

Workers Together



Kansas District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Volume 12, Issue 9
October 2006

From the President's Office

On the Keeping of Numbers by President Keith E. Kohlmeier

Someone raised a concern to me the other day that I thought I should address to all. We were talking about the synodical emphasis on the ABLAZE movement. This person said that they objected to the counter on the bottom of the ABLAZE web page. This counter tallies the number of people who have recorded their opportunity to do what ABLAZE encourages, "for one Lutheran Christian to share their faith with another who does not know Christ or His hope." Their objection? "It makes it look as if it is all about numbers."

If this is your concern as well, allow me to give you some assurance. It is about numbers. But it is not about grand tallies. The emphasis is not on counting each one, but emphasizing that 'each one counts!'

I did a quick reference study of the New International Bible to see what God's attitude was toward "counting." It came as no surprise that there were 50-60 immediate references pulled up from the New Testament alone. I found assurance in those promises knowing that God does some counting as well. "And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered." Matthew 10:30

And that there are times that He doesn't. "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation." 2 Corinthians 5:19

But when it comes to each of us, he not only counts, but keeps track. "What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost." Matthew 18: 12-13

But, like so many things that we concern ourselves with here, there is an end to the keeping of numbers. "After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb." Revelation 7:9

I pray to God that you and I focus ourselves on the opportunity of ABLAZE, that we use all the energy we have toward one end - that there will be men, women and children among that numberless crowd through what God's Spirit has worked through each one of us. God grant it for Jesus' sake.



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Targeted District Response

Mark Brewer - disasterresponse@kslcms.org

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 items 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, Ext. 223
Fax: 785-357-5071
Email: lori@kslcms.org
Deadline: 15th of each month

Calls Accepted

- Rev. Rick Twenhafel from St. Matthew, Nortonville to Alaska Mission for Christ, Director of Ministry

Calls Declined

- Darius "Bo" Chapman from Trinity, Tyler, Texas to Redeemer, Olathe, DCE

Calls Pending

- Rev. William Caughey from Campbell, Neb. to Grace, El Dorado
- Rev. Andrew Wehling from Grace, Liberal to St. Andrew, Wichita
- Rev. Mark Wenger from Oak Grove, Mo. to Bethany, Wichita
- Rev. Robert Wiest from Staplehurst, Neb. to Hope, Topeka
- Rev. Douglas Woltemath from Atkins, Iowa to Trinity, McFarland
- Rev. Greg Zillinger from Hannover, N.D. to NE Kansas Partnership

Calling Congregations/Schools

St. Martin, Basehor
Zion, Downs
Grace, El Dorado
St. John, Ellinwood
Bethlehem, Greenleaf
Concordia, Hoisington
Immanuel, Junction City
St. Paul, Junction City
Lord of Life, Leawood (DCM)
Grace, Lyons
Christ, Manhattan
Trinity, McFarland
Trinity, Mission (2nd Campus)
Peace, Natoma
Beautiful Savior, Olathe (DCE)
Redeemer, Olathe (DCE)
Christ, Overland Park (DCM)
Trinity, Parsons
Hope, Shawnee (Tch)
Hope, Topeka
St. Luke, Wheaton
Bethany, Wichita
Holy Cross, Wichita (DCE)
St. Andrew, Wichita

District Congregation Mission Receipts

Last month:	Aug. 16 - Sep. 15, 2006	\$110,218
	Aug. 16 - Sep. 15, 2005	\$116,997
Year-to-date:	Jan. 16 - Sep. 15, 2006	\$965,021
	Jan. 16 - Sep. 15, 2005	\$918,118
To LCMS:	Jan. 16 - Sep. 15, 2006 (42%) ...	\$405,309
	Jan. 16 - Sep. 15, 2005 (42%) ...	\$385,609

