



Northwest Conference

2020 Report to Assembly

**Pastor Richard Hertenstein, Dean
Retired**
***Faith Lutheran Church, Augusta and
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Carthage***

Congregations:

St. Peter, Arenzville: Pastor John Ashcraft (interim)
Faith, Augusta: Pastor Rick Hertenstein (contractual agreement)
First, Beardstown: Tom Christell (interim)
St. John, Bluffs: Pastor John Ashcraft (interim)
St. John, Bluff Springs: Tom Christell (interim)
Immanuel, rural Carthage: Pastor Rick Hertenstein (contractual agreement)
Trinity, Carthage: Pastor Rick Hertenstein (part time interim) Dave Poland S.A.M.
St. Peter, Coatsburg: Pastor Patricia Reep
Faith and Grace Parish: Pastor Jeff Corson
*Immanuel, Golden; Zion Liberty, and Salem Mendon
Trinity, Golden: Pastor Gayle Pope, Interim
Trinity, Macomb: Pastor Youngshim Pitcher
Christ, Nauvoo: Pastor Pete Hagglund (also serves St. Paul, Fort Madison, IA)
Christ, Quincy:
Luther Memorial, Quincy: Pastor Tony Metz,
Grace, Virginia: Pastor Adam Dichsen (part time interim)

Conference Officers:

Dean – Pastor Rick Hertenstein
Clergy Vice President – Pastor Tony Metz
Lay Vice President – Ms. Debra Allwardt
Secretary – Pastor Gayle Pope
Treasurer – Mr. Dave Poland
Lay Synod Council representative – Mr. Dennis Wallin

For 2019 through April of 2020 the Northwest Conference was served by dedicated called and appointed leaders in our congregations. Pastor Scott Egbers (First Beardstown) received a call to serve Trinity Lutheran in Souix City, Iowa and we wish both Scott and his wife Mallorie well in their new positions. Pastor Gayle Pope retired from Christ Lutheran in Quincy. Pastor Jeff Corson was called by the newly formed Faith and Grace Parish and began his service with them in April of 2020. Pastors John Ashcraft (St. Peter, Arenzville and St. John, Bluffs), Tom Christell (First, Beardstown and St. John, Bluff Springs), Adam Dichsen (Grace, Virginia) and Gayle Pope (Trinity Golden) are

serving as interims. Dave Poland is serving in an extended Synodically Authorized Ministry at Trinity in Carthage.

During the year the professional Leaders (Rostered Word and Sacrament and Word and Service and those trained for Synodically Authorized Ministry) met in 8 of the twelve months covering topics from reflections on the Churchwide Assembly to the Bishop's colloquy, to care of souls, and Lenten periscopes. We held an Epiphany gathering at the home of Pastor Gayle Pope and her husband Terry. Our last two meetings were held by Zoom, the second to look at the two synod emphases, Dwelling in the Word and Sister Congregations.

Our Conference assembly was held on April 19 by means of Zoom. Pastor Youngshim Pitcher of Macomb led worship with Bishop Roth preaching. We had a presentation by Mr. Dan Potaznick, a development officer at Wartburg Seminary. There are encouraging signs for rostered ministry in the future. We pray and give thanks for all who are called to share their gifts in any way in the communities we serve.