

# **About Our Speakers:**

## Rev. Peter Alexander, Dean of Training Faculty, emeritus, LuTMA

In addition to 14 years of parish ministry, Peter has served in campus and Lutheran high school ministry settings for 15 years as well as serving as a trainer and consultant for congregational stewardship renewal in 45 congregations throughout the LCMS. As a transitional interim pastor over the past 25 years, his 10 completed TIM settings have been in California, Arizona, New Jersey, and the DC Capitol area of Virginia. Currently he is TIM Pastor of University Lutheran Church in La Jolla, California. For 14 years he has served as Dean of the training faculty of NALIP/LuTMA and has taught TIM theory and



practice to over 500 Lutheran Pastors and assisted congregations and districts in the placement of TIM Pastors across the LCMS. His passion for transitional ministry remains unabated.

#### Rev. Jim Swinford, PSD Director of Transitional Interim Ministry



A native of San Diego, CA, now living in Phoenix, AZ, Jim has 35+ years of pastoral ministry; 15 of those serving as a Transitional Interim Pastor. Jim serves as Director of Transitional Interim Ministry for the Pacific Southwest District. His passion is guiding congregations in getting "unstuck" so they can rediscover God's plan for them "Beyond their Walls." Jim encourages congregations to be open to the adaptive thinking that leads to real change rather than focusing on insoluble problems. Using insight and humor, he introduces a relaxed and non-anxious environment to redefine "problems" as

"God-created" opportunities for gospel-based solutions to their Mission and Ministry struggles. Feel free to reach out to him either by phone (623) 200-7352 or email: pastor.jim.nlm@outlook.com.

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### Rev. Dr. L. Tardelli Voss, Missionary Director for the Lutheran Mission Society San Diego

A native of Brazil, he has been a Lutheran pastor for 21 years (Northwest Arkansas 9 years, Rio de Janeiro 9 years, and in San Diego since February 2023). He currently serves as Missionary Director for the Lutheran Mission Society San Diego, an organization that seeks to serve every LCMS congregation in San Diego County and Tijuana. You can learn more at salutherans.org, on social media, or by talking directly with Pastor Voss. Email: tvoss@salutherans.org | Phone: 858-305-1990.



### Rev. David Rienke, NOW Director of *Transitional Interim Ministry*



As a transitional interim ministry pastor, David has served 9 congregations in 16 years in 4 states. For the last 11 years he's also served the Northwest District as coordinator of this ministry. His first call from the seminary was to serve in a fundraising capacity, and has since served 3 institutions as Director of Development, and later founded a stewardship consulting firm that grew to 12 consultants across the country. David enjoys the challenge of encouraging and inspiring others to see God's plan for them.

# Rev. Billy Brath, Strategic Advisor, TIM Consultant

Rev. Billy Brath is a strategic advisor who works at the intersection of mission, ministry, and experience design. A former Walt Disney Company performer, parish pastor, and LCEF consultant, Billy brings a unique background to church, school, and district leadership. He currently helps leaders develop effective programs, refine systems, and implement strategic plans as an embedded TIM consultant, a congregational strategic advisor, and serves part-time as the New



Jersey District Assistant to the Bishop. (Billy is based in NYC. Connect with him at <u>BillyBrath@qmail.com</u>)

#### Rev. Aaron Putnam, Bay Area City Director



Aaron is the West Regional Director of LINC Ministries International. LINC is a strategic urban network that empowers local missionary leaders and partners with them for kingdom impact. He has served with LINC for the past 10 years, walking alongside a diverse group of grassroots, Gospel-motivated leaders who bring the hope and help of Jesus to every corner of our cities. Aaron served as a volunteer missionary in Guatemala for five years, working to share the love of Christ and equip local leaders for ministry. In 2007, he was called to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Hayward, CA, to plant a Spanish-speaking congregation.

Over the next ten years, he worked to empower leaders and open doors for three non-Anglo ethnic ministries to take root. During this time, he also helped the English-speaking ministry initiate a replanting process toward becoming a thriving multiethnic church.

Away from his work in ministry, Aaron enjoys traveling, hiking, golfing, and spending time with his wife, Sofia, and their four boys.

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### Rev. Dawit Bokre, Bay Area Director of Mission

Born and raised in Asmara, Eritrea Dawit immigrated to the United States in 2003. Five years later, a small group of Eritrean Lutherans in the San Francisco Bay Area called him to be a bi-vocational church worker and plant an Eritrean Lutheran Church in the area. In 2015, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Hayward, CA asked Dawit to lead a replant of their English ministry to better reflect and serve the diverse surrounding community. Dawit serves as a Senior Pastor at Good Shepherd which is a unique multiethnic gathering of people from more than 15 ethnicties worshipping in both in English and Tigrinya.



In addition, he serves as Director of Mission for LINC Bay Area, an urban minitry network that raises up local leaders so that our cities will know Jesus.

Dawit resides in Hayward, CA, with his wonderful wife, Saron. Apart from ministry, he enjoys meeting new people, socializing at coffee shops, cooking, reading, and watching soccer and basketball.

### Rev. Michael Lange, President of the California/Nevada/Hawaii District



Mike has been married to Kristi (Peck) Lange since 1988. They are parents of four adult children, three bonus children (their children's spouses), and grandparents to six, with number seven on the way. A 1988 graduate of Concordia Seminary, Mike served pastorates in Wayzata, MN; Dixon, CA; and Brentwood, CA. He served as a church planter at the latter two locations. He remained Pastor at Resurrection in Brentwood, CA for 16 years, serving in a variety of leadership roles during its time of growth. He was called to serve as Mission Executive for the CNH in 2013 and elected as District President in 2018.

Mike's interests include coaching, writing, reading, golfing, hiking, travel, and spending time with family. When time permits, he enjoys DIY projects around the house.

"Nothing thrills me more than watching the lights come on in a new believer's eyes. I have a deep passion to assist existing saints in their life of following Jesus so that they might disciple others to do the same. Identifying, encouraging, and training the next generation(s) of leaders to serve in God's Mission is where I want to direct my time."



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