District Calendar

October

12-13 **Professional Workers Conference**, Wichita
13-14 **Ablaze Convocation**, Wichita
20-22 Lay Leadership Training, District Office
27-28 Board of Directors, District Office
28 Deaf Witness Workshop, Wheaton

November

3-5 Family Life Academy, District Office
4 Elder Training Seminar, Atchison
16 KAIRS, District Office
17-19 Lay Leadership Training, District Office
17-19 District Youth Gathering

Prayers

- Rev. Cal Reinke, Redeemer, Olathe, health concerns.
- Wini Schaedel, wife of Rev. Bob Schaedel, Trinity, Salina, health concerns.
- Rev. Gene Holtorf, St. John, Palmer, health concerns.
- Rev. Tom Mendenhall, Our Redeemer, Hutchinson, recovery from heart surgery.

Milestone Ordination Anniversaries

October

Gil Holstein 45 years

Area Chaplains

Wichita - Contact Reverend Rocky Mease. Home: 316-788-9627 Cell: 316-993-0746 Email: chaprm@aol.com.

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

Kansas City - Our Saviour Lutheran Church has an apartment available for families who have patients in Kansas City area hospitals (sleeps 4). Families must live outside a 35 mile radius of Kansas City. Contact Donna Bottemuller at 913-236-6228 for more information.

District Phone

Phone 1-785-357-4441

Toll Free 1-800-357-4421

FAX 1-785-357-5071

Extensions:

President's Office press 7

Pres. Kohlmeier (219)

Marie Holt (219)

Business Office press 3

Debbie Crites (204)

Tami Lierz (200)

LCEF press 3

Larry Crume (205)

Education press 5

Jim Bradshaw (206)

Joyce Tate (206)

Media Library

Beth Eubanks (100)

Mission & Stewardship press 4

Lori Hennessey (223)

Planned Giving press 6

Garry Niehoff (101)

Doris Wilson (101)

Targeted District Response

Mark Brewer (220)

Directory press 8

Extension by name press 9

Operator press 0

Lutheran Service Book Workshops

Workshops will be held throughout the District this fall to introduce Lutheran Service Book. Each workshop will be from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and is designed for everybody and anybody who is involved in worship planning and worship leading in your congregation. Whether you have decided to purchase the hymnal or not, I encourage you to attend one of the workshops. The cost is \$20 and a copy of the pew addition (worth \$18.50) for each participant is included. Online registration is now open at:

<http://lsb.cph.org>.

City	Date	Host Congregation
Wichita	Sept. 30	Holy Cross
Hays	Oct. 7	Messiah
Chanute	Oct. 21	Zion
Shawnee	Oct. 28	Hope
Topeka	Nov. 11	St. John



*Professional Church
Workers Conference
October 12-14*

Notice of Call for Nominations

The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is now seeking nominations for the position of Executive Director for Missions and Stewardship Services. The director will provide leadership to and assist congregations in the administration of missions and ministries. The Executive Director shall be called by the Board of Directors for three years, subject to an annual review. Qualifications: The Executive Director shall be on the ordained roster of Synod and have a minimum of ten years' experience in professional church work, a major portion of which should include parish work. Letters of nomination are to be received on or before Oct. 15, 2006 and shall be mailed to: Executive Call Committee, Kansas District LCMS, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604.

Business Office Debbie Crites, Business Manager

Concordia Health Plan Deadlines

Information and election forms for Concordia Health Plan were mailed to employers in September. Employers enrolled in the CHP may choose to remain with their current health plan option or choose from the other options available. Employers wishing to choose a plan coverage option different from their current one will need to inform Concordia Plans of their decision no later than October 6, 2006. If you are not making a change in coverage, then no action is necessary and the current plan coverage option will continue for 2007.

Active, full-time workers employed by a CHP-participating organization can enroll themselves or their dependents in the Concordia Health Plan (subject to Annual Open Enrollment guidelines). The annual enrollment dates for this year are Oct 16 through Nov 17. For guidelines and additional information go to the Concordia Plan Services website at www.ConcordiaPlans.org.

