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10 February Anno Domini 2023 Silas, Fellow Worker of St. Peter and St. Paul

Greetings in name of the Lord Jesus!

Our Spring Pastors' Conference is set for Monday and Tuesday, April 17-18, 2023 at the Crossroads Hotel and Huron Event Center, 100 4<sup>th</sup> St. Southwest, Huron, SD 57350. We are pleased to announce the opportunity to host the Reverend Andrew Richard of Mount Hope Lutheran Church and School in Casper, WY.

Rev. Richard serves his Call as assistant pastor at Mount Hope, and also serves in the capacities of headmaster and upper-level humanities teacher for the school. He has served at Mount Hope Lutheran Church since 2019. He received his Master of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, IN in 2012. Before serving at Mount Hope, Rev. Richard served St. Paul Lutheran Chapel in Iowa City, IA and planted St. Silas Lutheran Church in North Liberty, Iowa.

He is the author of two works which he has given as gifts for the church. Christ and the Church is "a thirty-day devotion concerning the Holy Estate of Marriage, particularly addressed to those whom God has placed into it." And secondly, Be at Leisure: A Lutheran Approach to Outreach, which serves as the subject matter for our conference presentation. These resources are published by Steadfast Press and available for free digital download on their website, steadfastlutherans.org/parish/, or available in paperback for the cost of printing from lulu.com (but see below).

Drawing on his own experience in church planting, Rev. Richard will share with us and expand upon the insights of his brief guidance in *Be at Leisure*. He will also be bringing in his discoveries and experience in Christian education, as the teaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ really stands at the center of who we are, what it means to have knowledge, and reaching out. *Copies of this work will be provided at the conference* for each registrant.

Pastors attending the conference are asked to please **bring** a copy of the *Lutheran Service Book* for use during the daily prayer offices.

The District Office has reserved a block of rooms for us at Crossroads Hotel and Huron Event Center at the rate of \$89.99 plus tax. Rooms available at this price have either a single king or two queen beds. Book your room before April 2 to ensure availability. In order to book your room with our group rate and arrangement, you **MUST CALL** (605) 352-3204. *Do not book online*. When calling, please ask for the "South Dakota District Spring Pastors' Conference" reservations.

Conference registration will be due by March 20, 2023 to the District Office. The cost of this year's conference will be \$90 for pastors and vicars. Emeritus pastors may attend with no registration fee. Attending DCEs and deaconesses carry a \$60 registration fee. Conference registration forms can be found on the South Dakota District website:

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<u>https://sddlcms.org/news-events/event/2023-spring-pastors-conference.</u> The registration fee is required of all pastors and vicars, even if they are unable to attend the conference.

Regarding Continuing Education Units (CEU), 1 CEU will be available for \$10 through Concordia Theological Seminary. Please sign up for the CEU via the registration form.

This year, we have extraordinary gratitude for a **special arrangement** offered by Mt. Calvary Huron. The wives' session will follow the conclusion of Monday's conference so that whole families may travel together the two to three blocks from the Event Center to Mt. Calvary. The Mt. Calvary gymnasium will be available for fathers and their children while the wives attend their session with our guest speaker. Following their session, an allergen-sensitive supper will be available for all registrants at the church before Divine Service. **Be sure to RSVP (while registering) the number of people in your household who would like to share in this BBQ pork dinner**, made possible in part with funding from Thrivent. (Rev. Navurskis invites you to email him with any questions or concerns with gluten or allergies: revnavurskis.mclc@midconetwork.com.)

We rejoice at the opportunity to gather around the Lord's body and blood in His Divine Service on Monday evening, 6:30pm at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, 622 Dakota Avenue South, in Huron, SD. As those who have been gathered around His word of grace, we have great conversation and consolation to share with one another.

Your fellow servants in the grace of God, The Rev. Nathan T. Neugebauer The Rev. Jonah Domenichelli