

ILC NEWS

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New Chairman and Executive Secretary for ILC



New ILC Chairman
Bishop Hans-Jörg Voigt

of the International Lutheran Council (ILC) met in the Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany, during the end of October this year, Voigt pointed out that he understands his chairmanship as an interim position until the next ILC conference in 2012 will elect a new chairman.

Rev. Dr. Robert Bugbee, President of the Lutheran Church-Canada was appointed Vice-



IELP President
Rev. Jonas Flor

Rev. Hans-Jörg Voigt, bishop of the Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELK) in Germany and previously vice-chairman of the ILC, has, according to the ILC constitution, become the new chairman of the ILC after its former leader, the president of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick was not re-elected as president. When the Executive Committee

of the International Lutheran Council (ILC) met in the Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany, during the end of October this year, Voigt pointed out that he understands his chairmanship as an interim position until the next ILC conference in 2012 will elect a new chairman.



New ILC
Vice-Chairman
Dr. R. Bugbee

chairman of the ILC. With Voigt becoming ILC chairman, his position

as representative of the European region has become vacant. The Executive Committee therefore appointed the Portuguese Evangelical Lutheran Church with Rev. Jonas Flor as its president, to represent this region.



Photo: LCMS Reporter
Dr. Samuel H. Nafzger

The meeting of the Executive Committee in Wittenberg was organized by longtime Executive Secretary of the ILC, Dr. Samuel Nafzger for the last time, as he had handed in his resignation in September 2010. Thereupon the Executive Committee appointed Rev. Dr. Ralph Mayan as new Executive Secretary.

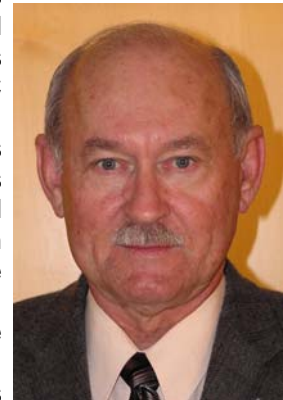
The former president of the Lutheran Church-Canada has extensive international experience and was chairman of the ILC from 1999 to 2007.

Nafzger was asked to continue as executive secretary until February 2011, when the responsibility will be handed over to Mayan.

The Executive Committee thanked Dr. Nafzger for his committed and devoted service to the ILC as its

Executive Secretary since its inception in 1993, and before that for the staff work for the International Lutheran Conference since 1987. Chairman Voigt said: "I know few people who do ecumenical theology as passionately as I have experienced with Sam Nafzger."

The Executive Committee also accepted the invitation from the Lutheran Church-Canada to hold the next ILC conference in 2012 in Canada. Part of its agenda will be the preparation of the celebration of the reformation jubilee in 2017.



Dr. Ralph E. Mayan
Photo: Hoeller

Challenges for the ILC

Editorial from Bishop Hans-Jörg Voigt
Chairman, International Lutheran Council

In October this year the Executive Committee of the International Lutheran Council (ILC) confirmed me as Chairman of the ILC. For this trust I would like to express my wholehearted gratitude. I freely admit that I never envisaged the possibility to succeed Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick in this position.

But after Dr. Kieschnick was not re-elected as president of his church, I am – according to the constitution of the ILC – now its officiating chairman. I understand this as an interim arrangement until the regular election of a chairman by the next ILC conference in 2012. I will carry out this responsibility with the best of my abilities and ask for your prayers. I am especially pleased with the support of the newly appointed Vice-chairman, President Robert Bugbee of the Lutheran Church-Canada.

From the depths of my heart I wish my esteemed predecessor, Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, God's richest blessings and guidance on all his ways, and use this opportunity to cordially thank him in the name of the ILC for his untiring commitment for international confessional Lutheranism. May the Lord bless all what he has begun.

I am particularly delighted that the newly elected president of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, USA, the Rev. Matthew C. Harrison could attend the October meeting of the ILC Executive Committee in Wittenberg, Germany as a guest. God's Holy Spirit may guide also him in his responsibility as president of the largest ILC member church.