District Convention Proceedings

The convention proceedings for the 2006 District Convention have been printed and a copy mailed to every congregation. The proceedings are also available on the district website Publications page at www.kslcms.org/ks_convention/2006Proceedings.pdf.

Salary Guidelines Now Available

The Kansas District Salary Guidelines for 2007 have been finalized and are now available on the District website at www.kslcms.org. You can access them by clicking on the "Publications" tab. If you are unable to download and view this online, call or email Debbie Crites, 800-357-4421 ext. 204 or debbie@kslcms.org.

Pre-Retirement Workshop Planned

We have had overwhelmingly positive responses from workers that have participated in Concordia Plans Pre-Retirement Workshops. The Kansas District will host a third workshop on November 2-3 in Wichita. Sections will include budgeting and finance, retirement income, envisioning your retirement lifestyle, health concerns, where to live and what to do with your time in retirement. Since retirement decisions affect not only you as the church workers, but your family too, this workshop is designed for couples to attend together.

Concordia Plan Services representatives Eustolio Gomez and Paul Snyder will be leading this workshop and will schedule ½ hour individual sessions with you and your spouse to discuss any additional retirement questions that you might have. Cost to attend is \$105 per couple which includes one night's lodging and three meals. To register for the workshop, please contact Debbie Crites at 800-357-4421 ext. 204 or debbie@kslcms.org.

Caring Ministry Reverend Rocky Mease, District Chaplain

Riverview Community Services: “People are not Pill Boxes” By Rev. Mike May

Rose Tiszka was sitting at her desk with a stack of papers in front of her and sticky notes everywhere, in a bustling room that she shares with her staff of four. There is a colorful mural on the west wall of the room - a confidently waving Noah surrounded by a variety of critters, cheerful and secure in the ark carrying them safely through the flood. It is an apt pairing with Rose's love of lighthouses. Pictures of lighthouses appear on Riverview Community Services, Inc. (RCSI) stationery and envelopes, and on hangings and flowerpots in the office and waiting area. Both the ark (which is also a New Testament symbol for the church) and lighthouses offer safe harbor through dangerous passages. People who find their way into that office want clear guidance and assurance that they will be cared for.

The people come from a wide variety of locations: local regular and “safety-net” clinics, prisons and jails, hospitals and emergency rooms. They are referred by friends and relatives, doctors, emergency room workers, social workers and other clinical providers. They all come for one reason: they are sailing the rough waters of poor health and need access to care and medication. RCSI seeks to give that and more: the attention and follow-up that will help people claim a stronger hold on hope and the possibility of seeing their life go forward in a positive way.

Since the program's inception in 2003, RCSI has documented 26,881 services to 3,881 individuals. Medications provided directly by RCSI and leveraged through indigent care programs of pharmaceutical companies amounts to over \$1,000,000. The program clearly delivers.

Rose's vision is to serve people in a way that is not just a quick fix, in a way that teaches them to be accountable for their health issues in a context where they have a fighting chance. In today's go/no-go broken system of health care delivery, one tends to be “OK,” more or less, or totally sidelined until the condition is so critical that only the most desperate and expensive treatments are effective.

A likely scenario now looks something like this: a client comes to RCSI's office at St. Luke's. She is greeted by the



receptionist, Aurora, who provides her with the ever-present medical intake form with which we are all familiar. This one, however, is more brief and deals immediately with issues most prevalent in our setting: diabetes and high blood pressure. If the client comes from a local clinic or hospital they will likely already have prescriptions in hand. If they are self-referring, more complete medical interviewing follows by Rose or her two assistants, Xochitl (pronounced 'so-shee') Muñoz and Adriana Mendoza. Their interest is in the whole person before them and their whole life, not just the part that relates to their medical situation.

