



# Northern Illinois District

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

May 2026

They're the ones who bring a hospitable welcome to all who come to the Lord's house for worship, then they faithfully assist in making follow up visits to the guests. They assist in bringing the invitation of the Gospel to their community through evangelism and outreach. They're the ones who faithfully teach children about our Savior, Jesus, in Sunday School and youth ministries. **They faithfully serve** on numerous boards and committees: elders, altar guilds, boards of directors, stewardship committees and trustees, all ensuring that the Church can carry out its mission well.

They are Christlike instruments of Jesus' forgiveness when someone sins against them. And they pray!—for their pastors and church workers, for one another, and for a world lost in sin, needing the Gospel. **They are the laity, and for them, we add our "amen" to Paul's statement, "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you!"**

What a joyful blessing to equip the laity for the vital roles they play in the Lord's Church. That is why the NID is excited to announce **our third Lay Leadership Summit! The Summit will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2026 at Walther Christian Academy in Melrose Park.** That day will bring church workers and laity together again to worship our Lord; hear from keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing; encourage one another in our mutual service; and equip laity for their roles, offering 30 workshops throughout the day. **There is more information on those workshops on the flip side of this infographic.**

**In the coming weeks, be lookout for our "early bird" registration,** and make plans to be part of this uplifting, equipping, and Christ-glorifying day. Please joins us for the 2026 Lay Leadership Summit!

With You, My eyes are on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2,3)

Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss, President

