

## ENGLISH DISTRICT

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

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### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND BISHOP

February 24, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the English District,

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thessalonians 1:2*

Recent events at Concordia University Wisconsin (CUW), Mequon, WI are causing concern in the church. People have weighed in on this situation and violations of the eighth commandment have occurred. There are individuals who have taken liberties to make comments and create scenarios that do not exist.

The South Wisconsin District, LCMS President, Rev. Dr. John Wille, has responsibility for ecclesiastical supervision, counsel, care, and protection of rostered church workers at CUW in the performance of their official duties. He is actively involved with the university and its rostered workers. Concordia's administration is working with President Wille to effectively navigate this situation in a God-pleasing manner, according to the LCMS bylaws and the university's policies.

As your Bishop/President, I ask you to trust in the process of the church. I assure you that action is taking place and movement is occurring. I am involved and will follow through, as best as I am able, until a peaceful resolution is obtained.

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President of the LCMS, is responsible for ecclesiastical and doctrinal supervision of the university, which is governed by its board of regents. President Harrison is also involved, and he is working with the parties in conjunction with President Wille.

Fidelity to the teaching of the clear and inerrant Scriptures and to the Lutheran Confessions is non-negotiable.

“If the salt loses its saltiness, what good is it?” (Matt. 5:13)

Even when matters of doctrine are being discussed, the eighth commandment is to temper Christian discourse. I request your patience. I plead for your prayers. I request your prayers especially for the faculty, regents, leadership, and students of our beloved CUW and South Wisconsin District.

Take heart! The Lord works all for good. (Rom. 8:28)

Your Brother in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Jamison J. Hardy  
Bishop/President English District, LCMS