

Workers Together

Kansas District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Volume 8, Issue 8
September 2002

Inside

Prayers	2
Calls in Kansas	2
Lutheran Social Service	3
District Calendar	3
Church Worker Extravaganza	3
Mission & Stewardship	4
Dr. Kieschnick in Kansas	4
Financial assistance	4
September 11 resources	4
Health & Hope Grants	4
LSF College event	5
Reaching the unchurched	5
Marvin's mission message	5
Business office	6
2003 Salary guidelines	6
Is your church ready	6
ACH transfers	6
Connect to your community	6
Educational Services	7
District Marriage Retreat	7
District Youth Gathering	7
Educator's Conference	7
Upcoming events	7
Guinea prayers	8
Planned Giving	8

Why Did We Get Together?

Rev. Gary Rueter, Mission & Stewardship Executive

The question was simple enough. An LCMS pastor asked me if I knew why the Missouri Synod was formed and what Bible passages were used to support these reasons. In my mind I immediately thought of avoiding syncretism and unionism and of reaching others for Christ. But then I went on to think of providing education for church workers and materials for teaching in our churches. So I knew that I was on a wrong track because I was thinking of more than two reasons.

The pastor didn't strand me in my dilemma. He referred me to the Preamble of the LCMS Constitution. Strange, but I don't think I had ever noticed the preamble before. With so much attention given to the objectives of the Synod, the preamble was marginalized for me. But a preamble sets a context for what follows. A preamble gives a rationale for the organization. A preamble is "the introduction to a formal document that explains its purpose."

Do you know the LCMS preamble and its biblical foundations?

Reason for the Forming of a Synodical Union

1. *The example of the apostolic church. Acts 15:1-31*
2. *Our Lord's will that the diversities of gifts should be for the common profit. 1 Cor. 12:4-31.*

The apostolic council of Acts 15 (Reason 1) met to deal with a contentious issue of mission. Gentiles were responding to the good news of Jesus and were exhibiting evidence that the Holy Spirit had been given to them just as it had been given to the Jewish believers on Pentecost.

Some believers thought the Gentiles had to be circumcised according to the sign of God's covenant with Abraham in Genesis 17. But Peter argued from his experience with Cornelius and his family and friends and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on them; and the Jewish experience of being unable to keep the covenant's stipulations—the commandments and ordinances that constituted the law of God. And Paul and Barnabas followed up with stories of their first missionary journey to confirm Peter's witness.

Finally, the leader of the Jerusalem church, James, proposed the solution on the basis of a selection of prophetic passages quoted from the Greek version of the Old Testament. For the sake of the mission among the Jews, they asked the new Gentile believers to abstain from four behaviors that would be particularly offensive to Jews who would explore the messianic claims of Jesus.

The people of Kansas will have a chance to study Acts 15 when the district's theological convocation is held in January 2003. Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs of the St. Louis seminary faculty will present his study of Acts 15 at that convocation just as he did at the Model Theological Convocation in Phoenix in August. More information about it will be coming soon.

And 1 Corinthians 12 (Reason 2) is one of the chapters where the apostle Paul spells out the implications of all believers composing the body of Christ. Christ is in every member and gives to each member gifts that differ in kind, but not in purpose. Every member is given a gift for the common good; each member's gift is meant to build up the body. Christ is the unifying factor in the midst of the diversity.

Our synod was formed for the sake of mission and to support the diversity of gifts for the sake of the mission. As always, the catechism question intrigues us: "What does this mean?"



*A monthly publication of
The Kansas District of The Lutheran
Church - Missouri Synod for
congregations, schools, professional
church workers and lay leaders.*

*If you have any news to share with
congregations in our district, please
direct them to:*

*Workers Together Editor
Kansas District LCMS
1000 SW 10th Ave
Topeka KS 66604-1104*

*Phone: 785-357-4441
Fax: 785-357-5071
Email: debbie@kslcms.org*

Contemporary worship workshop planned

On Saturday, September 14th, Faith Lutheran Church, Topeka is pleased to host Sean and Julie Swanson from King of Kings Lutheran in Omaha, NE for a workshop on contemporary worship. It will be an exciting day to take away practical ideas for ministry and gain some hands-on experience.

Whether you are regularly involved in contemporary worship or are interested in becoming involved, mark your calendar and come join us from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Some sample topics for the day are: "Worship 101, Biblical Foundations of Worship," "Contemporary Keyboard," "God's Crucial Role for Women," "Crash Course Voice Lesson," "History of Lutheran Worship," and "Worship Team Dynamics."

