

Via de Cristo National Lutheran Secretariat  
2019-2020 Annual Report  
President

**You belong!** Two little words.

Simple words with no strings attached. Words that I heard following my entrance into serving this ministry in 1992. Words that fed many of my activities this past year, as well as during my entire tenure on this Board. According to the Search Institute, a sense of belonging is one of three core developmental processes in spiritual development. <sup>1</sup> If we are to live in spiritual development and to be encouraging others in discipleship, we need to create an environment where others feel and know and experience belonging.

To this end, the Board has diligently worked to share opportunities with the VdC community to participate in the growth and health of the ministry...to ensure that each person feels that they belong.

At the time of this writing (late May), we have initiated and supported:

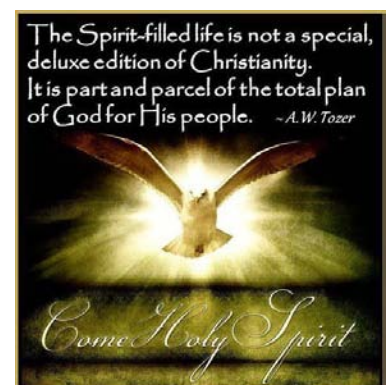
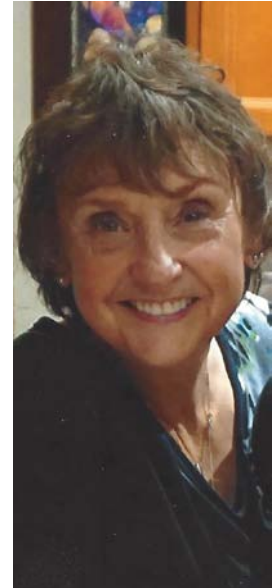
- ✓ A committee to review our current Bylaws and propose changes
  - Committee completed task March 2020
- ✓ A committee to review the Laity Rollos currently posted on the NLS website
  - First five Laity Rollos submitted to Executive Committee for review
- ✓ Efforts to update the NLS database and research issues
  - On-going
- ✓ Continued creation of new NLS website
- ✓ Using individuals from various secretariats to create a "Virtual Annual Gathering"
- ✓ A survey to seek input from clergy across the country.

Also, we are scheduled to form a Visioning Committee and a Communications Committee during 2020/2021 fiscal year – using volunteers from the secretariats.

And possibly most importantly, a VdC-wide search for and selection of an Executive Director.

It is one of our goals to feed and nurture the 4<sup>th</sup> Day journey for all in the VdC community. It is our honor to work with you.

Enjoy His Presence!  
Wendy Showalter



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.search-institute/youth-development-research/spiritual-development>