

Wehmeyer/Nienstedt Investigation – Timeline

- Aug 15, 1996 Letter to Flynn, skeptical of Wehmeyer’s ability to succeed as priest “controlling his sexuality,” alcoholism.
- 5/26/2001 – Wehmeyer Ordained
- 6/20/2001 – Wehmeyer Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph’s, West St. Paul, MN
- May, 2004 Wehmeyer approached two young men, ages 19 and 20, for sex at Barnes & Noble in Roseville, MN. **A report was made to then Vicar General, Kevin McDonough.**
- June, 2004 **Archdiocese sends Wehmeyer to St. Luke’s Institute, a treatment center for sexual disorders.**
- 2006 **Young boy is sexually abused by Wehmeyer while camping. Wehmeyer spotted “cruising” Keller Park in Maplewood, MN by Ramsey County Sheriff’s officer.** Keller Park known as place men look for sexual encounters. **Officer warns Archdiocese and reports the incident to McDonough.**
- 6/15/2006 - Wehmeyer Parochial Administrator, Blessed Sacrament, St. Paul, MN
- 2009 A priest contacts the Archdiocese and **reports that Wehmeyer approached him for sex.**
- June 2009 - Archbishop Nienstedt promotes Wehmeyer to Pastor at Blessed Sacrament and Saint Thomas the Apostle in St. Paul, MN effective 7/1/09.
- 2009 **Wehmeyer takes victim alone on a camping trip.**
- Sept, 2009 **Police receive complaint about Wehmeyer appearing intoxicated and asking about young boys.** Caller to the police is concerned for the children’s safety and wants police to come out. Wehmeyer is arrested on suspicion of DUI. Wehmeyer asks to call his lawyer, Joseph Kueppers, now Chancellor for Civil Affairs at Archdiocese.
- Oct, 2009 As a result of DUI, Wehmeyer sentenced in Fillmore County to 90 days in jail and two years of supervised probation. He is told to serve 4 days on electric home monitoring.
- 2009-2012 **Wehmeyer supplies two young boys with alcohol and marijuana and shows them pornography in his camper in the Blessed Sacrament parking lot and on camping trips.** Wehmeyer sexually abuses the boys at the parish and on camping trips.
- 2012 **Police Investigate Claims of abuse by Wehmeyer**

- Nov, 2012 **Wehmeyer pleads guilty to all 20 counts against him and begins sex offender treatment.** Sentenced to five years in prison at the Ramsey County Law Enforcement Center.
- Fall, 2013 Archdiocese receives allegations of sexual misconduct against Archbishop Nienstedt, including a possible relationship with Wehmeyer.
- Jan, 2014 Greene Espel law firm hired to investigate allegations against Nienstedt.
- Jan-Apr 2014 Greene Espel investigators obtain 10 affidavits describing sexual misconduct by Nienstedt, and a personal relationship with Wehmeyer prior to Wehmeyer's arrest. Lay witnesses saw Nienstedt leaving Wehmeyer's rectory early in the morning and visiting in the evenings. Other witnesses were priests who described Nienstedt interfering with their careers after they refused Nienstedt's sexual advances. Letters from across the country were sent to Nienstedt referencing his sexual misconduct with seminarians in Minnesota and Detroit.
- April, 2014 Greene Espel reports its findings to the Archdiocese. Bishops Piche and Cozzens and Archbishop Nienstedt immediately travel to Washington D.C. to meet with the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano. The Nuncio says to tell the Greene Espel to quickly interview Nienstedt and "wrap up" the investigation. No more leads about misconduct by Nienstedt are to be followed. Bp. Lee Piche writes a letter to the Nuncio saying he and Bp. Cozzens disagree with the decision to narrow the investigation into Nienstedt because it would rightly look like a cover up.
- July 2014 Nuncio tells Bishop Piche to stop the Greene Espel investigation into Nienstedt anyway, and to destroy letter Piche wrote to the Nuncio outlining the allegations against Nienstedt and allegations of a cover up.
- July 2014 Greene Espel withdraws from its investigation of the Archdiocese handling of Wehmeyer after they are told to stop investigating leads involving Nienstedt. Greene Espel says they are not willing to risk the good reputation they have built by helping in a cover up.