

Lutheran Grantmakers and Donors Network

Missional Grantmaking for Impact

2016 Annual Meeting *Speaker Biographies*

Meeting Chaplain

Rev. Bill Limmer, *Victory of the Lamb, Franklin, Wis.*

Pastor Bill Limmer is a 1990 Graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He and his wife Jacky have two children, Andrew (and Taylor) Rochester, MN, and Alyssa in Madison, WI. The Limmers have served congregations in MN and WI including seven years as a part-time campus pastor at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, five years as a full-time campus in Milwaukee, and the last four years as a campus pastor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Most recently, Rev. Limmer and Jacky have joined the ministry team of Victory of the Lamb, in Franklin, WI. Rev. Limmer enjoys running and reading and meeting people where they are at with the love of Jesus!

Thurs., Sept. 1st at 9:00 a.m.

Speaker:

Kathleen Pritchard, *Principal at Data You Can Use*

Kathleen Pritchard is Principal of a newly-formed, Milwaukee based nonprofit called Data You Can Use. She works with other nonprofits, foundations and government to help them secure good data and use it to inform their plans and assess their results.

She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her academic work focuses on comparative social policy and evaluation. Her resume includes extensive experience in collaborative planning, participatory evaluation and applied research.

She was the former Director of Community Impact at United Way of Greater Milwaukee, and then at United Way of America. She has worked with hundreds of local programs and organizations in defining and documenting their outcomes and dozens of communities in pursuing system level change. Dr. Pritchard served three terms as the elected President of the Village of Whitefish Bay and as President of the North Shore Fire Department. Current clients include Siebert Lutheran Foundation, Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Northwestern Mutual Foundation and the Zilber Family Foundation.

Thurs., Sept. 1st at 11:15 a.m.

Speaker:

Cynthia Halverson, *President of LSS Foundation of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan*

The mission of the Foundation is to provide ongoing support for the programs of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. For the past 32 years, Halverson has worked in fund development for nonprofit organizations in a variety of field and leadership positions where she has gained extensive experience in comprehensive program management and major and planned gift development.

Prior to her work with the Foundation, Halverson served as Executive Director for Mission Advancement for the Evangelical Covenant Church. Her previous professional experiences include serving as director for development services for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and as president of the ELCA Foundation; director of the ELCA Fund for Leaders in Mission; vice president for resource development for Lutheran Social Service of Illinois; and director of development for Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois.

Halverson is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Council on Gift Annuities and the Outreach for Hope Board of Directors. She is a member of the Association of Lutheran Development Professionals and a graduate of Valparaiso University.

Grantmaking for Impact in Urban Education – Opening Speaker and Panel Discussion

Thurs., Sept. 1st at 1:30 p.m.

Speaker:

Andrew Neumann, Ph.D., *Executive Chair and CEO of Open Sky Education*

Andrew Neumann is an educational entrepreneur driven to ensure all children in America have access to excellent learning opportunities that maximize their potential to fulfill Greater Purpose and live flourishing lives. His passion is to contribute to building an educational ecosystem in America that will close global and national achievement gaps, build deeply-held internally-driven character, and provide the option for faith-formation to be an integral part of education for all who desire it, regardless of a family's income or zip code.

Committed to this mission, Dr. Neumann graduated from Martin Luther College and began his career as a teacher serving students at the high school and college levels. After finishing his Ph.D. in educational mathematics, he joined the faculty as a professor of mathematics at Wisconsin Lutheran College. In 2006, he joined Open Sky Education (formerly Educational Enterprises) and serves as its Executive Chair/CEO working to support the team to advance its mission nationally by growing its school networks (HOPE Christian Schools and EAGLE College Prep public charter schools), Christian wraparound programs (Compass Educational Programs), and its Character Formation Project.

In addition to his work at Open Sky Education, he also works to advance this mission for children by participating in a variety of speaking engagements, as well as serving on the boards of mission-aligned organizations including School Choice Wisconsin, the Alliance for Choices in Education, and the Institute for Missional Visioning.

Thurs., Sept. 1st at 2:00 p.m.

