

Fellowship of  
Recovering  
Lutheran Clergy



Providing recovery support for Lutheran clergy who suffer from alcoholism and other addictions.

## Synod Bishop is Grateful Alcoholic

Hi, I'm Pen. I'm an alcoholic, gratefully in recovery for more than five years. I am also the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA. The fact that I am a recovering alcoholic is common knowledge both in my synod and in the Conference of Bishops, since I entered treatment in the first three months of my term.

Though I drank regularly most of my adult life, the acute phase of the disease did not take root until after my wife died almost seven years ago. I'm saying all this because Bishop Burnside and I have a lot in

common. The fact that a woman is dead and Bruce's life is destroyed breaks my heart. Were it not for the grace of God and the brave and timely intervention of my staff, this could have been me.

During my time in inpatient treatment and in the months of outpatient treatment that followed, no one ever told me about FRLC. I have made the Conference aware of the existence of this group, but have been frustrated that that knowledge is marginalized until there is an urgent need.

I pray that as Bishop

Burnside moves into and through treatment that he will come to know of this group. I will certainly do my best to help in that way. Perhaps, after all the consequences have played out, there may be grace to bring some good out of this terrible tragedy.

I will be retiring the end of August at the conclusion of my term. Perhaps then I will be able to focus more time on continuing Step Twelve, especially with those who suffer within the church.

Thanks for the ministry of the FRLC.

### Weekly On-line

#### Meetings

Completely Anonymous  
for Clergy Only

Every Thursday

Noon Central Time

605 475-5950

enter code

52874#

### Got Thrivent?

If you have Thrivent products you may be able to send some charitable dollars our way. Their program, Thrivent Choice, lets you decide where their giving goes.

Last year we received many more dollars through this program than we are

seeing this year. We believe this is because Thrivent now requires those dollars to be re-allocated every year. So if you did so last year, would you please do so again this year. And if you have not would you please consider it?

#### THRIVENT CHOICE

1. Call 800-847-4836.
2. Follow the prompts given.
3. You will be asked for the last four digits of your Social Security number. Then you will be sent through to an automated operator system.
4. Our non-profit ministry is "The Fellowship of Recovering Lutheran Clergy."

**Yes! Please use my gift to help the FRLC in vital ministry**

Here's my contribution of:  \$15  \$25  \$50  \$70  \$100  More

**Please make checks payable to:**

The FRLC,  
c/o Transfiguration Lutheran Church  
11000 France Ave. S.  
Bloomington, MN. 55375

*Thank your for your support!*





## F R L C

Primary Business Address

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Address Line 4

Phone: 555-555-5555

Fax: 555-555-5555

E-mail: someone@example.com

Business Tagline or Motto

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We're on the Web!

example.com

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This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.



## Organization

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### Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization

is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



**Caption describing picture or graphic.**