The interview is crucial to the entire process. This is where trust is built, and the continuing relationship makes it possible for follow-up and the kind of changes that see measurable improvement in people's wellness. Xochitl's and Adriana's competence in Spanish has helped service to Spanish speakers to double over the last year. Rose also reports that the loving spirituality of our Latino clientele has resulted in the sending up of many prayers of blessing for RCSI staff and programs!

Rose and RCSI personnel have spent their time wisely, building relationships with local providers of pharmaceutical, medical, dental and visual services. This close communication allows them to coordinate services, curb potential abuse by clients, and most important, prevent needless delays in clients receiving crucial treatment and medications. The personal follow-up they offer also helps patients stay on track with treatment strategies, increasing chances that real and lasting improvement is locked in.

RCSI is not a loner agency, but networks with various service and material providers locally. Examples include Swope Clinics, Mercy and Truth, and the Community Health Council.

Your contribution can greatly assist RCSI. Your check, payable to Riverview Community Services, Inc. (a qualified not-for-profit organization), makes you a partner in its Christ-like mission as a beacon of hope and guidance for those unable to meet their healthcare needs. Address your gift to Riverview Community Services, 722 Reynolds, Kansas City, KS 66101-3421.

Missions & Stewardship

2006 Mission Commitments

Mission Commitment forms for 2007 will be sent to all congregations the first week of October. We ask that you prayerfully consider your support of District and Synod. You can submit your commitment any of the following ways: 1) send the **green** copy to Lori Hennessey, 1000 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, KS 66604; 2) call Lori at 800-357-4421

ext. 223; 3) email Lori at lori@kslclms.org. We would prefer to have the green copy, signed by the Pastor and Congregational President, for our records. For budget purposes, we would appreciate receiving your commitment as soon as possible - certainly by January 1, 2007.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Larry Crume, Vice President

LCEF Announces 6.136% APY For 9 month Investments!

That's right! When one door closes, another one opens. If you did not take advantage of the special rate on LCEF's 18 month investment, it's too late now. However, LCEF is offering 6.00% (6.136% APY) on 9 month term note investments for a limited time. We are still seeking new dollars to meet high loan demand. Be sure to respond soon, because a high response is expected and once we have reached our target of \$50 million dollars with this promotion (or December 31, 2006, whichever comes first) the special rate will no longer be offered.

For an application, visit www.lcef.org and look for the "investments" link or call 800-843-5233.

StewardAccounts for the National Youth Gathering

Let LCEF assist your youth groups before, during and after the National Youth Gathering. Have on site access to cash at the Gathering with no need to carry large amounts of cash throughout the trip PLUS their funds help LCMS ministry while they're earning interest.

Before: Save for Gathering fees and experiences with the LCEF StewardAccount.

- ◆ Competitive interest rates.
- ◆ Optional ATM/VISA Check card.
- ◆ Automatic payment of Gathering fees.
- ◆ Check writing access (\$250 minimum per check).
- ◆ Electronic funds transfers feature.
- ◆ Online, 24-hour access to investments through LCEF's MyAccount Internet service.

During: Visit the LCEF Exchange on site at the National Youth Gathering for Cash Services.

- ◆ Use our safe, on-site location.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Interest Rates - October 2006

Steward Account Rates:

Congregational Certificates

Demand	3.125%
Steward Account	3.750%

Individual Accounts

Less than \$1,000	2.250%
\$1,000 - less than \$5,000	2.375%
\$5,000 - less than \$10,000	2.750%
\$10,000 and over	3.625%



LCEF provides loans for LCMS Congregations, Schools and Professional Church Workers:

Monthly, quarterly or annual adjustable	6.000%
5 Year fixed	6.500%

Congregation Endowment (60-Month Fixed or Floating):

Min. Investment	Rate	APY
\$1,000	4.815%	4.903%
\$10,000	4.940%	5.032%
\$100,000	5.065%	5.162%

- ◆ Cash traveler's checks.
- ◆ Withdraw cash from authorized LCEF accounts.
- ◆ Avoid tracking down local banks in Orlando or paying foreign ATM usage fees.
- ◆ Pay hotel bills, travel costs, meals, etc. with your StewardAccount card.