I would like to formulate the following challenges for the future of the ILC:

1. The joint presentation of our foundation of teaching on the basis of the Lutheran Confession under the focal points of
 - a mutual understanding of the Sacraments,
 - a mutual understanding of the Scripture, and
 - a mutual doctrine of the Church.
2. Strengthening of the community of our ILC member- and guest churches. Restraining of local conflicts between Lutheran churches.
3. Unfolding and development of a mutual understanding of mission and charity.
4. To make use of the consultation and contact levels with the Lutheran World Federation according to the communiqué of 30 October to 2 November 2003, and development of an own ecumenical profile on the basis of the Lutheran doctrine of the Church of CA VII.

May God send his Holy Spirit and bless our doings and plans and let our community grow in the Confession.

ILC Church Representatives Plant Trees in Luther Garden

Selk news – During the meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Lutheran Council (ILC) in the Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany, representatives of ILC churches from all its world regions planted trees in the Luther Garden of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in Wittenberg on 27 October 2010.

Because of the quotation attributed to Martin Luther about “planting an apple tree,” a Luther Garden (www.luthergarten.de), planned by the highly reputed landscape architect Andreas Kipar, Milano/Duisburg, is being established in preparation of the 500th jubilee of the Reformation in 2017.

The symbolic planting of the trees should be seen as a token of the connection between the LWF and ILC with their joint roots in the Lutheran Reformation, remarked ILC-Chairman Bishop Hans Jörg Voigt, who, as leader of the Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELK) in Germany, had taken the initiative for the planting of the trees by the ILC-churches. “It is my intention to further strengthen the trust between both Lutheran world organizations as much as possible,” Voigt added.

The director of the LWF Center in Wittenberg, Rev. Hans-Wilhelm Kasch, had prepared the ceremony at which the leaders of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, the Lutheran Church of the Philippines, the Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC), the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Belgium, the Lutheran Church of Nigeria, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Brazil, and the SELK planted trees. LCC President Bugbee also took over a tree-sponsorship for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Nicaragua, a Lutheran mission-church grown out of LCC's mission work.

Harrison Installed as 13th LCMS President

LCMS Reporter - by Adriane Dorr – The installation of Rev. Matthew C. Harrison as the 13th president of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS), USA, was, in his own words, “an amazing, humbling day.”

Pondering both the number of people who were in attendance as well as the international representation from LCMS partner churches, he noted, "It really gives you a sense that we are a part of something the Lord has blessed unbelievably."



Joe Isenhower Jr./LCMS Communications
Dr. Ray Mirly, president of the LCMS Missouri District,
performs the installation of LCMS
President Matthew C. Harrison

More than 1 200 people attended the installation service for Harrison and some 75 other leaders on 11 September 2010 in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Nearly 300 people formed the processional into the service, namely, the clergy and teachers of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Des Peres, Missouri, where the Harrison family are members; 39 deaconesses; more than 150 LCMS clergy; the LCMS Council of Presidents; and the Synod's Praesidium.

Dignitaries and guests filled the remainder of the chapel's seats as well as the seminary's Werner Auditorium. At Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Sihler Auditorium also hosted students, faculty and staff who watched the event live online.

In addition, at least 1 600 people watched the service via the Internet both from around the United States and as far away as Brazil, Australia, Kazakhstan, Japan, Estonia and India. The Divine Service, which included adult and children's choirs, instrumentalists and vocal soloists, lasted nearly two-and-a-half hours.

Representatives from Lutheran churches around the world also attended. More than thirty international guests from churches with whom the LCMS is in fellowship participated, traveling from Germany, the Philippines, Ghana, India, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan, Russia, Guatemala, Chile and Haiti to celebrate Harrison's installation.

Dr. Walter Obare, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya, served as guest preacher for the Divine Service. Encouraging Harrison and the other newly

elected officials, he noted, "Bring back the doubting, those who are not sure whether to follow the Bible or to follow the post-modern views of our day. Help The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to remain a confessional church within the Church Catholic."

The LCMS's five vice-presidents also were installed during the service. Rev. Herbert C. Mueller, Dr. John Wohlrabe, Rev. Daniel Preus and Dr. Scott R. Murray were in attendance, while Dr. Paul L. Maier was installed in absentia.