Sean and Julie will help to lead worship on Sunday morning and will also provide a concert on Sunday night at 6:00 p.m., including some original music they have written. The registration fee is \$20 and includes lunch. Musicians should bring their primary instrument with them. For information or to register, contact Pastor Nate Schaus, Faith Lutheran Church, 1716 SW Gage Blvd, Topeka, KS 66614 or by calling 913-272-4214.

District email

President's office

Rev. Howard Patten - patten@kslclcms.org
Marie Holt - marie@kslclcms.org

Mission & Stewardship

Rev. Gary Rueter - garyr@kslclcms.org
Debbie Crites - debbie@kslclcms.org

Educational Services

Al Gunderman - agunderman@kslclcms.org
Joyce Tate - joyce@kslclcms.org

Business Office

Larry Crume - lcrume@kslclcms.org
Charlie Glanzer - charlieg@kslclcms.org
Brenda Barton - brenda@kslclcms.org

Planned Giving

Garry Niehoff - servanttwo@kslclcms.org
Doris Wilson - servanttwo@kslclcms.org

Media Library

Beth Eubanks - bethe@kslclcms.org

It's a small world

The Children's Christian Concern Society (CCCS) would like you to mark your calendars now for their Mission Conference to be held Nov. 9 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Topeka. The goal is to help people become more "mission minded" and informed to what the CCCS does.

Activities will include singing, a Bible study, guest speakers, a luncheon and lots of fellowship. More information will be coming out in the following issues. If you are interested in attending, email Joan Hahn (785-537-2481) at rrh@wheat.ksu.edu.

**Fall Pastor's
Conference
October 14-16, 2002
DoubleTree Hotel
Overland Park**

College fairs set

Fifteen Lutheran college fairs are scheduled for locations around the country, starting in September. Sponsored by the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America (LECNA), the fall 2002 fairs are primarily for students in Grades 9 through 12 and their parents.

Representatives of Lutheran colleges and universities will be available at the fairs, which also will feature financial-aid seminars and refreshments.

The fair scheduled for Kansas will be held on Monday, September 23 from 6:15 to 8:30 p.m. at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, 7000 West 108th St. in Overland Park.

For additional information about the college fairs, including detailed directions to the location and the schools that will be represented, visit the LECNA Web site at <http://www.lutherancolleges.org>.

Prayers

▪ The families of Rev. Tim Kersten, Faith, Abilene, and Vivian Jobst, Trinity, Leavenworth, at the death of their father, John Kersten Sr., Houston, Texas, on August 4.

▪ Rev. George Bruening, Topeka, whose wife, Lourine was called to her eternal rest on August 1.

▪ Rev. Norbert and Mary Jo Wodtke, Topeka, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary August 24.

▪ Keith Jopp and Jan Harrington were joined in marriage on July 6. Keith is principal at St. Paul's Lutheran School, Cheney.

Calls in Kansas

Calls Accepted

- Ron Gloe, Zion, Newton to Immanuel, Sierra Vista, Arizona
- Cindy Twillman, Trinity, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma to Ascension, Wichita (DCE)

Calls pending

- John Riebhoff, Holy Cross, Scott City to Immanuel/St. John, Herington

Calls declined

- Randall Cormeny, Melcher-Dallas, Iowa to Zion, Offerle/Our Redeemer, Kinsley
- Garry, Dassow, Concordia, Hoisington to Immanuel, Hoxie
- Scott Goltl, Ascension, Wichita to Holy Cross, Dakota Dunes, South Dakota

Calling/vacant congregations

Zion, Argonia
Bethlehem/Immanuel, Bremen
Immanuel/St. John, Herington
Immanuel, Hoxie
Zion, Newton
Our Redeemer, Kinsley/Zion, Offerle
St. Paul, Leavenworth (Tchrs)
Immanuel, Oakley
Bethany, Overland Park (Tchrs)
First, Plainville
Trinity, Salina (DCE)
Christ, Wathena

Lutheran Social Service update

October 1, 1996, Lutheran Social Service entered into a contract with the State of Kansas to provide Special Needs Adoption. From that day, the number of children finding permanent homes increased beyond everyone's expectations. LSS found homes for teenaged children, children with mental illness, and children with behavioral challenges. LSS found homes for children that many said were unadoptable.