After: Continue to save with LCEF after the National Youth Gathering.

- ◆ Youth group dollars earn competitive rates of interest.
- ◆ Youth group dollars provide low-cost loans for organizations, helping them share the Gospel with others.

If your youth group has not opened an LCEF StewardAccount call 1-800-THE LCEF or visit our website www.lcef.org for more information.

Planned Giving

Garry Niehoff, Counselor

Part V – Charitable Bequests

This is the final article in a series of five parts that will provide an overview of some of the most common ways to make a gift and the benefits of each.

Charitable Bequests: Next to writing a check, perhaps the best known vehicle for philanthropy is the bequest. A bequest makes it possible for you to make your wishes known today without relinquishing needed assets during your lifetime. Bequests can transfer a specific asset. You can also give a percent of



the estate after costs and taxes. Another good idea is to transfer property to a testamentary trust.

If you would like more information on any of the strategies we have discussed in this series of articles or any other planning option, please contact our Planned Giving Office at 1-800-357-4421 ext. 101.

Educational Services

Jim Bradshaw, Executive

Kansas District Youth Gathering *“visualize Him”*

When: November 17-19

Where: Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka

Cost: \$65 per person (\$80 after Oct. 17), which includes workshops, activities, Saturday lunch and a hoodie

Hotel: Cost is \$89 + tax, call 800-579-7937 and ask for “Lutheran Youth Gathering”
Rooms will be held until Oct. 16

www.kslcms.org/kdyg

Rexford Rally for Jr. High Youth

A dream is about to be born for western Kansas! There is a District Junior High Youth Event at Shepherd’s Staff Retreat Center in Rexford, November 3-4, from 7 p.m. Friday to 7 p.m. Saturday.

Mark your calendars for this opportunity. There will be music, keynote speaker DCE Drew Achong, workshops, a Concordia Youth Ministry Team and, of course, fun!

The cost is \$50 and includes lodging and all meals on Saturday. Contact: Pastor Warren Prochnow at Holy Cross, Scott City, 620-872-2294 or pastor@hclscottcity.org OR DCE Leland Jackson at Trinity, Garden City, 620-276-3110.

Apply for Family Life Academy

Does your congregation want to grow in the area of Family Ministry? Then the District Family Life Academy might be for your church! The Academy is unique in providing training for leader teams, including the Pastor. This eight weekend process over two years will equip congregations for intentional ministry with all households of the parish.

For further information, including costs, the 2007-2009 schedule and an application, please see www.kslcms.org/ks_fm.

LYF Representatives Needed

Calling all sophomores in high school! Please prayerfully consider your service to the Kansas District as one of four Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) representatives. All four LYF reps will be asked to attend two District Youth Committee meetings and two of the four will receive a paid trip to the annual Council of LYF Representatives (CLYFR) on March 15-18 in St. Louis.

Completed applications should be returned to: Kansas District LCMS, Attn: Educational Services, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604. The deadline to receive applications is November 15.

2007 National Youth Gathering

The theme for the 2007 National LCMS Youth Gathering is CHOSEN, taken from 1 Peter 2:9 – “The most important choice in a Christian’s life is not one we make, but the one God made when He chose us to be His people.” Orlando, Florida will be the host city for the 10th triennial Gathering to be held July 28-Aug. 1, 2007.

Registration materials for CHOSEN were sent in August. Go to the National LCMS Youth Gathering website, www.lcmsgathering.com, to find out the latest updates. For details from the Kansas District, go to www.kslcms.org/nyg.