Harrison also conducted the installation of more than 70 members of other boards and commissions, such as the Boards for National and International Mission, the Concordia University System Board of Directors, and the Commission on Theology and Church Relations.

Following the service, guests celebrated the occasion with bratwurst and bluegrass music in Concordia Seminary's main quadrangle.

11th LWF Assembly Held in Germany

LWI - From 20 to 27 July 2010, Lutherans from around the world met in Stuttgart, Germany, for the Eleventh Assembly of The Lutheran World Federation (LWF). "Give Us Today Our Daily Bread" was the theme of the event, hosted by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wuerttemberg.

The LWF comprises 140 member churches in 79 countries, representing more than 70 million Christians. An estimated 1 000 people, including 418 delegates from the member churches participated in the assembly, held mainly in the Liederhalle cultural and congress center.

Participants also included invited ecumenical observers, official visitors, interpreters and translators, stewards, members of the LWF staff and co-opted staff, accredited journalists and volunteers.

The Archbishop of Canterbury Dr. Rowan Williams, head of the worldwide Anglican Communion, delivered the keynote address to the Assembly on 22 July. Reports about the focus and challenges of LWF's work over the last seven years were presented by the President Bishop Mark S. Hanson (Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), General Secretary Rev. Dr. Ishmael Noko; and Treasurer Mr. Peter Stoll (Germany).

Normally occurring every six years, the Assembly is the LWF's highest decision-making body.

The last Assembly was held in Winnipeg, Canada in July 2003 on the theme "For the healing of the world."

Palestinian Bishop Elected President of the Lutheran World Federation



Photo: LWI
Bishop Dr. Munib A. Younan

LWI - Bishop Munib A. Younan of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) was elected President of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) on 24 July 2010 by its Eleventh Assembly in Stuttgart, Germany.

Younan, 59, succeeds Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, who has been President of the LWF since the organization's last Assembly in Winnipeg, Canada, in 2003.

Ordained in 1976 after study in Palestine and gaining a degree from Helsinki, Finland University, Younan was a youth pastor and teacher in his homeland. From 1976 to 1979 he was pastor of the Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem and he has also served parishes in Beit Jala and Ramallah. He studied at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and he holds an honorary doctorate, granted by Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa.

The president-elect has headed his church body since 1998 and was the third Palestinian bishop of the church founded by Germans in the nineteenth century and previously led by clergy from Germany. A member of the LWF since 1974, the ELCJHL has about 3 000 members.

The bishop was the first to translate the Augsburg Confession, a key document of the Lutheran Church, into Arabic.

Younan is a former vice-president of the LWF, is president of the Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches and serves with three Jerusalem patriarchs and nine other bishops on the International Christian Committee of Jerusalem. He is also a co-founder of the Council of Religious Institutions in the Holy Land, made up of the two chief rabbis of Israel, heads of the local churches, the Chief Judge of the Islamic Court in Palestine and other Muslim leaders.

He is the author of *Witnessing for Peace*, a book about the search for peace in his homeland, and numerous articles on churches and the search for peace in the Holy Land.

ILC-Chairman Speaks to LWF Assembly

LWI - The chairman of the International Lutheran Council (ILC) expressed thanks for the relationships developed between the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and the ILC, while at the same time lamenting the directions taken on matters of sexuality by some LWF member churches.

The Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, who at the time of the assembly was also president of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, USA, on 24 July addressed the Eleventh Assembly of the LWF and said he feared that "many of the sacred scriptural truths which precipitated the Reformation are in danger of being lost."



Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick

Kieschnick said that challenges to Christian truth have "first been tolerated, then accepted, and now affirmed." Christians today, he added, have no "general consensus of broad concurrence, not to mention complete agreement on what constitutes marriage in the eyes of God, or what is acceptable or non-acceptable sexual behavior."

The ILC president was referring to ongoing controversies in Lutheranism and other denominations over whether to bless same sex unions or allow non-celibate homosexuals to serve as pastors and other church workers.

The ILC adopted a statement last year which regards "homosexuality as a violation of the will of God," Kieschnick said.