In July of 2000, LSS was not the successful bidder for the second round of private contracts. The contract was offered to Kansas Children's Service League, based on a lower cost bid. LSS entered into a subcontract with KCSL to continue to provide Special Needs Adoption. In the six years that LSS has contracted to do Special Needs Adoption, 4,457 children were placed in permanent loving homes.

On August 12, 2002, Lutheran Social Service notified Kansas Children's Service League that it would not enter into a third-year contract to provide Special Needs Adoption services. The action is necessary because the resources available in this contract do not cover the cost of providing the service. Lutheran Social Service made every attempt to find an alternative that would allow this service to continue; however, the resources are simply not enough to pay for the needed services.

Lutheran Social Service will continue a 124-year history of serving children and families. Current programs include Foster Care, Emergency Foster Care, Planning Early for Permanence, Infant Adoption, International Adoption, Pregnancy Counseling and Disaster services.

Lutheran Social Service has served children and families in Kansas and Oklahoma for over 124 years. For more information or questions, contact: Marc Bloomingdale, Acting Chief Executive Officer, 316-686-6645 or mbloomingdale@lss-ksok.org

Area chaplains

Wichita - Reverend Rocky Mease. Home: 316-788-9627, Cell: 316-993-0746 or email: chaprm@aol.com.

Topeka - For hospital visits in Topeka, contact Reverend George Bruening at 785-273-5769.

LLL host worship service at Kansas State Fair

The Lutheran Laymen's League has announced that they will host a Sunday morning worship service at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. Services will be at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 15th in the Farm Bureau Arena. Rev. Gene Holtorf, the Kansas LLL Pastoral Advisor will be the guest preacher for the event.

For a map of the fair grounds go to ww.kansasstatefair.com and look for FBA - Farm Bureau Arena.

District Calendar

September

- 5 Outreach Committee - Olathe
- 12 District Worship Committee
- 14 Deaf Gathering - Olathe
- 16-17 Timothy Gathering
- 17 Education Loan Repayment Committee
- 19 Congregational Stewardship Task Force
- 20-22 Lay Ministry Training
- 27-29 Family Life Academy

October

- 6 Faith, Ottawa - Dedication
- 7-9 Educator's Conference - Westin, Kansas City
- 13 Our Redeemer, Herington - 75th Anniversary
- 14-16 Pastor's Conference - Doubletree, Overland Park
- 18-20 Lay Ministry Training
- 25-26 District Marriage Retreat - Salina
- 31-2 District Board of Directors - Topeka

Concordia, Seward to host Church Worker Extravaganza

Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska, will hold its second Church Worker Extravaganza on Sept. 20-22 with many activities on campus for students interested in a career in church work. The event will follow up last year's inaugural CWE, which drew more than 60 students from 17 states to learn more about service as a church worker. "It is an ideal way to bring students onto our campus - showing them a fun time that is centered in Christ," said Chara Sype, an admission counselor and an organizer of the event. "It's a prime opportunity to learn about studying to become a pastor, Lutheran teacher, parish musician, or director of Christian education in a unique place like Concordia."

The weekend of activities will include guest speakers talking about their respective church work vocations, music and entertainment, devotions and plenty of time to spend with other students that share an interest in pursuing a career in church work.

Church Worker Extravaganza is an effort to increase the number of church workers in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The theme this year is so fitting for the ministry at hand - Matthew 9:37-38 '... the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.'

Cost of the three-day event is \$40, which includes meals, two nights stay on campus, admission to a concert and a Concordia home football game and T-shirt. For more information, call 800-535-5494, ext. 7233 or go to Concordia's web site at www.cune.edu or email the admission office at admiss@seward.cune.edu.

Mission & Stewardship

Reverend Gary D. Rueter, Executive

Dr. Kieschnick in Kansas

Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, President of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod will be speaking at Lord Of Life, Leawood on Sunday, September 29. The schedule includes four events to which the District is invited.

President Kieschnick will preach at both the 8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. worship services. He also will be speaking at 9:30 a.m. in the Life Center on the "State of the Church". An open forum will take place from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. during which Dr. Kieschnick will share his vision for the LCMS and take questions from the audience.

At 6:00 p.m. a catered meal will take place in the Life Center for all professional church workers and their spouses, giving Dr. Kieschnick an opportunity to speak to his co-workers in a personal way. Call Lord of Life for details and cost.

