

Workers Together



Kansas District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Volume 13, Issue 1

January 2007

From the President's Office

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Targeted District Response

Chaplain Rocky Mease - chaprm@aol.com

Out With the Old

by President Keith E. Kohlmeier

With the flip of a calendar page we make a new beginning. One year ends, another begins. How simple the physical action, and how immense are the implications of the act!

Just before the holy days I was preparing for the turn of the calendar. One of our traditions in this season is to go through the closets and prepare a package for the Rescue Mission of the clothing that hasn't been used for a while, or has mysteriously shrunk around the waistline while sitting in the closet. The act is also a herald of anticipation of the new clothes that we will receive in this season of gift giving.



In the midst of this and anticipating the chance to write this note, I was reminded of the immortal word of Ecclesiastes, "to everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." I suppose I was most smitten by those words because the next week or two of vacation will be filled with the care of an ailing mom (Marlene's mom is hospitalized and preparing for a stay in a Care Center), and at the same time the anticipation of spending time with two grandchildren, one born only a week before Christmas (Ava is our first granddaughter, pictures available on request).

But isn't that the way for all of us? "In the midst of life," the writer said, "and who may we seek comfort but from You." I know that there are many emotions, dreams, memories and prayers that accompany the simple act of turning this calendar page. But all of the New Year's resolutions, financial planning, dieting and "cleaning the closets" will never match the message that we bring as God's children to a world that will soon cast all these off for life as normal.

It is still the message of the angels that heralds our future and offers hope beyond our resolutions. "For to you is born a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord." Only that message will bring to your life, to your house, and through you to those whom you touch in Jesus' name, the promise of "peace on earth, good will toward all." May You be blessed by that hope and be the blessing that others need as they turn the page to 2007. God bless.



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:
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Email: lori@kslcms.org
Deadline: 15th of each month

Calls Declined

- Rev. John Schubert from Jackson, Mo. to Trinity, Mission, 2nd Campus

Calling Congregations/Schools

St. Martin, Basehor
 Zion, Downs
 St. John, Ellinwood
 Bethlehem, Greenleaf
 Immanuel, Junction City
 St. Paul, Junction City
 NE Kansas Partnership (Senior Pastor)
 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, Topeka
 St. Luke, Wheaton

Candidates/Vicars For 2006/2007

Candidates Spring

St. Louis 148
 Ft Wayne 78

Vicars Spring

St. Louis 144
 Ft Wayne 70

Placement Deadlines:

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

If you have any questions, please contact the President's office at 800-357-4421 ext. 219.



District Congregation Mission Receipts

Last month:	Nov. 16 - Dec. 15, 2006	\$150,869
	Nov. 16 - Dec. 15, 2005	\$165,446
Year-to-date:	Jan. 16 - Dec. 15, 2006	\$1,491,725
	Jan. 16 - Dec. 15, 2005	\$1,463,252
To LCMS:	Jan. 16 - Dec. 15, 2006 (42%)	\$626,525
	Jan. 16 - Dec. 15, 2005 (42%)	\$614,566

District Calendar

January

1 District Office Closed, New Year's Day
 12-13 Family Life Academy Reunion, Garden City
 19-21 Family Life Academy, Topeka
 19-21 Lay Leadership Training, District Office
 22-23 Pre-Lent Retreat, Wichita
 23-24 Circuit Counselors, Wichita
 26-27 Board of Directors, District Office
 29-30 DCE Retreat, Hesston

February

9-10 Grace Place Retreat, Junction City
 16-18 Lay Leadership Training, District Office

Prayers

- Rev. William & Kristin Caughey and family (Grace, El Dorado) at the death of Kristin's father.
- The families of Arleata Harmon (Risen Savior, Wichita), Arlene Williams (St. Paul, Cheney) and Becky Hillman (St. Paul, Cheney), at the death of Alvin Hillman.
- Rev. Kenton & Eileen Rohrberg (Messiah, Hays) at the death of his mother.
- Wini Schaedel, wife of Rev. Bob Schaedel (Trinity, Salina), health concerns.
- Leona Blaske, mother of Marlene Kohlmeier, health concerns.
- Rev. Erwin Meyer, retired, health concerns.
- Anne, mother of Suzanne Ramsey (wife of Rev. Dan Ramsey, Zion, Chanute), health concerns.

