



## REGION 1 HAMMER & DANCE

August 26, 2020

**United for Ministry in the Days of COVID-19.**

The Social Service Agencies  
 and Synods of Region 1.

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“Updates have been made to align with the new [school resources and tools](#) that were released on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> and the latest COVID-19 information. The Considerations are intended to help school administrations: 1) promote behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19, 2) maintain healthy environments, 3) maintain healthy operations, and 4) prepare for when someone gets sick. (To the right) are changes to the considerations as of August 21, 2020.”

This paragraph comes from a [CDC site](#) offering guidelines for school administrators as the country prepares to send kids back to school, or not, as we enter September. There is nothing simple about much of anything that we are trying to do in our various fields and ministries. The Democratic National Convention showed us a new way to do “that.” Our churches are finding new ways to do “this.” Families – let us not forget families – are finding new ways to do a million and one things, as another transition point in life comes and goes without the usual, expected markers, the stresses and insults of COVID are felt once again. There will be no yellow school busses coming down the road this month. No new backpacks or school shoes.

Thank you for walking with people. Every day is filled with new challenges and opportunities.

Dave Brauer-Rieke

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- Expanded considerations on planning & preparing schools before opening
  - Updated considerations on expanded considerations for students who may be unable to wear cloth face coverings
  - Updated considerations for students with special [healthcare needs](#) and [disabilities](#)
  - Updated considerations on cohorting, staggering, and alternating strategies
  - Updated considerations on recognizing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and screening
  - Updated considerations on coping and support
  - Updated considerations on making plans for accommodations
  - Updated considerations for Direct Service Providers (DSPs)



## No Dancin' in the Streets

**H**[istory.com](https://www.history.com) reminds us that, “Labor Day 2020 will occur on Monday, September 7. Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the

late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Labor Day weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans, and is celebrated with parties, street parades and athletic events.”

What we sometimes forget, the article goes on to say, is that “Many (labor organizing) events turned violent during (the late 1800s,) including the infamous Haymarket Riot of 1886, in which several Chicago policemen and workers were killed. Others gave rise to longstanding traditions: On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade in U.S. history.”

Oregon was the first state to declare a Labor Day holiday in 1887. Twenty-nine other states followed suit before Labor Day became a Federal Holiday in 1894. Change takes time – and often must change be instigated from the bottom up.



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# The 'Hammer and Dance' Shuffle



Thank you for supporting of the [Hammer and Dance](#) – that is your support of, and participation with, this resource.

Originally, I thought the newsletter would be a temporary means of communication with Synods and Social Service Agencies as we made a few necessary changes in our work, “short term adjustments” in you will. However, there has been nothing “short term” about the challenges of COVID-19.

Beginning with the next issue, I am refocusing this newsletter to resource congregational leaders and members as well as Agency and Synodical leadership. Please note:

- I am moving newsletter publication from Wednesdays to Tuesdays beginning September 1, 2020. And the newsletter will now be semimonthly, available the first and third Tuesdays of the month.
- I wish to reach people in the pew and would appreciate your help in encouraging them to subscribe. [They may do so here.](#)
- My goal with the [Hammer and Dance](#) continues to be networking, speaking into disaster concerns, and resourcing those doing the work of disaster preparedness.

As we move into fall together, we are all looking at how to support our staffs, pastors, ministries, and constituents (church members) in a largely virtual world. I intend to offer a few Disaster Preparedness webinars this fall, as well as 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday sermons, to compliment sermon opportunities being offer by our bishops and staff members. Synods will be engaging in virtual Assemblies, Learning Days and Convocations. LCSNW is reimagining fund-raising opportunities. How can we best enable those with passions and means to continue supporting ministries we all care about?

[Please let me know what I can put in this newsletter to compliment your own communications. I truly want to support your work!](#)

Thank you,

Dave Brauer-Riecke