The members of Lord of Life invite you to join them on this special day.

Financial assistance applications available

Applications for mission aid grants are now being taken from congregations needing financial assistance. The documents must be completed and returned to the District office by Sept. 15th to be considered by the Board of Mission for the fiscal year 2002.

The goal of the Mission Board is to help those congregations needing assistance move quickly beyond the need for assistance to self-support.

The District asks the congregation requesting mission aid grants to provide the Board with necessary information concerning their congregation's history, current and projected expectations related to budget, membership and worship attendance.

To request grant documents, please contact Debbie Crites, Department of Mission & Stewardship at 1-800-357-4421 or email: debbie@kslcms.org.

September 11 anniversary web resources

We are quickly approaching the anniversary of the most terrible act of terrorism ever committed. Across our country, Christians will be gathering in their churches for prayer and healing.

As you consider how you will remember this day in your school or parish, the following seven excellent web resources may be of help.

1. LCMS Commission on Worship - <http://worship.lcms.org/Resources/911.htm> Includes Psalm, Introit, Hymns, and Readings. Helpful for congregations planning to remember 9-11 through a worship or prayer service.
2. Concordia Publishing House - <http://www.cph.org/911/index.htm> Excellent resource, especially for schools. It identifies 17 activities that include suggestions for worship, to developing a art display, or selecting a care project.
3. Lutheran Hour Ministries - <http://www.lhm.org/whatsnew.htm> A number of resources including one entitled: "Explaining Tragic Events to Children."
4. Atlantic District, LCMS - <http://www.ad-lcms.org/Assets/9-11%20Resources/9-11Resources.htm> Numerous resources, including an excellent devotional booklet "Grace at Ground Zero."
5. Lutheran Disaster Response of New York - <http://www.ldrny.org/> Excellent resource site with tips for congregations and schools, and helps for commemorating the day. Be sure to check the school-related portion of this site.
6. God's Care for Dealing with Crisis <http://www.grace-lutheran.com/helps.htm> An excellent listing of resources for working with children and families through tragedy, 9-11 feelings of hopelessness, helps for parents, and ideas for teachers and families to use for observances.
7. Faith Inkubators - http://www.faithink.com/9_11_01.htm Faith Inkubators Foundation has prepared an eight-page congregational study, PowerPoint presentation and College Devotion in the wake of the 9.11.01 tragedy. This free resource is intended for use in intergenerational education forums and home devotions. Download the PDFs for immediate printing and the PowerPoint for group viewing. Both may be reproduced, used and emailed to anyone you know who might find it valuable.

Health and Hope Grants

Application are now being accepted for Wheat Ridge Ministries Congregation Health and Hope Grants. The maximum amount per grant is \$2,000 for a single congregation and \$6,000 for collaborative efforts involving two or more congregations. Approximately 25 grants will be awarded to congregational projects in November.

Projects must support and promote the health and well-being of people in the congregation and local community.

Grant funds may be invested in health-related events and leadership development; staff training; planning; materials, and resources or equipment directly related to the program development.

Visit the Wheat Ridge website (www.wheatridge.org) to download a complete list of guidelines as well as the proposal format. Any questions may be referred to the Wheat Ridge office at 1-800-762-6748. Application deadline is Sept 30, 2002.

LSF plans event for college students

Lutheran Student Fellowship (LSF), The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod's organization for college-age young people, will hold its national gathering Dec. 27-31 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in suburban St. Louis. The five-day gathering includes the option of attending a New Year's Eve party with other gathering attendees, extending the event through Jan. 1.

The gathering is held every two years to bring together college students involved in LSF chapters across the country to share "faith, fellowship and fun," according to Carol Powers, LSF Region 1 representative. It is open to "all college-age adults looking for a place to grow in faith and share in fellowship," Powers said.

This year's theme is "Walking in the Shadow of the Cross," based on 1 Cor. 1:18. Activities include worship, a servant event, an "untalent show," singing, meetings of regional LSF groups, small-group discussions, a banquet and sightseeing. More than a dozen workshops also will be offered on a variety of topics, including serving as a lay missionary, sharing your faith, "prayer walking" and comparing Islam and Christianity.

The \$200 registration fee includes seven meals, snacks, four nights' lodging with two people per room, and a gathering T-shirt. Costs for spending an extra night and attending the New Year's Eve party are \$56 and \$25, respectively.