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

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 FAX 1-785-357-5071

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 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)
Directory press 8
Extension by name press 9
Operator press 0

Missions & Stewardship

From Ablaze Vision to ACTION

At the Mission Partner's Banquet on November 15th in Florida, the Kansas District received The LCMS World Mission Ablaze! Vision Award.

Having that Ablaze vision is good, but it is just the beginning. We're simply in the starting gate. As Paul said, "I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me - the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace."

Now is the time to put the ideas gathered at our Ablaze Convocation into action. There were 37 topics discussed, covering these seven areas of ministry: *Motivating Your Congregation, Ministry to Members, Family Ministry, Children & Youth Ministry, Group Ministry, Personal Outreach, Community Outreach*. Every congregation was mailed The Kansas Idea Book, a compilation of the notes taken during each discussion. These notes are also available by topic on the District website: www.kslcms.org/ablaze/index.htm.

Congregations will need to customize the ideas to meet the God-given gifts of their people and the mission situations into which they have been placed. Begin by identifying existing strengths or assets. If the people and the skills are not readily available for a given project, try another one that better matches the abilities of the



members of the congregation. Build on strengths, not weaknesses. Be cautious of trying to implement too many ideas at one time, which can result in people feeling overwhelmed and getting little accomplished.

Each of the discussion notes includes names and telephone numbers of at least one participant and a listing of all the participants with their home congregations identified. If you have a question about what was discussed, call someone on the list. The name(s) were provided so that congregations interested in adapting an idea would be able to network with other congregations.

Rev. Dick Gahl, the facilitator of our Open Space discussions, left us with this quote: "We can spend all of eternity worshipping God, learning from His Word, praying to Him, encouraging and building up one another. But only here and now do we have the chance to reach lost people for Christ."

KANSAS MISSION ABLAZE

Proclaiming the Message Today, Tomorrow, for Eternity

KANSAS ABLAZE GOAL

Sharing the Gospel through 500,000 personal contacts with people who do not know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Caring Ministry

Reverend Rocky Mease, District Chaplain

Targeted District Response - Camp Restore

Camp Restore is up and running, serving both East New Orleans and the North Shore (including Slidell). The camp has occupied Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in East New Orleans and is being run by the Southern District, LCMS Human Care and World Relief, Laborers For Christ and Orphan Grain Train. The primary mission of Camp Restore is to rebuild Lutheran churches, schools and members' homes. The camp will also provide services for the community.

Camp Hope (the camp the Kansas and Oklahoma Districts have been supporting) will be closed by the end of the year to allow Lamb of God to do their expansion. Persons who still wish to volunteer with Lutheran Disaster Response can find contact information at their website www.lldr.org.

Many thanks go to Mark Brewer for his service over the past year, answering thousands of questions and encouraging volunteers. As Camp Restore is able to handle reservations and answer questions, Mark will no longer be providing this service through the District Office.

Rocky Mease will continue to be available to answer volunteer questions and be a speaker for Bible Classes, other groups or for Mission Festivals. He can be reached

at 316-993-0746 or Chaprm@aol.com.

Camp Restore has a website that answers most questions and has downloadable registration forms for individuals and groups: www.camprestore.org. Contact Camp Restore at 888-248-2636 or camprestore@yahoo.com.

Camp Restore now allows 13-15 year olds to volunteer **IF** they are accompanied by a parent or grandparent. Information is also available on the website for how Youth Groups can volunteer (through Can Do Ministries of the Texas District).

Volunteers will continue to be needed for 5 to 10 years. In many ways the work has just begun. Persons who cannot volunteer but want to support this ministry can send funds to the Kansas District with a note in the memo stating that it is for the TDR (Targeted District Response).

As long as we are able, the Kansas and Oklahoma Districts will continue to provide funds for "camp expenses." (Camp Restore requests a donation of \$20/person/day). Volunteers are expected to pay their own travel expenses to and from New Orleans.

Please continue to pray for our TDR congregations - Bethany, Lamb of God and Good Shepherd.

Business Office
Debbie Crites, Business Manager

Year End Checklist

✓ **Kansas District Fiscal Year to Close**

The District will close its 2006 fiscal year on **Friday, January 12, 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 12, 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.

