

Workers Together



Kansas District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Volume 12, Issue 10
November 2006

From the President's Office

What Does Ablaze Look Like?

by President Keith E. Kohlmeier

Inside

District Calendar	2
Calls in Kansas	2
Business Office	3
Caring Ministry	4
Planned Giving	4
Missions & Stewardship	4
LCEF	5
Education	6
Candidates/Vicars for 06/07	7
Miscellaneous News	7
Guinea Prayers	8

District Website/Email

Website: www.kslcms.org

President's Office

Rev. Keith Kohlmeier - kekohl@kslcms.org

Marie Holt - marie@kslcms.org

Mission & Stewardship

Lori Hennessey - lori@kslcms.org

Educational Services

Jim Bradshaw - jbradshaw@kslcms.org

Joyce Tate - joyce@kslcms.org

Business Office

Debbie Crites - debbie@kslcms.org

Tami Lierz - tami@kslcms.org

Lutheran Church Ext. Fund

Larry Crume - lcrume@kslcms.org

Planned Giving

Garry Niehoff - servantwo@kslcms.org

Doris Wilson - servantwo@kslcms.org

Caring Ministry

Chaplain Rocky Mease - chaprm@aol.com

Media Library

Beth Eubanks - bethe@kslcms.org

Targeted District Response

Mark Brewer - disasterresponse@kslcms.org

It does seem from time to time that I spend a lot of time in the present office staring at the warts of the church. The "opportunities" for service too often come in the form of conflict in parishes or indiscretions of the called workers. However, last week I was able to gaze instead at one of the beauty marks of the church.

I witnessed the gathering of 500-600 men and women of God of our Kansas congregations gathered together for holy conversations around THE mission of the church. The words that came to my mind as I saw them engaged together in conversations about both personal witness and corporate mission were, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation." Isaiah 52:7

In this season of the Hallowed Evening, I also recall Thesis sixty-two of the ninety-five that Luther posted that evening on the church door in Wittenberg, "The right and true treasure of the Church is the most Holy Gospel of the glory and the grace of our God."

So it was relatively easy to respond when someone asked me at our gathering in Wichita, "Why can't we find this kind of dedication and intensity more often in our church?" The answer was obvious to me. Because we too often get distracted from our chief purpose and spend too much energy on the periphery.

In the celebration of the glory and the grace of our God, the beauty of the church shines when she gives herself to bringing good news to those who are outside of the kingdom of God. There we know both purpose and goal. To this we have been commissioned and called.

As good as that time was, it was by itself a holy huddle. It stands as the preface to the mission! In a very short time every one of our congregations will be receiving the notes from the Open Space Discussion Groups with encouragement to take the next step with those inspired gospel feet in your local congregation and community. Give this Kansas District Idea Bank your attention. Let it be received as a holy invitation to you personally, and to your congregation, to tread NOW upon those mountains that bring good news to your family, neighbors, and friends. That is the beauty of the church!

How beautiful on the mountains are the
feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"



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. William Caughey from Campbell, Neb. to Grace, El Dorado
- Rev. Mike Herzberg to Grace, Lyons

Calls Declined

- Rev. Andrew Wehling from Grace, Liberal to St. Andrew, 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

Calls Pending

- Brian Amey from Lincoln, Neb. to Holy Cross, Wichita, DCE
- Rev. John Schubert from Jackson, Mo. to Trinity, Mission, 2nd Campus
- Rev. Mark Wenger from Oak Grove, Mo. to Bethany, Wichita

Calling Congregations/Schools

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

District Congregation Mission Receipts

Last month:	Sep. 16 - Oct. 15, 2006	\$140,539
	Sep. 16 - Oct. 15, 2005	\$133,045
Year-to-date:	Jan. 16 - Oct. 15, 2006	\$1,215,779
	Jan. 16 - Sep. 15, 2005	\$1,168,160
To LCMS:	Jan. 16 - Oct. 15, 2006 (42%) ...	\$510,627
	Jan. 16 - Oct. 15, 2005 (42%) ...	\$490,627

District Calendar

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, Topeka
23-24 District Office Closed, Thanksgiving

December

15-17 Lay Leadership Training, District Office
22, 25 District Office Closed, Christmas
29 District Office Closed at Noon
Jan. 1 District Office Closed, New Year's Day

Prayers

- Joyce Duitsman, teacher at Trinity, Atchison, and family at the death of her father.
- Rev. Ed and Barbara Trost, Bethany, Overland Park, and family at the death of Barbara's mother.
- 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. Larry McDermott, First, Plainville, upcoming heart surgery.

