

Dear friends of LAMP,

September 2021

Meet LAMP's New Executive Director



he joint board of directors are pleased to announce the call and acceptance of Rev. Dr. Steven Schave as the new Executive Director of L.A.M.P. -Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots Inc. (Canada) and LAMP Ministry Inc. (U.S.). Rev. Schave was selected and called after an extensive search by the boards who believe LAMP is blessed to have someone with his background and experience to lead LAMP forward into the future.

Rev. Schave was most recently the director of LCMS Urban & Inner-City Mission in January 2014 and also director of LCMS Church Planting in January 2015. Rev. Schave is a second-career pastor and a former business executive with a

decade of experience in entrepreneurship, business systems, and executive leadership. His church work began in church planting with a focus on outreach through human care and then onto church revitalization with a focus on neighborhood renewal in the inner city.

Previously, Rev. Schave served as regional vice-president in the Southwest region of the LCMS Ohio District and was third vice-president of the presidium. He also served on the Board of Directors for Lutheran Housing Support for several years. Rev. Schave has years of experience in connecting Word and Sacrament ministry with engaging communities. He founded the MissionField: a USA initiative, which was adopted in the LCMS synod national convention in an effort to plant new cross-cultural ministries by working through districts to send national missionaries that he supervised. He also developed the national Save Our Cities Fund, Big City Mission School Program, The Hero Academy, Urban & Inner-City Webinar series, and Denarius Social Enterprise learning modules.

Rev. Schave received his Doctor of Ministry at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne with a dissertation that focused on church planting resources for the synod based on a witness, mercy, life together framework for doing missions. It became the foundation for the national training resources that he developed for the LCMS. This led to the beginning of a monthly podcast, as well as the largest study of its kind on LCMS mission work in the US to reach new people groups in new places.

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"I would like to thank the Board of Directors of LAMP for extending a call to me to serve as the next executive director of LAMP's ministries. I am grateful for your confidence in my God-given experience, skills, and knowledge as I can only give glory to God. I have been blessed since my years at the seminary to lead various mission organizations starting with our campus mission society, but LAMP certainly has a special place in my heart. I understand the challenges that we will face together and hardships for what my wife and I personally must leave behind. But throughout the call process, God has continually opened the doors needed for me to take this call, and also opened our hearts with a desire to serve the communities that LAMP ministers to. There seems to be no shortage of obstacles that organizations like LAMP will need to navigate in the year ahead, but so too God has given an absolute abundance of what can be rejoiced in for now over 50 years of serving in His mission. I look forward to charting that path forward with you, as I do to celebrating what has already been accomplished by all those who have come before us. God richly bless our work to reach the lost and serve the least to the most remote regions of His children in First Nations."

Rev. Schave and his wife Kim will be relocating to the Edmonton, Alberta area the first of September. As he assumes his new responsibilities at LAMP, please keep Steve and his family in your prayers during this time of transition, not only for them, but for LAMP as well. God's Word gives us encouragement now and in the future; *"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him."* (2 Cor 2:14)

In Christ,

Virle T. Follingto

Arnold Follinglo

Board Chair (Canada) L.A.M.P. - Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots Inc.

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Tyler Steele Board Chair (US) LAMP Ministry Inc.

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