

## National Lutheran Secretariat President's Annual Report

### Reclaim Our Mission and Momentum

July 2021

*And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body, you are called to live in peace. And be thankful.*  
*Colossians 3:15 (NLT)*

#### My Friends in Christ

Another year has passed by and we remain safely distanced; another disappointing decision the NLS Executive Committee had to make. I miss being with you in person as my service as President ends and we all look to the future.



Although we have not met together, the Executive Committee and the Standing Committee Chairs have been busy working and praying for the health of the Via de Cristo ministry – and for each of the Affiliated Secretariats.

It has long been one of my goals to provide more opportunities for individuals to participate in the workings of the National Lutheran Secretariat. To that end, we have established three new committees that are now on task serving our Lord and you.

- The Technology/IT Committee was formed to create a technology future state “roadmap” incorporating current, sustainable technologies to facilitate the growth and activity of this ministry. Becoming a technology resource for each Affiliated Secretariat is one important goal.
- The Communications Committee was established to assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling the communication and outreach long-term goals and objectives for the ministry as well as the secretariats. This will include staying abreast of new communication strategies and technologies.
- The Spiritual Director Support Committee is fulfilling a commitment to serve all the clergy within the Via de Cristo ministry - as well as provide support for local secretariats in recruiting new clergy. This will include updating the clergy database and opening communications between clergy across the country.

The new and improved website is up and running after many hours of work by the team, led by Rick Hanzlik. Many thanks.

Newly updated Suggested Rollo Outlines have been prepared by a grace-filled team, including Pastor Krista Strum, Lisa Jacoby, David McConnell, Sara Breggemann, Ron

Fleischmann, Susan Siroky and Pastor Chris Hogstad.and posted on the website.  
Great work!!!

We also hosted our first National Ultreya and began leading Leadership Forums.

The Executive Committee confirmed the practicality of postponing all potential Bylaw change discussions until we can gather in Texas in 2022. Please be prepared to pray over these conversations as the community moves forward. As in the past, the new administration will continue looking at strategies to strengthen the secretariats and visioning for the future.

You can count on me to remain a vocal and loving advocate for this blessed ministry. It has been such an honor to serve you and with you. And I pledge to continue my prayerful support as you journey to “new normal” weekends and reclaiming the momentum.

**Come be the Light!!!**

Wendy Showalter