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

Business Office
Debbie Crites, Business Manager

Year End Checklist

✓ **Kansas District Fiscal Year to Close**

The District will close its 2006 fiscal year on **Monday, January 15, 2007**. Any receipt received after that date will be credited to the fiscal year 2007. In order to meet the standards for a not-for-profit corporation audit, we cannot credit any 2006 mission gift received after the close of our fiscal year so please work to meet this deadline. If you are sending any 2007 gift prior to January 15, please clearly indicate that the gift is for 2007 so that we may credit it correctly for your congregation.

✓ **Housing Allowance**

Housing allowance for Pastors and Commissioned Ministers should be approved by December 31 in order to obtain the full annual benefit of housing allowance exclusion for 2007. The designation should be adopted during a regular or special meeting of the church board and should be contained in the minutes of the meeting. A worksheet for calculating the housing allowance is included in the *Congregational Treasurer Manual*.

✓ **W-4**

Have all full-time and part-time employees complete a new W-4 for 2007. This will insure that your withholding

records for the year will be accurate. If the employee does not provide a completed W-4, the employer must withhold federal income tax as if the worker were single with no withholding allowance.

✓ **Charitable Contributions**

Charitable contributions for 2006 must be received before the first worship service in 2007 in order to claim the deduction. A contribution received after that date is counted as a contribution for 2007 for income tax purposes even if the check was written in 2006. However, checks that are written, mailed and post-marked in 2006 will still be deductible. A reminder in your weekly bulletin would be appropriate.

✓ **Gifts to Church Workers**

Christmas gifts to Church Workers from the congregation in most cases represent taxable income and not a tax-free gift. Be sure to report correctly on the recipients W-2 or 1099 the amount of these gifts. Also important to note - donations made by members for these gifts are not included as tax deductible contributions recorded by the church office.

2006 Updated Resources Available

The updated 2006 Congregational Treasurer's Manual and 2006 Taxes for Ministers guide are both now available on the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod website. Go to www.lcms.org and click under the link "Resources" for Congregations. Links to both resources are also on the District website at www.kslcms.org under the Publications tab. If you are not able to access it on the website and would like us to send you a copy, call the business office at 800-357-4421 ext. 200 or email tami@kslcms.org. Cost of a CD of the 2006 Treasurer's Manual is \$6.75.

Annual Open Enrollment for CHP

Annual open enrollment for Concordia Health Plan (CHP) is now in progress. If you are an active, full-time worker who previously declined Concordia Health Plan coverage, you and your eligible dependents may enroll in the CHP during the Annual Open period.

You may enroll individually and/or may also enroll any eligible dependents. To complete your enrollment you must send in your enrollment form, signed by you and your employer, no later than November 17, 2006 and provide proof of employer group health coverage for the period immediately prior to the CHP enrollment date.

The annual enrollment form is available from your employer or you can print one on-line at www.ConcordiaPlans.org under the "Library/Forms" tab.

Charitable Contribution Change

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 enacted this fall contains a number of provisions pertaining to public charities and charitable contributions. These requirements take effect immediately and must be understood by church treasurers in order to ensure that donors will be able to deduct their cash contributions.

The Act made an important change in the way that contributions of cash are to be substantiated. It requires that all cash contributions, regardless of the amount, be substantiated by either a bank record, such as a cancelled check, or a written communication from the charity which must include the name of the charity, the date of the contribution and the contribution amount. You will want to check your year-end reporting process to ensure that the new requirements are being addressed.

The Act also amends the tax code to reduce a donor's deduction for appreciated personal property that is not used for charitable purposes. Generally, the amount of a charitable contribution deduction is the donated property's fair market value at the time of the contribution. If the charity does not use the property for exempt purposes for a minimum of three years, the Act reduces the donor's deduction to the property's actual cost basis unless certain conditions are being met. For more detailed information regarding these changes, please contact Debbie Crites at 800-357-4421 ext. 204 or debbie@kslcms.org.

Caring Ministry Reverend Rocky Mease, District Chaplain

Targeted District Response - Camp Restore

Things continue to change and develop with our Targeted District Response in Slidell, Louisiana. The Board of Caring Ministry will look at our progress and chart the course for our future involvement. One thing that has not changed is the need for volunteers to continue going to the Gulf Coast.