Panel Discussion

Ray Dusseau (Panel Facilitator), *Founding Director at Center for Urban Teaching*

Dr. Ray Dusseau served as principal and teacher in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) Schools for twenty-six years before he became a Professor of Education in 1992 at Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee. His Ph.D. is in Educational Administration & Supervision of Instruction from Marquette University.

In 2001, Dr. Dusseau launched the Center for Urban Teaching with the mission to identify, prepare, and support high performing urban teachers. During a sabbatical in 2006 he researched the basic elements of high performance in urban teaching. His findings are summarized in his High Performance Triad model which is used in training candidates for urban teaching.

The Center for Urban Teaching was incorporated under Dr. Dusseau's leadership and the Center's offices moved to 26th & Wisconsin to accommodate a plan for aggressive growth. As the Founding Director, he is truly honored to be an active part of the miracle that God is working in Milwaukee and beyond.

Joan Feiereisen, *Director of Governance and Board Leadership at PAVE*

Joan Feiereisen began her 30+ year career in non-profits when she joined a committee to successfully save her alma mater, a high school in Milwaukee's central city that had been closed for financial reasons. After serving as the school's development director and successfully managing a \$5.1 million capital campaign, Ms. Feiereisen went on to work as a consultant locally and nationally. She also was a founder of the Catholic Community Foundation of Milwaukee and served as its first President. Today, she is the Director for Governance and Board Leadership with PAVE, where she counsels the boards of urban schools on governance, fundraising, and planning, and manages their grant requests. Ms. Feiereisen has served on several boards of directors including the National Catholic Development Conference, Leave a Legacy, and First Stage Children's Theatre.

Shaun Luehring, *Vice President of Educational Leadership at Lutheran Urban Mission Initiative, Inc. (LUMIN)*

Shaun Luehring has spent nearly two decades serving Lutheran schools in the Midwest and California with a focus on leading change. After leading an initial turnaround of Atonement Lutheran, a previously low-performing school in Milwaukee, he completed a study on the effective practices of turnaround school leaders in religious schools.

He serves on the Grenada Ministry Board, a local Lutheran board operating a school, church, and other ministries on the island of Grenada, as well as the Choice Schools Association, a board focused on the promotion of quality in choice schools throughout Wisconsin.

Currently Mr. Luehring is the Vice President of Educational Leadership of LUMIN Schools, a group of Lutheran schools which serve over 1,500 predominantly low-income children in urban areas through state voucher programs. He lives in Milwaukee, WI, with his wife Jessica and three children ages 16, 13, and 10.

Henry Tyson, Superintendent at St. Marcus Lutheran School

Henry Tyson, a native of Great Britain, moved to the United States in 1990 to attend Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. After graduating from Northwestern with a degree in Slavic Studies, Mr. Tyson served as an Americorps volunteer with Habitat for Humanity in Chicago. That job led him to develop an interest in urban education. Having earned a Masters of Education degree from DePaul University, Mr. Tyson worked as a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools and Niles Township Schools.

In 2002, Mr. Tyson moved to Milwaukee to become the Assistant Principal at St. Marcus Lutheran School, a Choice school on the north side of Milwaukee. He is currently serving as the Superintendent at St. Marcus. Since his arrival at St. Marcus, the school has grown from serving 220 students to over 830, over \$17,000,000 has been invested in the current campus expansion, and the school has become a nationally recognized leader in urban education and school reform. The expanded campus is at capacity and the newly opened North Campus is growing. St. Marcus has proven that high quality urban education is possible and as a result continues to see increased demand. Over 1,000 students applied for the Fall of 2015. Mr. Tyson is committed to finding the right opportunity to further expand and serve more students, their families, and the surrounding community.

In addition to his work at St. Marcus, Mr. Tyson was one of the founders of Schools That Can Milwaukee and currently serves on its board of directors. Mr. Tyson was also a founding member of the Choice Schools' Association and continues to serve on that board. He is the Chairman of the Board of the Center for Urban Teaching and serves on the board at Atonement Lutheran School.

A resident of Milwaukee's Harambee neighborhood, Mr. Tyson is dedicated to sharing the Gospel with students, eliminating the racial achievement gap in Wisconsin and improving the graduation rates of minority students in the City of Milwaukee. He is committed to leading the charge to replicate and expand schools that work and is resolute in his determination to transform Milwaukee's failing education systems into a world-class model for urban education.