Please don’t hesitate to contact any of your District Coordinators:

- ◆ Terry Wiechman, 316-685-1571, pastor@tlcwichita.org
- ◆ Barb Wiechman, 316-838-0944, barb@salc.kscoxmail.com
- ◆ Vicki Lessman, 316-684-1367, vlessman@cox.net

LCMS Adult Gathering

Mark your calendar for July 28-August 1, 2007 and make plans to join us as we celebrate 30 years of LCMS National Youth Gatherings.

The Gathering is designed for adults age 25 and older and will give participants the opportunity to come together in the name of Jesus Christ to proclaim, celebrate and witness their salvation through Him, rejoice in the fellowship of their church and be affirmed and nurtured in their lives as God’s people through Word and Sacrament.

Registration will be limited to 2000 participants. Cost is \$235 plus lodging. For more information, please visit the Gathering website at www.lcmsgathering.com.

DCE Dennis Hintz Honored

Dennis Hintz, DCE at St. John in Topeka, is the recipient of the Church Worker Alumnus of the Year Award for 2006 from Concordia University in Seward. Mr. Hintz’s dedication and commitment to servant leadership toward his family, congregation, the LCMS on both District and Synod levels, Concordia University and the community is cause for the celebration.

Formal presentation of this award will be part of Concordia’s Homecoming Weekend, Sept. 29-Oct. 1.

Family Ministry Basics Workshops

Family Ministry Basics is a one-day workshop designed to equip leaders to integrate family ministry practices into their local congregations. The cost (\$10/person) will cover lunch and some materials.

Workshops will be held at the following locations:

- ◆ Saturday, October 7 at Trinity, Salina
 - ◆ Saturday, October 21 at Zion, Independence
- Questions? Contact Educational Services at 800-357-4421 ext. 206.

Deaf Witness Workshop

The Kansas District Deaf Ministry Task Force is hosting a Witness Workshop on October 28 at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Wheaton. This workshop begins with registration at 9:30 a.m. and ends with social time at 7:30 p.m. Pastor Richard Moody from Holy Cross Deaf Church in St. Louis will be the guest presenter.

Registration is \$20 per person and includes a t-shirt, lunch and dinner. Registration forms are available on the District website at: http://kslcms.org/ks_registrations/deaf_workshop_0806.pdf.

Contact Faith, Emporia at 620-342-3590 if you have any questions.

Lay Leadership Training News

The Commission on Lay Leadership will present two sessions on Friday afternoon during the Ablaze Convocation October 13 in Wichita. Members of the commission will answer questions about the vision of lay leadership in the Kansas district, instructors will answer questions about the curriculum, and students will explain their involvement in the church before their enrollment in LLTI and their experiences since graduation.

On November 4, 2006 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Atchison an **Elder Training Seminar** will be presented from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$25 per individual, but no more than \$100 per congregation (includes lunch). Pastors and elders must attend together, so bring all your pastors and elders for the discount. David Shrum, LLTI Director, will serve as facilitator and Rev. Bob Ziegler will be the presenter with help from the Board of Elders at Trinity, Atchison. Please contact David Shrum at 785-448-6930 for more information or Marie Holt in the district office at 800-357-4421 ext. 219. All registration checks should be made payable to Kansas District LCMS. Deadline to register is October 20.

Another year has started for the Lay Leadership Training Institute. The annual kick-off meal on August 25 was prepared by the ladies of St. John Lutheran Church, Topeka, and provided in large part by Reverend Erwin Meyer and his wife Doris of Linn, Kansas. As classes began for the new and returning students, breakout sessions were held for graduates and for the spouses of graduates and students. Rev. Wally Friedrichs facilitated the session for graduates, with assistance from commission members. Marlene Kohlmeier facilitated the session for spouses. There are ten students in the second year class and eleven students in the first year class. For information about joining classes in the fall of 2007, please contact David Shrum at 785-448-6930.