Pastors Bob Aumann and Rod Pasch joined us for our Ablaze Convocation. They told of their personal journey from evacuation through recovery, as well as the progress the congregations they serve have experienced. Both expressed their gratitude for our District's involvement and their hope that we will continue to be involved.

Camp Restore is one new option we have for that involvement. Camp Restore is a partnership of the Southern District, LCMS World Relief and Human Care,

Laborers for Christ and Orphan Grain Train. They will soon have 240 indoor (not in tents) beds (not cots). For those who have already served in tents and on cots the distinction will be appreciated.

Camp Restore will serve East New Orleans and the North Shore, including Slidell. Persons interested in staying at Camp Restore can make reservations through the Camp Director, Pastor Ed Brashier at 205-296-3714. The age restriction is still 16 and above.

Lutheran Disaster Response continues to have camps in Slidell (at Peace Lutheran, ELCA) and Metairie (Atonement, LCMS). Reservations for these camps can be made by calling 866-709-0888.

I continue to be available to speak to groups in your congregation and/or community. Call me at 316-993-0746.

Planned Giving Garry Niehoff, Counselor

IRA Charitable Rollover

At this time of the year, many people start thinking about making a major gift to charity for tax purposes. Recently Congress passed a new law – the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA 2006). This law allows an individual to rollover up to \$100,000 directly from an IRA to a qualified charity.

The IRA charitable rollover is available for individuals who are age 70 ½ or older for the tax years 2006 and 2007. Previously, some individuals would take a withdrawal from their IRA, report the distribution as taxable income, make a cash gift to charity, and then take a deduction on their tax return. Not only was this process rather cumbersome, it also resulted in increased adjusted gross income.

With the new law, the rollover is very simple. The transfer is directly from the IRA to the qualified public

charity. The IRA rollover is not taxable on the donor's tax return so there is no need for a tax deduction. The IRA rollover will require a payment by your IRA custodian directly to a qualified public charity.

The first step is to contact the IRA custodian. You will need to sign the application, indicate the amount of the gift and the correct legal name, city and state of the public charity.

This gift can be made for a specific purpose. For example, the gift could be made to the Kansas District for scholarships, the Lay Leadership Training Institute, the retreat center or the Guinea Mission; to CCCS; to the Lutheran Mission of the Good Shepherd.

If you would like more information, please contact our office at 785-357-4441 ext. 101.

Missions & Stewardship

2006 Mission Commitments

Mission Commitment forms for 2007 were 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@kslcms.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.

Education Loan Repayment Grants

The Kansas District Education Loan Repayment Grant program began in 1998 and helps newly graduated professional church workers with assistance in repayment of their educational loans.

This year, thirty-five applicants were awarded \$1,300 each. The funds available for this grant program came from several different resources: half of the 2006 Ash Wednesday offering, direct gifts from individuals and congregations, bequests that were designated by the Board of Directors and interest from the endowment funds set up specifically for the purpose of Education Loan Repayment grants.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Larry Crume, Vice President

LCEF Continues 6.136% APY For 9 Month Investments!

We can't loan if you don't invest! Loan demand continues to remain strong. Through the first quarter of the fiscal year (July- September) loan demand is up \$12 million Synod wide over the same time last year. 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. 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.

If your church has benefited with LCEF loans or services, prayerfully consider partnering with LCEF so that the next congregation will also have loan dollars available. For an application, visit www.lcef.org and look for the "investments" link or call 800-843-5233.

LCEF Announces Health Savings Accounts (HSA)

With the onset of rising healthcare costs, one viable health plan option for some employers is the high-deductible health plan (HDHP). Many employers offer an HDHP as one of their health coverage options. HDHPs that are compatible with health savings accounts allow employees to use an HSA to pay qualified medical expenses with pre-tax and tax-deductible dollars.

HSA Benefits and Features:

- ◆ Competitive rates with LCEF's HSA, the FlexPlus Certificate. (November's lowest tier rate is 4.50%)
- ◆ Contributions are tax-deductible; earnings grow tax-free.
- ◆ Withdrawals are tax-free for qualified medical expenses.
- ◆ Balance carries over from year-to-year (no "use it or lose it" worries).
- ◆ Plus, HSA dollars at LCEF earn the "ministry dividend"- your dollars work for you and the Church at the same time!

For more information about an HDHP, contact your employer or health insurance provider.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Interest Rates - November 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%

Online Account Access

Congregations, schools and individual investors with LCEF can have full access to their financial information online with MyAccount.

