (Mission region of
CRC	Covenant Retirement Communities (Where you can live and reminisce with other Cov-	PCP	the denomination) Paul Carlson Partnership (Medical ministry
	enanters when you grow up)	PCP	in Congo to honor Paul Carlson, martyred
СТС	Covenant Trust Company (show me the		Covenant missionary)
	money!)	SG	Serve Globally (ECC ministry priority of
CVGV	Covenant Village of Golden Valley (see CRC)		global missions)
CWR	Covenant World Relief (Covenant relief efforts worldwide)	SSC	Start and Strengthen Churches (ECC ministry priority focusing on church planting and
CYF	Children, Youth & Family (it's just shorter)		congregational vitality)
DL	Develop Leaders (ECC ministry priority that	TMI	Too much information
	engages leaders some people still call it DOOM-see below. Giggle not much better than the use of BOOM. See above.)	VIM	Vision, Intention and Means (What you need to be a healthy and missional church)

What else would you add? ______(Prizes available at registration table for any we missed)

A REGION
OF THE
EVANGELICAL
COVENANT
CHURCH