Twelve of the 34 churches that are in the ILC have membership in the LWF, of which two only hold associate membership. Some LWF member churches have taken steps to endorse same sex unions and allow people who are gay and lesbian and in committed relationships to serve as pastors.

"I share these words with this Assembly neither to stand in judgment, nor ignoring the logs in my own eye," he said, "but with a heavy heart." Kieschnick said that such controversies can lead to "significant internal strife, serious spiritual conflict and even organic schism."

Despite his concern that Reformation principles and biblical truth was in danger in some LWF churches, Kieschnick referred to

LWF President Mark S. Hanson as “my brother in Christ” and expressed gratitude for his friendship. “While we do not agree on numerous matters of faith and life,” he said, “I have genuinely appreciated your fraternal collegiality and gentle spirit and pray God’s blessings on your future endeavors.”

New US Lutheran Church Body Established

LCC Communications - A year of turmoil in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) culminated on 27 August 2010 with the creation of a new denomination, the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). Delegates from across North America converged on Grove City, Ohio for the *Lutheran CORE* (Coalition for Renewal) conference where the historic vote was held. Its effects are expected to resonate not only in the United States but also in Canada.



Bishop Paull Spring of the North American Lutheran Church

Since August 2009, when the ELCA Church wide Assembly voted to affirm couples living in homosexual relationships and opened the ministry to non-celibate homosexual clergy - an internal battle has rocked the 4.6 million member church. *Lutheran CORE* and *Word Alone*, organizations in the ELCA who had opposed the vote, condemned the open

rejection of scriptural authority. Congregational reaction began immediately, with churches voting to suspend funding to the national church and contemplating a final break from the denomination.

In the year following, more than 500 congregations have held first votes on separation from the ELCA, with 384 reaching the necessary two-thirds majority. Of these, 199 have further passed the required second vote to officially separate from the ELCA. Most have subsequently joined Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) which first broke from the ELCA in 2000.

Solid Ground, a confessional movement within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) notes that there has been at least one informational meeting in Canada about

Lutheran CORE and the NALC led by Bishop Paull Spring, who was elected as the first bishop of the NALC.

Representatives from *Solid Ground* and other Canadian confessional Lutheran entities, including Lutheran Church–Canada, recently met to discuss the theme “Toward a Confessional Lutheran Network in Canada.”

For Ryan Schwarz, elected to serve on the NALC’s Executive Council, the new denomination represents a way for “faithful, confessing Lutherans in North America to remain connected to each other and to the vast majority of Lutherans and Christians globally who reject the theological innovations of the ELCA and ELCIC.”

The creation of the NALC was also praised by representatives from the LCMC, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus.

CELC in 2011

Elsmailer - The Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC), the worldwide fellowship of 21 churches connected with the USA-based Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS), will hold its triennial convention at Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota, from 4 to 6 June 2011.

The topic for the three-day conference will be “The Church” and will include five essays on the visible and invisible church, the mission of the church, church fellowship, church governance, and the distinctiveness of the Lutheran church.

A visit will be scheduled to enable CELC delegates to visit Bethany campus of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, USA.

SELK-Delegation Visits Riga

selk news - By invitation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia (ELCL), a delegation of the Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELK) in Germany visited the Latvian capital Riga from 21 to 24 June 2010. The Latvian Bishops Pavlis Bruvers, Einars Alpe, Guntars Dimants and Archbishop Janis Vanags, accompanied by additional pastors and church musicians, met with Bishop Hans-Jörg Voigt, Head Youth Pastor Henning Scharff, Rev. Frank-Christian Schmitt, Church Councillor Gerd Henrichs and Superintendent Michael Voigt of the SELK.

The Latvian Lutherans reported on their plans to publish a new Hymn book this

year. It is intended to function as a Service Book for the congregations.

Besides the very difficult financial situation of the ELCL because of the present economy, suggestions for a common advanced training program for pastors was discussed. Archbishop Vanags also reported on the future of the Luther Academy in Riga, and youth pastor Krist Kalnins explained the system of ecclesiastical youth work in Latvia.

Other topics discussed were the visitations of congregations, the advanced training system of the SELK, the plans of its liturgical commission, theological questions, publication projects, and matters of personnel of the SELK.

