

# CELEBRATION

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 1-3, 2025

ROSEVILLE COVENANT CHURCH

25

**We could not be more excited to invite you to the Northwest Conference Ministry Celebration and Annual Meeting, held May 1-3, 2025, at Roseville Covenant Church and Minnehaha Academy.**

This annual event remains a highlight of our ministry together as we gather to celebrate what God is doing through our churches and affiliated ministries. We hope representatives from each church can participate, as this will be an important time to remember God's steadfast faithfulness to his Church, and to look forward in the hope that we have in Christ.

Reflecting on 140 years of ministry that began in 1884 with the formation of the Northwestern Missionary Association, we remember that our God is a good and faithful God. At a time when institutional loyalty in our culture is at an all-time low, we do believe we are better together, and as a Conference, we remain committed to serving churches and uniting churches together in service.

**"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!"**

**Psalm 150:6**

You'll notice that we've re-branded this event as our Annual Ministry Celebration, or Celebration for short, which better represents what happens when we gather together. We invite all Northwest Conference ministries to come and experience the joy of ministry and lend your voice to help shape the future of our movement.

This year, we are excited to offer an all-day leadership event for pastors and lay leaders with Dr Tod Bolsinger—accomplished author, consultant, coach—who will lead us through a workshop on practicing change management in our churches. We're also honored to welcome both President of the ECC, Tammy Swanson-Draheim and Executive Minister of Serve Locally, Paul Robinson, as honored guests.

We believe strongly in the value of shared learning and ministry, and Celebration is a great opportunity for clergy and lay leaders to learn and lead together. We hope to see you there.

*Kara Stromberg, Superintendent*



**SATURDAY LEADERSHIP EVENT**  
Featuring Author,  
Consultant and Coach  
Tod Bolsinger



**FRIDAY EVENING WORSHIP**  
ECC President Tammy  
Swanson-Draheim  
Preaching

## THURSDAY, MAY 1

- 3:00 PM** Registration (Ministerial Association)
- 3:30 PM** Opening and Worship
- 3:45 PM** Ministerial Association Business Session 1
- 5:15 PM** Dinner
- 6:30 PM** Worship and Communion
- 7:45 PM** Dessert and Fellowship



## FRIDAY, MAY 2

- 9:00 AM** Worship and Prayer
- 9:30 AM** Superintendent Report
- 9:40 AM** Ordination/Commissioning Candidate Testimonies
- 10:35 AM** Break
- 10:45 AM** Listening Well – City, Suburban, Rural Dialogue
- NOON** Lunch (*Opportunity to Visit Ministry Partner Displays*)
- 1:00 PM** Q&A with ECC President Tammy Swanson-Draheim

## ORDINATION AND COMMISSIONING

Candidates for Ordination and Commissioning will be sharing a Word of Witness during the meeting. If you have a comment or concern about any of the candidates listed below, please contact Matt Kennedy, Chair of the NWC Committee on Ministerial Standing ([matt@rosevillecovenant.org](mailto:matt@rosevillecovenant.org)).



### Ordination to Word and Sacrament

- Michele Ann Arndt, Roseville Covenant Church, Roseville, MN
- Erika Brodin Clauson, M Health Fairview, Minneapolis, MN
- Kohl Michael Hanson, Karmel Covenant Church, Princeton, MN
- Cynthia Marie Jones, Catalyst Covenant Church, White Bear Lake, MN
- David Robert Mergens, Alexandria Covenant Church, Alexandria, MN

### Commissioning

- Nathan LaVerne Nelson, Mission Covenant Church, Poplar, WI

## HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Paul Robinson Preaching
- \* Spanish Translation will be Available
- \* Unique Dialogue Between City, Suburban and Rural Pastors on How We Might Best Listen to Each Other
- \* Testimonies by Ordination and Commissioning Candidates

## GOOD STANDING

**Dues:** All active Covenant credentialed clergy are asked to pay their annual dues in order to be in Good Standing. Pastors who are officially Inactive, Retired or do not hold Covenant credentials are exempt. 2025 dues are \$125 and can be paid with your Annual Meeting registration. Questions: contact Jim Murphy, Treasurer ([jim@redwingfirstcov.org](mailto:jim@redwingfirstcov.org)).