For more information, or to register online, visit the LCMS Campus Ministry Web site at <http://www.lcmscampus.org> and click on "What's New." Or contact Sally Koester at (800) 433-3954, Ext. 1313.

Reaching the Unchurched

Church Growth, Inc. is sponsoring a one day seminar "Reach the Unchurched Families in your Community". This event will be held on October 17, 2002 at Bethany Lutheran Church, Overland Park. Seminar sessions will help you:

- Increase your contacts with unchurched families.
- Identify unchurched family contacts you already have.
- Define appropriate entry events and how to promote them.
- Develop communication strategies.
- Build relationships between member and non-members
- Develop a prospect-tracking system that responds effectively to the unchurched families.

This seminar is for pastors, staff and lay persons with evangelism responsibilities and a desire to reach out to their community. Cost for the event is \$98 for the first person from your church and \$68 for each additional person. For additional information or a registration brochure contact Debbie in Mission & Stewardship at 1-800-357-4421 or register online at their website at www.churchgrowth.net.

Ministerial recruitment

Do you know someone that has ever considered being an pastor or deaconess? If so, Rev. Jeffery Moore, from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis would like to meet with them at the Kansas District office on Tuesday, September 17, anytime between 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

This is for prospective students of all ages, elementary school age through adults.

Conferences are individual, informal and family and friends are welcome. Reservations are not needed. However, if you wish to schedule a specific conference time, please call Marie at the Lutheran Center 800-357-4421.

Marvin's Mission Message

by *Mission Marvin Kohlmeier*

The Tim Heiney family is in the United States on home leave. As part of their home leave they will visit their Together in Mission congregations. Following is a schedule of those visits arranged as of this time and you are encouraged and invited to attend when they are in your region or area:

Sept. 1	Christ, Overland Park	Worship @ 8:15, 9:35, 11:00
Sept. 6	Guinea Task Force @Salina	Lunch/Mission Presentation, 1:00
Sept. 6	LWML, KAOL @Camp Webster, Salina	Mission Presentation @ 3:30pm
Sept. 6	Christ The King, Salina	Mission Presentation @ 7:00pm
Sept. 7	Trinity, Mission	Worship @ 5:30pm.
Sept. 8	Trinity, Mission	Worship @ 8:15, 9:45, 11:00
Sept. 8	Prince of Peace, Topeka	Mission Presentation @ 7:00pm
Sept. 9	Topeka Lutheran School	Mission Presentation @ 8:15am
Sept. 9	Kansas District Office	Lunch and Missions, @ 11:00am
Sept. 9	Ascension, Wichita	Mission Presentation @ 7:00pm
Sept. 10	St. Andrew, Wichita	Mission Presentation @ 8:45am
Sept. 10	Holy Cross Lutheran School, Wichita	Mission Presentation @12:40pm
Sept. 10	Holy Cross, Dodge City	Mission Presentation @ 6:00pm
Sept. 11	Zion, Linn	Mission Presentation @ 7:00pm
Sept. 12	First, Sabatha	Mission Presentation @ 6:00pm
Sept. 14	Bethany, Overland Park	Worship @ 5:30pm
Sept. 15	Bethany, Overland Park	Worship @ 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am.
Sept. 15	Faith, Topeka	Worship @ 6:00pm and Missions @ 7:00pm

Business Office
Larry Crume, Business Manager

Lutheran Church 
Extension Fund

Interest Rates - September 2002

Steward account rates

Congregational Certificates

Demand	2.625%
Steward Account	3.00%

Individual Accounts

Less than \$1,000	1.75%
\$1,000 - less than \$5,000	2.00%
\$5,000 - less than \$10,000	2.25%
\$10,000 and over	2.75%

Insurance Alert - 15 Passenger Vans!

The District Office has been advised of potential hazards of 15 passenger vans used for transportation of people. Information provided by GuideOne® Insurance indicates this type of vehicle is subject to a greater risk of rollover when filled with passengers. This is due primarily to the center of gravity shifting upward and rearward when loaded. Additionally, the standard 15 passenger van lacks the sidebar protection found in most vehicles.

When originally designed, the vans were built with the idea of transporting cargo rather than people. Consumer demand created opportunities for passenger use, however the core design remained virtually unchanged and subsequently, passenger safety remains inadequate. Finally, a lack of seat belts increases risks of injuries and deaths as has been well documented by the NHTSA. Further information is available at www.guideonecenter.com.

