

Dear Colleagues,

It has been many months since you have heard from the NPM Cleveland Chapter, but as you are well aware, much has been happening in our Diocese. We did an excellent job of hosting the NPM Regional Convention, but since it was such a monumental effort, many of us needed to get back to our regular lives for a while. Then we thought it was wise to wait for the outcome of the cluster decisions. Now that the Bishop's decisions regarding mergers and closings have been given, and appeals addressed by him, it seems like an appropriate time to turn our thoughts again to our NPM Chapter.

It is time for me to step down as Chapter Director for Cleveland NPM. We have a few people willing to serve as chapter officers and welcome any other nominations (you are welcome to nominate yourself). If you nominate someone, please be sure that person is willing to serve.

We are asking that nominations be submitted **by June 15<sup>th</sup>** so that we can prepare a ballot. If you are attending the NPM Convention in Chicago, you can vote at the Chapter Meeting, at the convention. If you are not attending, you will be able to return your vote or affirmation of the current list of people to me prior to the convention. The new officers will begin their term as of the end of the convention.

**Proposed slate of new officers:**

Co-Directors of the Chapter: Jason Lewis and Susanne Sande  
Communications via email: Bob Soeder (continuing that role)  
Program Chairs: Joe Metzinger and Charlene McElwee  
Koinonia Chair: open  
Secretary/Treasurer: Ruth Novak (outgoing chapter director)

More about each of these and any other nominated officers will be on the ballot in a few weeks. If you are planning to attend the **NPM Convention** this summer and have not yet registered, remember that the **advance registration deadline is June 5<sup>th</sup>**. If you are still in need of housing or transportation, we may be able to help match up people. Just let me or the web master, Dan Bergen, know your name and how to contact you.

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. May you be refreshed and renewed in spirit during the summer months. May you be unafraid to go forward in ministry in whatever change is ahead for you.

In Christ,  
Ruth Novak

P.S. The parish that I have been serving as Music Director for 14+ years has been slated to close. To read my reflections on facing the changes and ministering to those who are grieving, check out the article on the chapter web site.