



Presented by

Michigan District

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

#theological24

Redeem

Restore

Forgive

Love Talks:

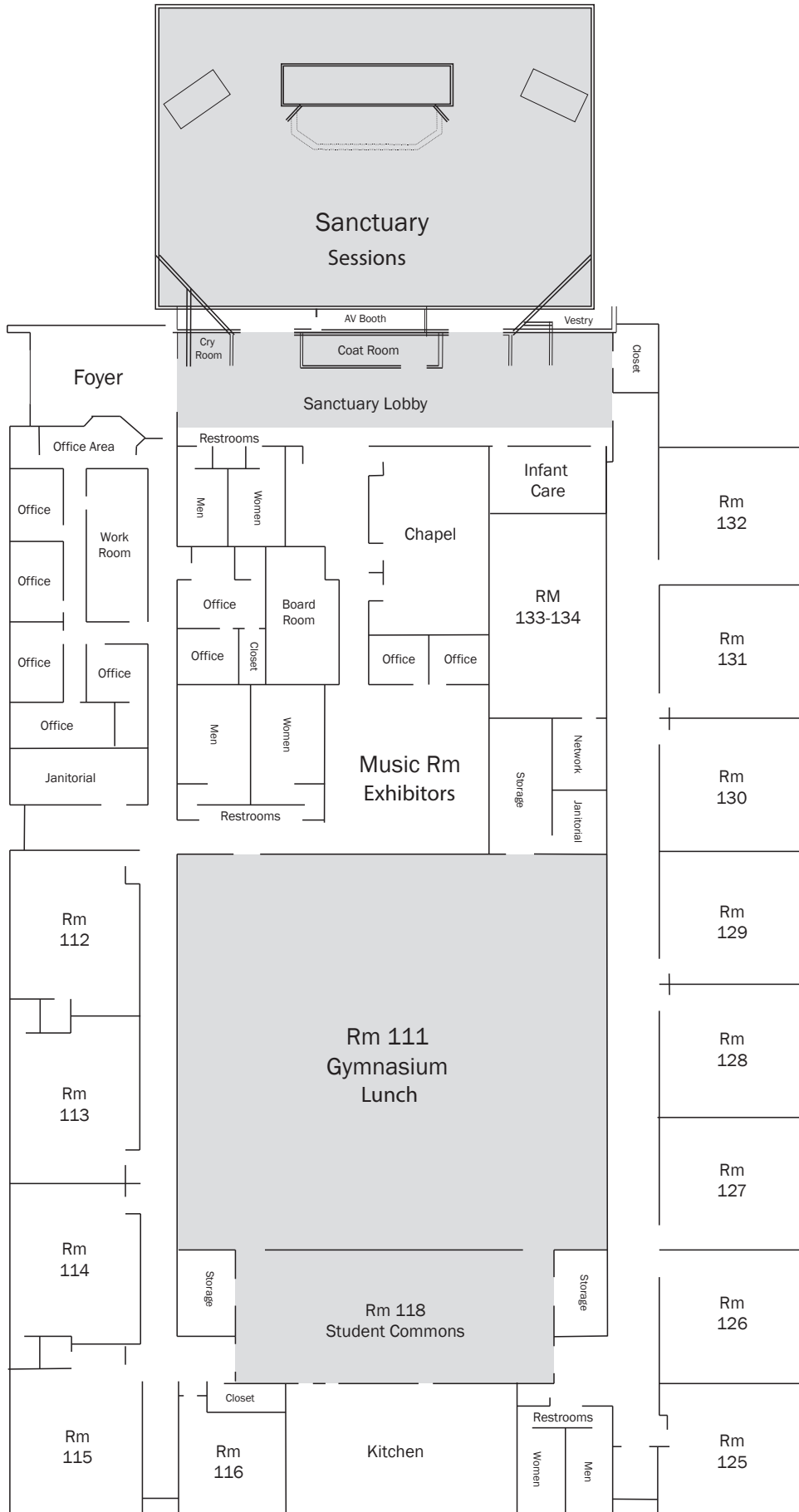
Daring

**Conversations Toward
Reconciliation**

"For Christ's love compels us ..."
(2 Corinthians 5:14 NIV).