**Attendance:** If you are unable to attend the meeting regrets must be sent to Rob Jacobson ([robjacobson@restorationcov.org](mailto:robjacobson@restorationcov.org)).

## FRIDAY, MAY 2

- NOON** Lunch (*Opportunity to Visit Ministry Partner Displays*)
- 1:00 PM** Q&A with ECC President Tammy Swanson-Draheim
- 2:00 PM** Northwest Conference Business Session
- 5:30 PM** Dinner
- 6:45 PM** Worship Celebration
- 8:00 PM** Fellowship



## SATURDAY, MAY 3

- 9:00 AM** Leadership Development with Tod Bolsinger (*includes Lunch*)
- 3:00 PM** Closing

**NEW IN 2025!**

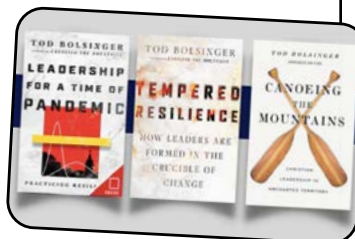
### LEADERSHIP MATTERS: PRACTICING CHANGE IN A TIME OF UPHEAVAL AND DISRUPTION

The Church has been described as being in a time of permanent whitewater, where upheaval and continual disruption is now the norm. As a result, many leaders are growing frustrated and losing heart.

Our Saturday leadership development event is designed to help pastors and lay leaders thrive in seasons of change, so that as thriving leaders, we can lead the church forward in faithfulness and mission, and be the catalyst for meaningful change.

**Dr. Bolsinger will be focusing on four areas of leadership:**

- How to not waste a crisis
- The mission always wins
- Invest in transformation
- Leading through resistance



This event is available to all who are serving in leadership with Northwest Conference churches and ministries. As the content will be interactive, this event will be available to in-person attendees only.

We encourage you to bring your teams for shared learning and fellowship. Registration is required for anyone not registered for the NWC Annual Meeting Celebration.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Leadership Matters Workshop with Tod Bolsinger
- \* Preaching From ECC President Tammy Swanson-Draheim
- \* Sharing in Ministry of NWC Churches
- \* Celebrating New Ordinands
- \* Updates on NWC Ministry
- \* Engaging Worship
- \* Shared Stories of Mission and Ministry
- \* Fellowship and Encouragement

## MEETING LOCATIONS

### Thursday & Friday

Roseville Covenant Church  
2865 Hamline Avenue North  
Roseville, MN 55113  
[rosevillecovenant.org](http://rosevillecovenant.org)

### Saturday

Minnehaha Academy  
3100 West River Parkway  
Minneapolis, MN 55406  
[minnehahaacademy.net](http://minnehahaacademy.net)



**northwest conference**  
developing leaders. thriving churches.







# LOCAL LODGING OPTIONS

## COUNTRY INN & SUITES

2740 Snelling Avenue North  
Roseville, MN 55113  
651-628-3500

Thursday night - \$125 plus tax\*  
Friday night - \$135 plus tax\*  
Complimentary Hotel Breakfast

*\*Group rate is available through April 10, 2025*

## HAMPTON INN

2050 Iona Lane West  
Roseville MN 55113  
651-209-3000

King room: \$134 plus tax\*  
2 Queen room: \$164 plus tax\*  
Complimentary Hotel Breakfast

*\*Group rate is available through April 2, 2025*

## HOME2 SUITES ROSEVILLE

2020 Iona Lane West  
Roseville MN 55113  
651-925-8600

1 Queen Studio Suite: \$134 plus tax\*  
2 Queen Studio Suite: \$149 plus tax\*  
Complimentary Hotel Breakfast

*\*Group rate is available through April 2, 2025*

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR HOTEL REGISTRATION LINKS & DETAILS**

## SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING

Safe Sanctuaries Training equips leaders to pastor people who have experienced the injustice of intimate partner violence and sexual violence. This training will include group work, activities and a capstone project that develops a plan for immediate implementation in the participant's church or community.

- **Wednesday, April 30**  
from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, May 1**  
from 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Rice Creek Covenant Church  
125 Ash Street  
Lino Lakes, MN 55126

More information is available on our website at: [northwestconference.org/event/celebration-2025-nwc-annual-meeting/](http://northwestconference.org/event/celebration-2025-nwc-annual-meeting/)

**Register for this special training by Wednesday, April 16!**

**PRE-EVENT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY**