Trip to Slidell for Hurricane Rebuild

Trinity, Garden City will be taking college age and older students to Slidell, LA for Hurricane Rebuild on December 30 through January 7. Cost is \$200 for transportation, housing and meals. Contact DCE Leland Jackson at Trinity, 1010 Fleming, Garden City, KS 67846 or 620-276-3110 or dceleland@tlcck.kscoxmail.com.

Tending the Flame by Karen Kogler, LCMS Southeastern District, LCEF

Starting a fire is one skill. Keeping it going is another. In order to cook juicy burgers over charcoal, or toast s'mores to perfection over the campfire, or prolong the beauty and the warmth of flames, you need to know when to add another log or adjust the air drafts or move the burning items closer together or farther apart.

How do we keep the blaze burning? How do we avoid being a flash in the pan, burning brightly for a while but quickly dying out?

First we each must tend our own flame. We must provide the right fuel: not ambition or growth or the image of our church, but the Gospel. Recalling all Jesus Christ has freely done for us, our hearts are Ablaze with love for our risen Lord. We want everyone to know that same love, so we share it in every possible way. We eagerly receive the Gospel through Word and Sacrament in weekly worship, and through daily time in the Word and in prayer.

We also tend the flame through good stewardship of our time and energy: using each day wisely; prioritizing responsibilities, especially to our families; knowing when to say 'no' to requests for our time; recognizing and filling our own needs for rest and re-creation. We realize that poor choices here make for a short-lived fire.

But another important way to tend the flame is less intuitive and definitely less common. It is to bring fellow believers alongside as we reach out to the unchurched, as we plan for, watch for and carry out 'critical events' – those opportunities to share the good news of Jesus Christ with a person who doesn't yet know him.

For example: invite a brother or sister in Christ to do that outreach activity with you. Ask others (especially the 'others' you don't usually work with) to help you plan and implement. Draw out their ideas that might be different than your own.

Find an Ablaze partner or start an Ablaze small group. Ask others to pray about how God is calling them to reach out, and commit to helping them do it. Delegate things you usually do to others who have gifts for that task.

Our churches excel in studying together, fellowshiping together and caring for each other in need. What if we became equally skilled in working together? How might that affect our Ablaze goals - our part in God's harvest?

It is the Holy Spirit who ignites the fire in our hearts and empowers us to reach out with the Gospel to those who don't yet have the flame of God's love in their hearts. The same Spirit has also brought each believer into a relationship with other believers in the body of Christ which "grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." (Eph. 4:16)



*It's not too late to register for the
Ablaze Convocation! Don't miss
out on this Spirit-led adventure!*

Guinea Prayers

Please join the Nortons in praying for the following:

- ✠ Thank God for the baptism of “S” and his new life in Christ, that he may continue to walk the narrow road and be a witness of God’s saving grace.
- ✠ The evangelism in village “L” taking place all during the month of September, that God will open people’s hearts and minds, and work faith through the hearing of his Word.
- ✠ For our friend “M” who was evacuated to Bamako, that God may heal him physically but also give him spiritual rebirth.

Please join Andrea Herman in offering prayers of thanksgiving for the following:

- ✠ a loving host family & roommate (who only speak to her in French, which is a huge blessing).
- ✠ a well-organized language school & many opportunities to learn French in various environments.
- ✠ motivation & excitement for learning French (please also pray that will continue).
- ✠ those who are already committed to praying for her regularly.

Please join Andrea Herman in placing these prayer requests at the feet of the King of Kings:

- ✠ daily, weekly and monthly volunteers who are willing to support her in prayer.
- ✠ a loving church home here in Chicoutimi.
- ✠ restful sleep and relief from back pain.
- ✠ endurance for her eyes - they are quickly fatigued due to the reading and homework assignments.
- ✠ a strong memory to retain what she learns each day.
- ✠ opportunities to share the love of Jesus with many people who do not know Him.

Kansas District Website

Guinea Partnership page: http://kslcms.org/ks_guinea/index.htm.
TIM page: http://www.kslcms.org/ks_tim/index.htm.



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