Items for sale

Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Leawood has the following items for sale:

- 75 double bench chairs, wood frame, with blue upholstery - \$50.00 each
- 2 mauve folding room dividers, 20 ft by 8 ft - \$500.00 each

An email photo of the items is available. For additional information, please contact Warene at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 3105 W. 135th, Leawood, KS 66224, 913-681-5167, warenes@lordlife.com.

2003 Salary Guidelines

The 2003 salary guidelines have been printed and will be sent to each congregation this month. The guidelines will be on our District website soon. Additional copies are available by email.

Lutheran Witness Renewals

The Lutheran Witness renewals were mailed to the treasurer's attention at each congregation. The deadline for sending these to the District Office was September 1st. You will be billed later for the renewals.

ACH transfers are now available

ACH transfers are now available for your LCEF Steward Account to make deposits to or transfers from your local bank account. This service is available for both individual and congregational Steward Accounts.

This added convenience now eliminates the need to send deposits by mail or transfer funds to your regular account by writing checks from your LCEF account. It's fast, convenient and FREE from service fees. More information call or email Larry at 800-357-4421 or lcrume@kslcms.org.

Is your church ready?

Are you ready for Electronic Offering and Tuition Payments? It is available and it is free to LCMS Congregations and schools. This service is provided by the Lutheran Church Extension Fund and is called *Joyful Response*.

The cost for set-up and administering the program is paid for by the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. If you are interested, call Larry Crume at the District Office, or email at lcrume@kslcms.org.

Connect to your community

Lutheran Church Extension Fund provides demographics to schools and congregations- an in-depth tool that provides information on your congregation and community including age, income and life-style.

The demographic studies are useful in making informed decisions on outreach and stewardship. Email Larry Crume at lcrume@kslcms.org or phone 800-357-4421.

Church furnishings available

St. Paul Lutheran Church in Cheney has 22 padded pews that are 15 years old. They are 13 foot 6 inches long.

Also available a pulpit and altar received through the purchase of a church building. For further information contact Steve Davis 316-542-3107 or email stpauls@southwind.net.

Educational Services

Al Gunderman, Executive

Attention Kansas teachers

The Educator's Conference is taking a little different twist this fall that will include something new and different for all teachers. We are putting together a book that includes ideas that have worked for you within your classroom.

All of you have had many great ideas that would benefit all of us. Let's share the experiences and successes and put together a terrific book of ideas to be passed along to all of our Kansas Teachers!

Mail your ideas (in ready to xerox form) to: *Donna Eakins; Topeka Lutheran School; 701 SW Roosevelt; Topeka, KS 66606. Or email them to: eakins@topekalutheranschool.org.*

You may send as many as you wish, as often as you want! Write those ideas down before you let the opportunity slip away. Thank you in advance for your help with this project.

District Marriage Retreat

This retreat will provide you and your spouse the opportunity to get away from the day-to-day routine in order to focus on your relationship to one another and to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. When? October 25-26, 2002 (Friday-Saturday) at the Country Inn & Suites in Salina. Cost? \$150 per couple which includes one night's lodging, Saturday breakfast and lunch, and all retreat materials.

Couples will participate in the Christian Prevention and Relationship and Enhancement Program ® CPREP® developed by Dr. Howard Markham and Dr. Scott Stanley. This program teaches couples skills for maintaining lasting love: how to communicate effectively, work as a team, manage conflicts, and preserve and enhance love, commitment and friendship.

CREP ® is solidly based on Scripture and university research to provide a unique program that will equip you to grow stronger in your faith and your life together as husband and wife.

District Youth Gathering

When: Nov 22-24

Theme: ER (Every Relationship)

Location: Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka

Speakers: Dan and Dave Schoenhorst

Entertainment: Up and coming

Matthew West Band from Nashville

Servant Events: DCE Tim Koehler will again be working with the Volunteer Center of Topeka. More information will be sent in September.

Volunteer Teacher of the Year - 2002

Diane Person, Bethany Lutheran Church, Overland Park was selected the 2002 Kansas District, LCMS Volunteer Teacher of the Year. Diane has served at Bethany for nearly 30 years and completed a total 52 years in Sunday School, Midweek School and VBS.