Saturday, February 3, 2024
Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lansing

Map of Our Savior



President's Welcome



Welcome to this year's Theological Conference, *Love Talks: Daring Conversations Toward Reconciliation*. Through a combination of speakers, videos, shared experiences, displays, and some conversation, our day together could just change your life, your congregation ... and hopefully your community.

Let me capture your imagination: how would things be different if, as we often tell little children, we would “use our words?” At the heart of Reconciliation is The Word: Jesus. At the center of reconciling with others is the sharing of words: forgiveness, grace, mercy, contrition, repentance. Satan and sin separate: the nation, groups of people, families, congregations. The antidote to division, the way to reconciliation is not power, partisanism, or payback. The antidote is conversation: words, especially words about The Word.

Are you ready to be done with division? Are you ready for reconciliation? Are you willing to “use your words?” In the end, love talks.

We join together with expectation that our time together will help each of us to engage in daring conversations of reconciliation.

“For Christ’s love compels us ... All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation” (2 Corinthians 5:14a, 18, NIV).

Thank you to Our Savior congregation for again hosting this conference. We are grateful to her leaders, volunteers, and Pastors Wangelin and Deneen.

...eyes on Jesus...



Rev. David A. Davis, President
Michigan District, LCMS



Keynote Speakers



Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies

Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies is the regional director for North America at Lutheran Hour Ministries. He previously served as department chair and associate professor of religion at Concordia University in Portland, Ore. Before that, he was involved in church planting in St. Louis. He holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy and psychology from the University of Michigan and an M.Div. and Ph.D. in systematic theology from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Mo. He regularly speaks at national and international conferences for pastors and church professionals and has published in several journals on the topic of faith and culture.



Deac. Dr. Tiffany Manor

Deaconess Dr. Tiffany Manor is the Managing Director of Human Care and Ministerial Support for the LCMS. She provides leadership for the development of human care initiatives and programs for nearly 6,000 U.S. congregations, over 1,500 educational institutions, and 4 international regions. After a first career in business, a B.A. in marketing, and studies in an MBA program, Manor received an M.A. from Concordia Theological Seminary and earned a doctorate from Bethel University. She regularly speaks on topics related to human care, sanctity of human life, health, and family issues.



Rev. Mark Schulz

Rev. Mark Schulz graduated from Concordia College in River Forest, Ill., in 1980 and was a junior high teacher, youth leader, and athletic director for 12 years before attending Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Mo. Following seminary, he served three different congregations as pastor. He retired from full-time ministry in 2021. He continues to be involved in ministry, focusing on helping individuals and churches show God’s love and grace to the LGBTQ community.



FLAME

FLAME is a GRAMMY® nominated and Stellar Award-winning hip-hop artist. He is a well-versed leader in the Christian hip-hop scene with a growing list of accolades. He was born and raised in the inner city of St. Louis, Mo. He has released 9 albums to date under his own imprint. For over a decade, FLAME has traveled throughout North America and the Caribbean, Africa, Europe, and Asia performing music that has impacted the masses. In addition to touring, writing, recording, and co-producing his own projects, FLAME founded and helms Clear Sight Music, a boutique record label raising the bar in Christian hip-hop and beyond. He has an M.A. in theology with a minor in counseling.

Schedule

2024 Michigan District, LCMS Theological Conference

Love Talks: Daring Conversations Toward Reconciliation

Please visit the Exhibitors in the Sanctuary Lobby during breaks/lunch.

- 8:15 a.m. Registration/Fellowship
- 8:40 a.m. Music by Mr. Peter Prochnow
- 8:45 a.m. Opening – Rev. David A. Davis, President
- 9 a.m. Video
- 9:05 a.m. Session 1 – Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies
- 9:50 a.m. Video
- 9:55 a.m. Session 2 – Deac. Dr. Tiffany Manor
- 10:40 a.m. Break
- 10:55 a.m. Video
- 11 a.m. Session 3 – Rev. Mark Schulz
- 11:45 a.m. Conversation
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Video
- 1:05 p.m. Session 4 – FLAME
- 1:50 p.m. Conversation
- 2:15 p.m. Panel Discussion
- 2:50 p.m. Final Comments / Closing Prayer

Compassion Ministry

Thank you for your donations to the Our Savior, Lansing Food Bank and the St. Luke, Haslett Coat Bank

→ Video recordings of sessions will be available after the conference.
 You will be notified by email of their availability.
 → A conference evaluation will be emailed to you today or scan the QRcode; please take a moment to share your comments with us. Thank you.

