

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD



WYOMING DISTRICT  
Lutheran Ministries Center  
2400 Hickory Street  
Casper, Wyoming 82604  
307 265-9000

Office of the President

December 11, 2017

Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer, President of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis  
Rev. Dr. Charles Arand, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis  
Rev. Dr. Brian Friedrich, President of Concordia University, Nebraska  
Dr. John Jurchen, Concordia University, Nebraska  
Rev. Dr. R. Lee Hagan, President of the Missouri District, LCMS  
Rev. Dr. Richard Snow, President of the Nebraska District, LCMS  
Rev. Shawn Kumm, Chairman of the Board of Regents, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis  
Mr. Paul Schudel, Chairman of the Board of Regents, Concordia University, Nebraska  
Pastors of the Wyoming District, LCMS

Dear Brothers in Christ,

Greetings in Jesus' name. Enclosed is an open letter that I ask you to include in the ongoing discussion regarding the Summer 2017 edition of the *Concordia Journal*. Our pastoral conference is, by its constitution, an occasional gathering which cannot dialogue as easily as a seminary faculty may do. However, by the encouragement, assistance and approval of our pastors I have written the enclosed letter on behalf of us all. It is my prayer that the letter will clarify our position, both for your own consideration and for the anticipated meeting between pastoral representatives of the Wyoming District, representatives of the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and representatives of Concordia University, Nebraska.

I ask that you not mistake the fervor of the Wyoming District pastors for antagonism or pride. I pledge myself to act as pastor to them in keeping them focused upon the Holy Scripture and our confession of its doctrine, and in reminding them that our voice in the church at large is a voice that also serves for the love of our brethren. At the same time, I rejoice that our pastors are diligent to keep the Holy Scripture as Psalm 119 expresses. The great Advent text from Isaiah 40:8 is our teacher: "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

God bless and keep you all by the pure preaching of the Advent and Christmas Scriptures!

In Christ,

Rev. John E. Hill