Both sides agreed to investigate how pastors of the ELCL can take part in training seminars of the SELK. Joint youth projects are to be planned, and members of the liturgical commission are to exchange the results of their work on Gregorian music.

Landmark Weekend in Odessa, Ukraine

LCC communications - Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC) president, Rev. Dr. Robert Bugbee participated in a major celebration for the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches of Ukraine (SELCU) as the church gave thanks to God for its new seminary building in Odessa. The long-awaited structure includes classrooms, student accommodation, church offices, and storage for humanitarian aid. An LCC auxiliary, Concordia Lutheran Mission Society provided much of the funding for the seminary through gifts from its supporters.

The Service of Dedication and Thanksgiving on 21 August 2010 marked the opening of the seminary's academic year.

Dr. Norman Threinen, professor emeritus of Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, Canada, began teaching seminary classes on 1 September this year. Five students are currently enrolled.

LCK Completes Luther Center

Asia *Ablaze!* Newsletter - On 10 June 2010, Lutheran Church in Korea (LCK) held a thanksgiving worship service for the successful completion of the Luther Center in Jamsil, which is the economic center of South Korea's capital Seoul.

The Luther Center is a memorial building for the 50th anniversary of Lutheran mission in

Korea. It has 24 stories above ground and five below, with a total space of 35 894 square meters.

Luther Center is an office building constructed for lending. It is planned to use the income for mission programs as the foundation of new congregations and overseas mission.

The location of the building is across the street from where the world's tallest skyscraper is set to be built. The Luther Center is of utmost value and has received a lot of attention from the Korean Christian community. The inauguration ceremony was held on 10 October 2010.

LCK holds 40th Annual General Assembly

From 10 to 12 October 2010, the Lutheran Church in Korea (LCK) held its 40th General Assembly Meeting.

The place of the meeting was also special, as it took place at Daejodong Lutheran Church which is also celebrating its 40th anniversary.

The opening worship service on 10 October coincided with the inauguration ceremony of the new Luther Center. On this occasion there was also an unveiling ceremony for the first statue of Martin Luther in Korea.

NLHD Holds Parish Administration Seminar

The North Luzon Highland District (NLHD) of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP) held a seminar on Parish Administration and



Church Practices on 8 and 9 September this year at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Baguio City.

More than fifty lay leaders and local pastors

attended. Some were encouraged in ways how to best direct and manage their congregations. Rev. Felipe Ehican, Jr., NLHD President, encouraged leaders to attend, as there are more than fifty congregations and outstations in this district.

This type of seminar enables church leaders to better lead their constituents.

Successful Summer English Program in Hong Kong

This summer, Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LCMS) volunteer missionaries in Hong Kong coordinated "Summer English Program" camps. They worked in a total of five Lutheran Church-Hong Kong Synod (LCHKS) schools, teaching Bible stories and helping students improve their English during the one or two day camps.

The camps serve two main purposes. The first is to teach current students English and Bible stories, and the second is to show community members that the schools have strong English programs.

Almost all of the schools in Hong Kong are conducted in Cantonese, but many have an English program. Increasing enrollment is extremely important for schools in Hong Kong. It's birth rate has been declining over the past few decades, and many schools are now in danger of closing.

One proven way to increase school enrollment is to have a strong English program. LCMS and the LCHKS have been working together to improve the English program in many of the LCHKS schools by bringing native English speaking LCMS volunteer missionaries to work with students.

In Hong Kong, there are over thirty Lutheran schools run by the LCHKS, serving over 18 000 students.

At least 90% of the population in Hong Kong is non-Christian. The Lutheran schools provide a way for the LCHKS to share the Gospel with thousands of students and their families.

Quirk New Editor of ILC News



New ILC News Editor
Dr. Reginald Quirk
Photo: Hoeller

The Rev. Dr. Reginald Quirk was appointed new editor of the ILC News, the newsletter of the International Lutheran Council (ILC), by the executive committee of the ILC. Quirk is Preceptor of Westfield House, the institution of theological studies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (ELCE) in Cambridge,

England, and recently retired Chairman of the ELCE.