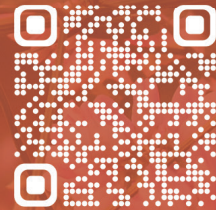


New Beginnings

IN HIS PRESENCE

Revelation 21:5

SAVE THE DATE
Lutheran Adult Gathering
October 11-13, 2024
Mackinac Island, Mich.



2024 Michigan District, LCMS
Jr. High Youth Gathering
July 30–August 1, 2024 | Frankenmuth, Mich.
michigandistrict.org/jrhigh24



Save the Date



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Session 2 Notes

Life as a Peacemaker, Living Differently Than the World

Deac. Dr. Tiffany Manor

Opportunities

Emotions

Relationships

Scripture Passages

2 Corinthians 5:14

Romans 8:9–10

James 5:16

Colossians 4:5–6

Matthew 5:9

1 Peter 3:15–16

Matthew 7:3–5

Psalms 32:1–2

Psalm 103:11–12

Romans 4:25–5:2

Romans 8:1

2 Corinthians 5:21

1 Peter 2:24

1 John 1:7–9

1 Peter 2:24

John 3:16–17

Reflection Questions

What opportunities do you see to focus on God, to serve others and grow in Christ when there is conflict?

How do you speak forgiveness to those around you?



Community Worship Network Gatherings

The Michigan District, Community Worship Network (CWN) is a community of worship arts leaders, church music leaders, pastors, and students serving within the Michigan District.

CWN will support and connect worship leaders and their churches through prayer, inspirational learning, helpful resources, encouragement, and ongoing support.

Join us for our next events:
Our Savior, Lansing - April 20, 2024
Concordia University Ann Arbor - June 15, 2024
St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth - September 21, 2024

For more information & to register
michigandistrict.org/events



BEYOND THE
 BREAKWATER

At Messiah, you will learn what *Beyond the Breakwater* is all about—mobilizing the church and caring for your community. To be the church is to reach one more life with Jesus by throwing out a lifeline to those who would never walk through the doors of your church and otherwise drown. After this introduction, we will spend some time in the community to observe and experience *Beyond the Breakwater* in action. You will gain knowledge of the structure, driving force, and activities within Messiah's ministry to the community. We then would encourage you to make a return trip and bring others with you, so they can experience for themselves what it means to go *Beyond the Breakwater* in their community.

Sign up today to join us at Messiah, Midland!

- February 6
- March 5

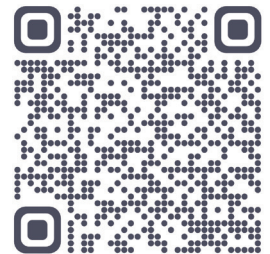
\$30/Person

Each of these have a 1-day or 2-day option

michigandistrict.org/events

Join a Ministry

The Michigan District welcomes volunteers on a regular basis at several ministries around the state. Take a look at our volunteer opportunities, complete an interest form online, and you will be contacted by someone from that ministry!



MEALS



PRE-NATAL CLINIC



TUTORING

Make a difference in another's life today!

michigandistrict.org/joinaministry

GET EQUIPPED

FOR EFFECTIVE GOSPEL MINISTRY

Share pictures and stories at
→ #miLCMS

CONNECT WITH THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT

Stay current on Lutheran news from around the state, connect with fellow Lutherans, and be inspired in your daily Christian living.

→ facebook.com/milcms → instagram.com/milcms
→ twitter.com/milcms

→ michigandistrict.org/blog

Michigan District blogs support the District's critical targets: Great Commission, Great Compassion, Healthy Congregations, and Healthy Workers. The blog can be easily shared through social networks and email. We are always looking for guest writers; to submit your article visit michigandistrict.org/storybucket.

The Michigan In Touch supplement to The Lutheran Witness is the printed version of the blog. It also contains news and events. Discount subscriptions are available. For more information, visit michigandistrict.org/lutheranwitness.



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Contact: Laura Thomas, Development Department; 734.665.3791



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