"The young people who are still members of Bethany remember her as one of their favorite teachers. Diane is a gentle and joyous woman of God who radiates the love of Christ" states Rev. Edward Trost, pastor at Bethany. Pam Nummela, DCE at Bethany says "Teaching children about Jesus is a great joy for Mrs. Person and it shows in everything she does!"

Diane's award also represents all the gifts that God gives His church and is in honor of the hundreds of faithful and teachers throughout the District who go about sharing the love of Jesus Christ to all of God's children.

Singles Fall Conference

Theme: "On Wings Like Eagles"

Date: October 11-13

Location: Camp

Webster, Salina

Presenter: Al Gunderman
Call 1-800-357-4421 or
email joyce@kslcms.org
for information.

Educator's Conference – Order out of Chaos

This year's ingathering titled, "It's Christmas in October!" Our gifts will support three Christmas stores that serve over 1000 families. Your challenge is to bring Christmas gifts for adults, babies, children, and teens. Gifts should be new and unwrapped.

Challenge your class, school, youth group, or church to help in this project! Bring your gifts with you to Kansas City in October.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Sarah Hinkel, DCE (dcesarah@juno.com or by calling 913-780-6023).

Art Ministries Conference

Sowing Seeds of Creativity: Arts Ministry in the Church is a conference for those interested in developing the arts in the life of the local church and will be held Oct 18-19, 2002 in Kansas City, Missouri.

Presenters include the Lumina Sacred Arts Ensemble, Michael Bauer (Professor of Organ and Church Music, KU), Donald Sailors, Peggy Rosenthal, Gilette Elvgren, Kenneth Hart, Carla De Sola and Richard Caemmerer.

Registration cost is \$75 (\$65 before Sept 15). Visit their web site at www.churcharts.org or call Joyce at the District Office.

Upcoming events

- ✓ Principals Conference - Sept 12-13, District Office
- ✓ Family Life Academy - Sept 27-28, District Office
- ✓ Singles Fall Retreat - DATE CHANGE—
Oct 11-13, Camp Webster, Salina
- ✓ Educators Conference - Oct 7-9, Kansas City
- ✓ Sowing Seeds of Creativity: Arts Ministry in the Church, Oct 18-19, Kansas City, Missouri
- ✓ District-wide Marriage Retreat - October 25-26, Country Inn and Suites, Salina
- ✓ District Youth Gathering - November 22-24, Capitol Plaza, Topeka
- ✓ Professional Workers Marriage Retreat, February 14-15, 2003
- ✓ Youth Summit 2003, February 21-23, 2003, Crosswinds/Hesston

Planned Giving
Garry Niehoff, Counselor

Do you have a “special needs” person in your life that would need special consideration if you were deceased? Decisions you make about the care of this “special needs” person can strongly impact your estate plan. Have you made the proper arrangements to insure this person would be able to receive the same care you have given them if you were no longer able to care for them?

The Special Needs Trust is an irrevocable trust that is created for the benefit of a “special needs” family member. These trusts are created to provide for extra and supplemental needs, over and above the benefits the “special needs” person may otherwise receive as a result of a handicap or disability from any local, state or federal governmental source or from private agencies. By way of illustration, the trustee may purchase those goods or services which shall enhance the “special needs” person’s development and happiness, including but not limited to: entertainment items such as a television, VCR or the like, evaluations or training and education programs, transportation to visit relatives; and the like all of the above to the extent not otherwise provided by federal, state, or local governmental agencies and departments.

This is a significant planning tool available. If you or someone you know needs a Special Needs Trust, I will be glad to visit with them at a no-cost. Please contact my office, Planned Giving Office, 1000 SW 10th St, Topeka, KS 66604, 785-357-4421, ext. 101.

Guinea Prayers

- Thanks be to God for opportunity to learn languages- French for Kristen and Mananke for the Nortons and Oettings in order to communicate with the people they work with and share the good news of the Gospel. Please pray for continued guidance and blessings on these studies for all.
- Please pray for rain and preservation of crops during this time of drought for many areas including Burkina Faso. Many people are showing signs of starvation in the north with lack of food and water and medical services are seeing this need.
- Thanks be to God that so many in the USA are willing to share of their resources to help with the medical equipment and supplies. Please pray for guidance and correct timing in getting this help to the country of Guinea.
- Please pray for God's guidance for the Heiney's, for their future and the future of our children as they get older.



Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Kansas District
1000 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka Kansas 66604-1104

Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 16
Topeka KS