
PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The Rev. Paul Egger

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Dwelling in and with God this New Year 2026

Lord, You have been our Dwelling Place throughout all generations. Psalm 90.



*O God, our Help in ages past, our
hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast and
our eternal Home. LSB 733.*

Our Dwelling Place – Help - Shelter
God has given me many opportunities
throughout 2025 to celebrate His love
alongside pastors and His dear
children in our Iowa District West
congregations. In the past several
weeks, visiting and/or worshiping with
congregations, including St Paul
Aurelia, Trinity Cherokee, St Paul Ida

Grove, St Paul Whittemore, St John Fenton, St Paul Schaller, St John's Galva, Bethel
Lawton, Peace Wall Lake, Immanuel Livermore, Zion Lu Verne, Trinity Anthon, St Paul's Sac
City, and funeral services at Immanuel Osceola and St John Charter Oak.

God gathered our district presidents together at Concordia University, St Paul, for a four-
day Council of Presidents meeting. Also, He gathered our district leaders together for our
quarterly Board of Directors meeting. More and more – discussions with quite a few pastors
here in my district office – zooms and phone conversations – all to God's glory and the good
of His people.

Other scheduled and unscheduled meetings, like bumping into Pastor Jason Letsche at a
7th/8th boys basketball game, and a pre-sem interview with Nathanael Sherrill, nephew of
Council Bluff's Nathan Sherrill. God has blessed Nathanael and wife Anna with sons Luke
and John, and Anna is pregnant with their third son, Malachi. Nathanael is a full-time
plumber. He and Anna are excited to load up the family and head to seminary this coming
summer. Thank God for their commitment and dedication!

In the middle of all of this – as our God remains our Dwelling Place, our Help and our
Shelter – He has guided our district office during a big change – Michelle Hammersland's
first day (December 1) as Executive Administrator and Jill Davis' final official day
(December 16). Michelle comes with decades of administrative experience and Jill leaves

our district office to manage her family's trucking company. Thank You, Heavenly Father, for Jill's 15 years of faithful service among our district's congregations.

May God continue to bless us as He leads us into the year of our Lord 2026. Through memories, expectations, changes and opportunities, He remains our Dwelling Place, our Help and our Shelter.

As angels sing,

Pastor Paul Egger

***Meet our new Administrative Assistant,
Michelle Hammersland!***



Hello, my name is Michelle Hammersland. I am the new Administrative Assistant to District President Rev. Paul Egger and his Executive Assistant Rev. Dr. Keith Haney. I began my position on December 1, 2025. I bring over 15 years of experience in Administrative and Human Resources roles and am thrilled to join the team at Iowa District West. My husband and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary this past May, and we are blessed with two wonderful children—Taylor (28) and Tanner (23)—as well as our first grandchild, Ivory, who is 11 months old.

In my free time, I enjoy reading, crafting, and cooking, and I especially love hosting get-togethers with family and friends. I also serve on the Facing Autism board, a local nonprofit dedicated to promoting awareness and acceptance of ALL individuals with special needs—a cause that is very close to my heart.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you at IDW!

God's Blessing Always