Lutheran Witness Subscriptions

Statements were sent to all congregations for 2007 Lutheran Witness subscriptions. Payment is due by January 6, 2007. Changes (additions, cancellations) can be made at any time using the forms provided with the statement. If you have any questions, contact Tami at 800-357-4421 ext. 200 or tami@kslclms.org.

2007 IRS Mileage Rates

The IRS recently announced mileage rates for 2007. Beginning 1/1/07, the standard business mileage rate will be 48.5 cents per mile - a 4 cent increase from 2006. The charitable rate remains unchanged at 14 cents per mile; and medical and moving expense rate will be 20 cents per mile - a 2 cent increase from 2006.

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.kslclms.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@kslclms.org. Cost of a CD of the 2006 Treasurer's Manual is \$6.75.

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@kslclms.org.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Larry Crume, Vice President

Your Choice – Your Church “Let’s Build Together”

On any given day, major decisions rest on your shoulders. Financial decisions are often at the top of the list. There are many avenues to consider – local banks, insurance agencies, brokerage houses and credit unions to name a few – all with competitive interest rate. But how about a choice that offers more?

Make your choice your church. The Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) offers a great way to include ministry of church in your personal saving and investment plan. An LCEF StewardAccount is a great choice! Offering many features common to money market accounts, the StewardAccount does more! While earning interest, your investment also helps LCMS churches, schools and rostered church workers spread the Gospel by sharing your dollars through low-cost loans to these organizations. Helping your church with your investments....With all those decisions, doesn't that sound like a good choice?

LCEF Lowers Loan Rates

Meeting a commitment/promise made when the phase-out of the rebate program was initiated several years ago, LCEF has lowered its margin and therefore the interest rate paid by congregational borrowers 1/8 effective January 1, 2007. This is the second reduction since the program was originally announced:

- Initial – margin reduced from 2.00% to 1.50%... loan rates drop 0.5%
- Effective January 1 – margin reduced from 1.5% to 1.375%... loan rates drop 0.125%

The resulting loan rate reduction will be immediate for congregations taking out loans after January. Congregations with current adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs) will see their rates drop on their anniversary dates - either monthly, quarterly, or annually depending on the loan terms in place.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Interest Rates - January 2007

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	4.515%	4.592%
\$10,000	4.640%	4.721%
\$100,000	4.765%	4.851%

LCEF is meeting its objective to provide the lowest loan rates possible. This is not a simple change in Cost Of Funds (COF); rather, it reflects a lowering of our congregation loan rates to the level of COF plus 1.375%, resulting in a January 1 rate of 5.875%. LCEF congregational loan rates are now 5/8 of a point lower than what they were prior to the program changes adopted in 1999 – all the while expanding the services we offer to all the entities of the LCMS.

This is the latest effort in fulfilling our newly stated mission statement, also effective January 1:

To support the Church in fulfilling its mission of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ by being a Christ-centered servant partner of the LCMS, ensuring that funds and services are available now and in the future.

For more information, please call LCEF at 800-843-5233 or Larry Crume at 800-357-4421 ext. 205

Planned Giving

Garry Niehoff, Counselor

Avoiding the Potholes of Estate Planning - Part 1

This is the first in a five part series on “Avoiding the Potholes of Estate Planning.”

An estate plan should be a roadmap that is easy to follow. It should move your assets to the next generation by minimizing taxes and avoiding probate. What are some of the “potholes” of estate planning?

Procrastination is one road block. People simply “don’t get around to it.” If you die without an estate plan, your assets will be divided according to the laws of the state in which you live. Most people



would like their estate to be distributed according to their wishes and not the wishes of the state legislature or the court. You can have a good plan that allows you to decide. This decision process is put into motion by creating a plan, understanding the various transfer methods and making decisions concerning how best to benefit both family and charity.

If you would like more information, please call our office at 1-800-357-442 ext. 101. We will be happy to answer any questions you might have regarding your estate plan.