Advantages and Benefits:

- + 24-hour access
- + Access loan and rate information instantly
- + Verify balances
- + Request funds transfers
- + Easy to use
- + Safe and secure
- + Include the ministry of the church in your personal savings and investment plan

MyAccount services are free to individual StewardAccount certificate investors as well as to LCMS congregations and organizations. Individual term note investors may try MyAccount free for 90 days but must maintain a StewardAccount or Dedicated Savings investment in order to continue to access this service.

For more information, call 1-800-843-5233 or visit www.lcef.org to review the MyAccount demonstration for yourself!

LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not SIPC- or FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments or a solicitation to buy. The offer is made only in states where authorized and solely by LCEF's Offering Circular.

Built Around and For the Church



The mission of LCEF is to provide opportunity to make funds and services available in support of the Great Commission through The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Educational Services

Jim Bradshaw, Executive

Accepting Nominations for New District Adult Christian Education Sub-Committee

The 2006 Kansas District LCMS Convention adopted Resolution 2006-03-01 - Adult Christian Education, this past June which encourages all congregations to work energetically to provide their adults with a Christian education and encourages the formation of an adult education subcommittee, under the direction of the Board of Education, for the purposes of identifying needs and offering strategies for congregations as they consider adult Christian education in the parish for the glory of God, and to strengthen the body of Christ in God's Word for ministry.

The Board of Education of the Kansas District continues to search for those Pastors, Educators and Lay Leaders from within the Kansas District who will form this new subcommittee. The Board desires at least two persons from each grouping to comprise the sub-committee. The sub-committee will meet two to three times annually for a term of three years of service.

Nominations may be sent to Jim Bradshaw (Executive Director for Educational Services, Kansas District), 1000 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, 66604, and should include: name of nominee; church/town and additional contact information for nominee; description of his/her adult education parish experiences; and a brief statement on why one wishes this person to serve on the adult education subcommittee.

Questions? Contact Jim Bradshaw at jbradshaw@kslcms.org or 785-357-4441 ext. 206.

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, an informational brochure 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.

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

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@tlcgck.kscoxmail.com.

2007 National Youth Gathering

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. This Adult Gathering will be held at the new Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando.

Participants will take part in Bible study, workshops, music and recreation opportunities. Each evening, the adults will join the Youth Gathering for the Gathering Mass Event.

Registration will be limited to 2000 participants, age 25 and over. Cost is \$235 plus lodging. For more information, please visit the Gathering website at www.lcmsgathering.com.

Visit the Kansas District website:
www.kslcms.org

Candidates/Vicars For 2006/2007

Candidates	Winter	Spring
St. Louis	2	165
Ft Wayne	1	74
Vicars	Winter	Spring
St. Louis	0	144
Ft Wayne	1	70

Placement Deadlines:

Winter Placement Deadline for making Application to District Office: December 15, 2006

Spring Placement Deadline for making Application to District Office: March 1, 2007

Call Dates: April 24 & 25, 2007

Vicarage Services: April 23 & 25, 2007

Marriage Enrichment Conference

On Saturday, November 11, Bethany Lutheran Church in Overland Park will be hosting *Understanding the Love of Your Life*, the marriage enrichment conference of Walk Thru the Bible at their Stilwell Mission. Make it a date to be a part of this unique opportunity to discover or rediscover how God made you for each other. Through a special analysis, you will learn about your own personality type. You will also discover why each of you behaves the way you do and gain insights to help you maximize your strengths as a couple. The cost is \$60 per couple. To register for the event, go to their website at <http://www.bethanylutheran-op.org> and click Couples' Seminar.

Orphan Grain Train

Orphan Grain Train (OGT), the humanitarian aid organization, held the 8th annual convention Sept. 29-30 in Norfolk, Nebraska. Kansas was represented with 19 attendees of the approx. 300 in attendance.

OGT has shipped over 120 semi loads and 40 ft containers of relief aid since March 1993. In 2005, 108 shipments went out to 80 international locations and 28 to our mission partners in the USA.

In addition a total of 120 semi-loads went to the Katrina Disaster area, plus many smaller loads by pick-ups and trailers. OGT has provided semi trailers and shipping containers converted into laundry units, sleeping quarters, shower units and a mobile kitchen capable of serving 3,000 people a day.

Watch for available hospital equipment, Bibles and Christian materials, cooking pots and pans, blankets and quilts. The current flow of clothing to the sorting centers seems to be meeting needs. Follow OGT activity at www.ogt.org. Ask for the quarterly newsletter at OGT, PO Box 1466, Norfolk, Nebraska 68702. The Kansas Division OGT mailing address is: Box 21, Stuttgart, KS 67661.

