

December 2021

A Word from the NWC Superintendent Mark R. Stromberg

Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of the Executive Board and staff of the Northwest Conference, I send you warm greetings in the Name of Jesus, even as you meet for your congregational annual meeting.

As you may know, I will be concluding in my role as NWC superintendent on June 30, 2022, following the installation of a new Superintendent at the Covenant Annual Meeting in Kansas City earlier in June. It has been a privilege to serve in this role for the past 10-plus years. It remains an honor to do so.

At the time of my departure, I will have served on the NWC staff for over 21 years. These years have been filled with joys and sorrows, blessings and losses, encouragements and disappointments, and a significant amount of change.

It is reasonable to assume that you have experienced the same, both individually and within your congregation. However, in the midst of it all we rest in the hope of the Lord's continual presence with us through His Spirit who is within us, around us, above us and beneath us. The old gospel song rings true,

*"If it had not been for the Lord by my side, tell me,
where would I be? Where would I be?"*

While we hear of unwelcome news all around us and there is so much that can shake our confidence, may we never lose sight of the One in whom our confidence rests ... Jesus, the Lord of Glory!

Always remember that your church is actually the Lord's Church. You are part of His body ... His bride. He loves your congregation far more than you do. He is sovereign and His mission on earth will not be thwarted, even when things seem dire.

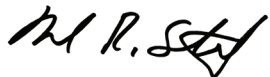
We have a God of Hope ... a God of Grace ... a God of Truth ... a God of Love. May you rest in the reality of a God who desires that none should perish but that all should return to Him in repentance and faith.

*"A bruised reed He will not break, a smoldering wick He will not snuff out.
In faithfulness He will bring forth justice." Isaiah 42:3*

On behalf of the leadership of the Northwest Conference, I want to thank you for your faithful support of our shared ministry. Your commitment to the broader work of the Conference financially, prayerfully, and through the active participation of so many allows us to live into God's call on our lives. As such, we are here to serve our churches and also unite our churches together in service.

May God richly bless you as you gather to be about the ministry to which you have been called. Yet, even more so, may your ministry richly bless God!

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,



Mark R. Stromberg
Superintendent