Educational Services

Jim Bradshaw, Executive

Adult Education Sub-Committee

The Board of Education of the Kansas District wishes to express their thanks to the following for agreeing to serve on the newly formed adult education sub-committee:

- ♦ Pastor David Domanski, St. Paul, Oswego
- ♦ Pastor Bryan Drebes, Bethany, Overland Park
- ♦ Pastor Philip Hoppe, St. Paul, Ellsworth
- ♦ Teacher Dennis Marten, Zion, Independence
- ♦ Deaconess Doreen Scheuerman, Christ, Augusta
- ♦ Lay Leaders, Mike and Lois Farrell, Trinity, Atchison
- ♦ Lay Leader Rudy Niermeier, Redeemer, Atwood

This group will meet initially on Saturday, February 17, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the District Office in Topeka.

Lutheran Schools of Excellence

Congratulations to the following Kansas District Lutheran Schools who have been cited by the Kansas State Department of Education (see complete listing at www.ksde.org) for various “standard of excellence” according to their AYP reports in reading and math: St. John, Alma; Trinity, Atchison; St. Paul, Cheney; Faith, Derby; Zion, Independence; St. Paul, Leavenworth; Linn Lutheran; Good Shepherd, Marysville; Bethany, Overland Park; Bethany, Wichita; Holy Cross, Wichita.



LYF Representatives Selected

The District Youth Ministry Team has selected sophomores Becca Bradley (Ascension, Wichita) and Shelby Fowler (Bethany, Overland Park) as the two newest Kansas District Lutheran Youth Fellowship representatives. They now join the other two LYF reps, juniors Megan Gust (Bethany, Overland Park) and A.J. Longabaugh (Ascension, Wichita), as the team that will continue to advance Lutheran Youth Fellowship within the District. Becca, Shelby and Megan will join adult sponsor Vicki Lessman (Trinity, Wichita) at the annual LYF leader training event in St. Louis, March 15-18. The Kansas LYF reps will then replicate their learnings at the Teen Leadership Retreat in August.

“Here’s My Buck” Youth Campaign

One significant action promoted by our Lutheran Youth Fellowship representatives, through our District Board of Directors, was the endorsement of the “Here’s My Buck” campaign in support of Synodical Youth Ministry. Please read about how your congregation and/or youth group can get involved in this ministry by clicking on the “Here’s My Buck” link at the District web home page (www.kslcm.org)

Upcoming Events

Jan. 12-13	Family Life Reunion at Trinity, Garden City
Jan. 19-21	Family Life Academy at Faith, Topeka
Jan. 29-30	DCE Retreat at Hesston
Feb. 12-13	KAIRS Conference, Topeka
Feb. 23-24	DYMT Retreat, Emporia
Mar. 2-4	Single’s Retreat, Salina

DCE Retreat

The 2007 DCE (and DCE types) Retreat will be held January 29-30 at Cross Wind Retreat Center in Hesston. “Can These Dry Bones Live?” is the theme, based on Ezekiel 37:1-3.

Recharge your ministry batteries! Spend time together with your brothers and sisters in Christ and build relationships with one another and the Lord through spiritual renewal!

The cost is \$75 and the deadline for registration is January 10.

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.kslcm.org/ks_flm.

Media Library News

The District board of Education has been monitoring the use of the District Audio/Video Library. We are caught in the dilemma of having to update our resources (which would be fairly expensive), continue with the resources we now have available, or close the Library.

So that we might better evaluate the usage, we have decided to forgo any membership fees for the year 2007 to see whether or not the usage increases. We will evaluate the responses by July of 2007 and make some recommendations on the basis of the feedback that we receive. If you have concerns/responses concerning the Audio/Video Library, please put them in writing and send them to the Kansas District Board of Education and we will take them into consideration.

KFUO - Streaming the Sacred

"CLASSIC99," the FM side of the LCMS KFUO radio station, broadcasts classical and sacred music 24 hours a day. Now "CLASSIC99" is streaming its programming live over the internet, making it available to a potential audience of billions worldwide - anyone, anywhere, with a computer and internet access.

For more information, visit www.kfuo.org or www.classic99.com or call 800-844-0524.

Music Workshop in Olathe

Beautiful Savior, Olathe is hosting "Setting the Gospel to Music!" This music workshop will be held on Saturday, March 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Dr. John Behnke, Professor of Music at Concordia University-Wisconsin, is the workshop leader. Learn new skills in handbell ringing, organ playing and choral music. Dr. Behnke is encouraging area handbell choirs to attend "en mass" and he will work with one large group on the ringing of the bells!

The cost is \$10/person and includes lunch. A registration form and more information about the workshop are available at www.bsicks.org or contact Deb Miller at 913-780-6023.

