June 2023

My friends in North Star,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, it is with great joy and excitement that I extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you to the 2023 Annual North Star Conference! As incoming president, it is an honor to spend the next couple of days with you as we seek to find 'Strength Beyond Our Own.'

This conference serves as a testament to our collective dedication in fostering a community where all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, can find solace, understanding, and spiritual growth. We firmly believe in the inherent worth of every soul and embrace the differences that enrich our lives and strengthen our faith.

Over the course of the next few days, we have curated a program that promises to enlighten, inspire, and empower. Our speakers, hailing from various backgrounds and experiences, will share their wisdom, knowledge, and insights on the intersection of SSA/LGBT experience and the teachings of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Together, we will explore the power of compassion, acceptance, and love, as we strive to live true to the covenants we have made.

This conference is not just an opportunity for learning; it is a time for connection and fellowship. I encourage you to engage with one another, to share your stories, and to find support and understanding in the company of like-minded individuals who share aspects of your unique journey. Let us celebrate the strength and resilience that resides within each of us, as we forge lifelong connections and build a network of love and support.

To each one of you, both familiar faces and new friends, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your presence. Your commitment to both your faith and your personal experiences serves as an inspiration to us all. By coming together in this sacred space, we affirm the divine worth of every person and affirm that love knows no bounds.

May this conference be a transformative experience, a wellspring of hope, and a catalyst for positive change in our lives and in our world. Together, let us find 'Strength Beyond Our Own' guided by the principles of love of God and neighbor and the eternal teachings of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Welcome to our annual conference!

Warmest regards,

Brent Ebmeyer President, North Star International