

December 2025

A Word from the NWC Superintendent Kara J. Stromberg

Dear Northwest Conference Churches,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Christ, Emmanuel, God with us! With deep gratitude, I look back on this past year with a renewed awareness of God's faithfulness. As Lamentations 3:22-23 reminds us:

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Thank you, churches, for your prayers, generosity and trust as we steward the mission together. Thank you for responding in faithfulness as you serve Christ and your communities in so many seen and unseen ways.

I see encouraging fruit and growth across the ministries of our Conference. Young people grew closer to Christ through strong children, youth and family ministries in local churches, camps and conference-wide initiatives. We began conversations with potential church planting projects, walked alongside numerous churches facing pastoral transitions, hosted an Exploring Call Retreat with 30 participants, and continued dreaming and praying about how to further develop the leadership pipeline for future pastoral leaders. Together, we have been praying Luke 10:2—that the Lord of the harvest would raise up more workers to serve the Church.

In celebration of 140 years of ministry in the Northwest Conference, our Executive Board distributed \$140,000 in grants to stimulate missional ministry within Northwest Conference churches. We also celebrated our fourth year of offering the Rural Impact Leadership Conference, resourcing pastors and leaders serving in rural and small town communities.

I am deeply grateful to be part of the Evangelical Covenant Church and the Northwest Conference. We truly are better together. My prayer for the coming year is that we would lean fully into what God has for us—developing leaders, nurturing thriving churches, and moving forward in God's mission.

I invite you to prayerfully consider how you can continue to support the mission of the Northwest Conference, which exists to strengthen the local church and its leaders for mission. Your support and partnership enable us to start and strengthen churches, invest in the next generation and develop missional leaders. On behalf of our staff and Executive Board, we are deeply grateful for your partnership.

With joy and gratitude,

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Kara J. Stromberg Superintendent