

Rev. David H. Lindrooth
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Personal

Married to Aven Pendleton since 1989 (the best thing about me). Children: Anna (1990), Kerstin (1991), James (1993), Carina (1997), Daniel (1999), and Erik (1999).

Work Experience

Director of General Church Outreach: 2004-Present

Duties involve planning and oversight of General Church evangelization strategy and supporting pastors and congregations world-wide.

Current areas of focus include:

- Developing friendly, church-wide programs and materials that address spiritual needs and provide a pathway for integration into the church
- Facilitating the establishment of new congregations in North America and abroad
- Overseeing translation of New Church theological works into non-English languages
- Leading the development team for www.newchurch.org
- Teaching Evangelization in the BACNC Theological School
- Providing oversight for growth oriented Congregations
- Assisting the Administration by helping with planning; providing outreach perspective to boards; offering periodic evangelization training events, etc.

The Ivyland New Church: 1996-2004

Served as pastor of congregation and director of the Ivyland Montessori Preschool. The Society doubled in size during tenure and became financially self-sustaining.

The Sunrise Chapel in Tucson, Arizona: 1994-1996

Served as assistant pastor and vice-chair of Board of Directors.

Nya Kyrkans Församling I Stockholm (The Stockholm New Church Society): 1990-1994

Served as pastor; member of the board of directors for the Scandinavian Swedenborg Society; travel support to Denmark, Norway, England.

Recent Managerial/Leadership Activities

Leadership for development of the *Journey Campaigns* – evangelization programs designed to coordinate efforts throughout congregations providing introductory content to newcomers in a small group model. Currently Journey campaigns are used by 23 New Church congregations and thousands of online participants. Our team has recently pioneered a template for successful online small groups enabling participants with a broadband internet connection to be present in a group setting through video conferencing.

Newchurch.org leadership and administration. Our team has developed newchurch.org to the point where it is drawing over 400,000 annual new contacts and is tracking toward future growth of better than 10%. We continue to develop the systems that encourage

new membership for these contacts. Contacts are either referred to existing local congregations or provided online contact to foster the deepening of their faith.

New Church Connection Magazine. Started in 2006 as a magazine to introduce contacts to the theology and culture of the New Church. The magazine currently distributes 16,400 copies per year and has over 37,000 online readers.

Developed the *Joseph Project* in 2008. This cooperative program offers support to General Church congregations in their planning and development. It seeks to build bridges between congregations so that they can ‘cross pollinate,’ and be strengthened by using the broad scope of experience and expertise of the members of different congregations. The program also seeks to provide strategic planning and mentoring support otherwise unavailable in some local congregational settings. While largely unfunded at present, the project is recognized as a valuable strategy for supporting congregations in the future.

Developed *Religion 690* for Bryn Athyn College of the New Church’s M. Div. Program – a new theological school course covering both evangelization doctrine and church planting practices.

Leadership supporting and overseeing church plants or replants in Boulder, Austin, Seattle, Asia, India, the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Kenya, online: newchurchlive.tv, sunroomgroups.org

Church Committee work

GC Board Committee supporting International Church 2017-present
Consistory: 1996-2005; 2010 – 2014
Advisory Committee (counsels with Bishop on employment matters): 1997 – present
General Church Helping Children in Crisis: 2012 - present
Guest Member, General Church Board of Trustees: 1996-present
Director, General Church Evangelization Committee: 2004-present
Board Trustee for Loving Arms Mission: 2007-2013
Board Trustee for the Korean New Church Corporation: 2010-present
General Church Board Strategic Funding Principles Committee: 2011- present
Membership Committee for the Council of the Clergy: 1996-2004; 2009-2012
Secretary of the Church of the New Jerusalem’s Clergy: 1996-2004

Recent Samples of Publications

“Closing the Back Door: core issues effecting decline in worship attendance” General Church of the New Jerusalem Council of the Clergy Meetings June 2017
“Building Spiritual Resources” Sermon, Bryn Athyn Cathedral February, 2015; *New Church Life* Jan/Feb 2015
“Rethinking the Representative Nature of the Priesthood” General Church of the New Jerusalem Council of the Clergy Meetings, Bryn Athyn, PA 2014
“Preaching with Meaning” Council of the Clergy, 2012
“What the Lord Says about Salvation in the Gospels” Council of the Clergy, 2012
“No One Beyond Reach” Article *New Church Connection*, 2012 Issue #1
“Opening the Church” General Church Assembly Plenary Address, June, 2011
“The Courage to Grow” Audio Sermon available through www.newchurch.org, 2009
“The New Church – A Church in His Image and Likeness” Council of the Clergy, 2008

“Building Healthy Relationships: A New Church Journey Program” Co-written with John and Lori Odhner, 2008

“Realizing the Dreams of Marriage” Sermon, New Church Life, 2007

Other examples are available through a name search at www.newchurch.org

Work Related Interests

Swedenborgian theology – particularly related to the book series *the Arcana Caelestia*

Preaching and the study of what skills support effective preaching

Research in evangelization and church outreach efforts

Study in organizational systems and models particularly related to team-building and collaboration that can help our church function peacefully, joyfully and effectively

Online video and livestreaming

Recreational Interests

Sports; assisting at the family cattle ranch in South Dakota; almost anything out of doors with family; history; painting; music

Education

B.A. History, The George Washington University, 1986

M. Div. The Bryn Athyn College of the New Church Theological School, 1990

Columbia University School of Business - Institute for Not-for-Profit Management, Executive Certificate Program, 2008