He takes over the editorship from Rev. Peter Ahlers, former president of the Free Evangelical Lutheran Synod in South Africa (FELSISA), who served in this position for eleven years. On assuming this assignment Quirk said: "It is with some trepidation that I take over from Peter Ahlers the task of editing the ILC News, and will be delighted if I manage to do it nearly so efficiently as he has done. It is my regard for the ILC rather than any skills or experience in this work that led me to accept the invitation of the ILC Executive Committee to assume the role of editor. I look forward to working with all member churches of the ILC in gathering and sharing news and information."



Retired ILC News editor
Rev. Peter Ahlers
Photo: J. Haessig

Whilst preparing his last edition, Ahlers gratefully acknowledged the help of those who assisted him with issuing the ILC News: "Of great help were especially the translations of articles from Portuguese into English by Mr. Eric Schulz and the scrutinizing proofreading of my son Tobias."

The ILC News was started in 1986 and edited for four years by Rev. Arnold Soeldner from the staff of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod for Missions. After a break of four years, the ILC News re-appeared in 1994, edited by Dr. Edwin Lehman, President of Lutheran Church-Canada and Chairman of the ILC, until the editorship was given to Ahlers in 1999.

The objective of the ILC News is to assist with the purpose of the ILC "to foster, strengthen, and preserve" confessional Lutheran Theology among its members and in the world.

ILC News is published four times a year – in February, May, August, and November – and is placed on-line at the ILC's website (www.ilc-online.org) in English and Spanish.

Rutt Joins LHM as Director of International Ministries

LCMS Reporter online - Dr. Douglas L. Rutt of Fort Wayne, Indiana, USA, began work on 30 July 2010 as director of the International

Ministries division at Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM).

As director, Rutt will oversee the International Ministries division in St. Louis, as well as the staff of more than 30 ministry centers worldwide.

Rutt formerly served as associate professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions,

and dean for Distance Learning for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. He was on the seminary faculty for two years (1995-97) before returning in June 2000.

He has previously served as a missionary to Guatemala, where he was involved in church planting and theological education, and as pastor at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in St. James, Minnesota, and St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Truman, Minnesota. He has also served as area secretary for Latin America and the Caribbean with LCMS World Mission and as an interpreter at a number of conferences of the International Lutheran Council (ILC).

Rutt has written several articles on mission history and practice and is currently editor of *Communicator*, the regular newsletter of the Lutheran Society for Missiology. He also consults and speaks on mission issues throughout the United States and Latin America, and currently serves as chairman of both the Lutheran Bible Translators Board of Directors and the Seminary Relations Committee of the International Lutheran Council.



Dr. Douglas L. Rutt

Engaged in Outreach (GEO) (long-term) missionary force of more than 200 people, and an office staff of approximately fifty workers. He directs the execution of the balanced focus plan of LCMS World Mission, leads LCMS World Mission and the LCMS in the global *Ablaze!* movement to reach more people with the Gospel, and encourages various mission partners within the United States and around the world.

Prior to this role, Buchholz most recently filled the position of associate executive director of Planning and Administration, and previous to that, served as director of Personnel (now Recruitment) Services. Prior to serving in the LCMS World Mission office, Buchholz and his wife, Jenny, served as missionaries for more than seven years in Taiwan as English-as-a-Foreign-Language teachers, school evangelists, Christian school planters, and in various leadership roles. Buchholz is a graduate of Concordia University, Irvine, California, in the elementary education program and received his DCE certification and master's degree in organizational management from Concordia University, St. Paul, Minnesota.



Buchholz Serves as LCMS World Mission Interim Executive Director

LCMS World Mission - As of 1 August this year, Kurt Buchholz, DCE, began serving as LCMS World Mission's interim executive director as planned in advance of Dr. Thomas Zehnder's 31 July retirement. In this role, Buchholz guides the various international, national, and armed forces teams and ministries of LCMS World Mission, including a career and Globally

ILC News is published quarterly to provide information for and about churches associated with the International Lutheran Council. Articles for publication and requests for additional copies of the publication (free of charge) should be sent either to the editor or to the executive secretary of the Council.

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