Germany/Lutherland Tour

Pastor Tom & Diane Harries of Hope, Shawnee are hosting a tour to Germany, June 5-15, 2007. For more information, call 913-888-4772 or send an email to: harries@hopelutheran.org.

Faith Comes By Hearing Project

The American Bible Society and Faith Comes by Hearing have partnered to provide God's Word, both written and spoken, to men, women and children worldwide. Many in our world cannot read but can hear the message of the Bible on Audio Scripture recordings. Learn how Kansas District congregations can help provide Faith Comes by Hearing Audio Scriptures targeted for use in Guinea, where they have been used in the past and where we hope to expand their distribution. Resources for introducing this program include a video-taped interview conducted on the mission field by Missionary Tim Heiney with a colporteur who distributes these tapes (a French word that literally means "a person who carries the Word of God") and publicity tools from the American Bible Society/Faith Comes by Hearing.

"Faith Comes by Hearing" also has a new program called "You've Got the Time," which will provide a FREE Audio Bible on CD in an MP3 format for every member of your church, to listen to for 40 days (Lent?). A FREE KIDZ Bible is also available for each child. The KIDZ Bible is an audio drama presentation of primary Old and New Testament stories, including the harmonized Gospel. In addition, they provide promotional tools on CDROM like sermon samples, PowerPoint templates, presentation videos and more.

During the time that congregation members are listening to the NT on tape, congregations raise funds for recording the Scriptures in a new language. The cost to record the New Testament in the Kpelle language (one of the people groups in Guinea) is \$25,596 or \$948 per book.

Contact Marvin Kohlmeier at marvink@carsoncomm.com or 785-284-3591 for more information.

Submitted by Rev. Richard Peckman

LSS adoption records are available for search and recovery from:

**Janine Philbrook
Lutheran Family Service of Nebraska
(currently located at Grace Lutheran
Church in Wichita)
316-685-5477**

Wheat Ridge Grant Recipient

Holy Cross, Wichita received a grant from Wheat Ridge Ministries for \$25,000. Their plan, *Experience the Embrace - Respite for Caregivers*, is to develop a two-part, community-based caregiving program for both caregivers and their disabled youth.

Travel to Biblical Greece

Pastor Tom and Miriam Krause of Overland Park invite you to join them for an "Eleven day Paul's Journey with a 3-day Greek Isle Cruise & Tour" March 14-24, 2007!

For a detailed brochure and more information contact the Krauses at 913-906-9976 or tomk@lordlife.com.

Guinea Prayers

Prayer Requests from the Norton family:

- ✠ Pray for our evangelist Sacko Kulibaly as he shares the good news in village “L.”
- ✠ Pray that the LORD would open the ears of the hearers and they would receive the gift of faith. Pray that Sacko would be faithful in discharging his duties.
- ✠ Pray that God would give him strength as he’s isolated and surrounded by people sometimes hostile to the message of Jesus.
- ✠ Pray for “S” who has made a commitment to be baptized following the school year. He is growing daily in his faith, but faces much opposition.
- ✠ Pray for “J” that he will follow through with his commitment to be baptized after Ramadan. He has finished the baptismal course, but earlier said “he wasn’t ready” to become a follower of Jesus.
- ✠ Pray for our other three baptized believers that they continue to grow in faith and become powerful witnesses of God’s love.

Prayer Requests from Andrea Herman:

- ✠ Pray for balance and health for her in all areas of life (spiritual, academic, social and emotional)
- ✠ Pray for continued energy and enthusiasm for learning French
- ✠ Pray for a restful week off from class
- ✠ Pray for all Muslims observing Ramadan, that God would reveal himself to them in ways so that they will want to respond to his free gift in Christ

Prayer Requests from the Heiney family:

- ✠ Pray for the country of Guinea as the month of Ramadan draws to an end. Pray that God will open the eyes and hearts of the people and that they would crave His message.
- ✠ Pray for the Kuranko ministry, that God will provide the leaders necessary to spark a blaze within the area.
- ✠ Pray for the new church groups meeting in Conakry. Pray that a strong church will develop and the word will spread in this city.
- ✠ Pray for the church in the Forest Region as they struggle to learn how to do reporting, especially in the financial area.
- ✠ Pray for Katie Heiney, that her broken foot will heal completely and quickly.



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