Dr. Behnke will also be participating in a hymnfest and organ recital on Friday evening, March 2, 7:00 p.m. at the church.

Servant Events Scheduled

Trinity, Garden City has two servant events coming up.

◆ The Annual Mexico Trip will be March 17-24 to build homes for the poor in Juarez, Mexico under Amor Ministries based out of San Deigo. Cost of \$325.00 will cover all expenses for the trip. Contact DCE Leland Jackson at 620-276-3110 or dceleland@tlcgck.kscoxmail.com.

◆ A College Servant Event is being planned for Memorial Weekend, May 24-28 at Lutheran Valley Retreat near Divide, Colorado. Costs are still being determined. Spend a weekend out in the Colorado Rockies helping work servant event projects at Lutheran Valley Retreat. Activities may include hiking, rappelling and high rope elements. Transportation out of Wichita, meals, housing and program will be included in the cost. Contact Leland Jackson at dceleland@tlcgck.kscoxmail.com or Tim Garrels at garrels@hotmail.com.

2007 Mission Commitments

Mission Commitment forms for 2007 were sent to all congregations the first week of October. Please 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.

Grace Place Mini-Retreat

February 9-10, 2007

For: All Professional Church Workers and Spouses

Where: Courtyard by Marriott in Junction City

Cost: \$20/person, \$35/couple plus \$84 lodging

Registration: www.kslcms.org/ks_registrations

Sessions:

- ◆ Jesus Model of Whole Health - Dr. Eckrich
- ◆ The Power of WE: The Ministry Home as the School of the Spirit - Dr. Ludwig
- ◆ Lutherans in Movement and Meditation - Dr. Eckrich
- ◆ Fiscal Health - Eustolio Gomez (Concordia Plan Services)

Adopt-A-Student Program

A prospective Concordia Seminary student confronts many challenges on his journey toward ordination. Paying tuition is one of these challenges. Through the Adopt-A-Student program, a sponsor (individual, congregation or organization) forms a partnership with a specific seminary student. Becoming an Adopt-A-Student sponsor is a way to pray for, communicate with and financially support a seminary student. Once a student is linked to a specific sponsor, the student is encouraged to write the sponsor periodically, sharing details about himself and life at the Seminary.

For more information, contact the Concordia Seminary Development Office at 1-800-822-5287 or development@csl.edu.

Subscribe to StewardCast

StewardCAST is an "E-Newsletter" publication of LCMS District and Congregational Services-Stewardship Ministry. It contains timely information and updates from Larry Reinhardt, Director of Stewardship Ministry. To subscribe or view previous newsletters, visit www.lcms.org.

A member of Holy Cross, Wichita has a Wurlitzer Organ (Model D-15/16) to donate. Contact Kent Hoyer, Business Manager of Holy Cross, at 316-684-5201 or kenthoyer@holycrosslutheran.net.

Kansas District Archives

The District office has a fine collection of Kansas congregation/school memorabilia. This information is invaluable, particularly when planning special celebrations such as a 50th anniversary.

Send information of special events (anniversaries, installations, building programs, ...), including pictures, to the District office, Attention: Rev. George Bruening, Kansas District Archivist.

Guinea Prayers

Prayer Requests from the Norton family:

✠ Thanksgiving that God has worked faith in the hearts of seven people who were baptized in December. Pray that the Holy Spirit would guide them in their new life. Pray that they would be able to withstand the many Satanic attacks and temptations that will be thrown their way.

✠ Thanksgiving that one of the candidates has already expressed a desire to serve the Lord with his life and wants to study to become a pastor. Pray that God give him the perseverance necessary to complete his studies and the assurance of this calling.

✠ Thanksgiving that our evangelism in village "L" has borne fruit (the six baptismal candidates are all from there). Prayers for continued openings in that part of the prefecture.

✠ Prayers for village "B.D." that received a visit from our evangelist and expressed a willingness to participate in classes.

✠ Prayers for one of the students who is a victim of mental illness, that God would heal him.

✠ Prayers for our fellowship here, that God would provide them with land to build their sanctuary and carry on His mission.

Prayer Requests from the Heiney family:

✠ for the three new groups meeting in Conakry, pray that the Word of God will go out among many in this area.

✠ for the church in the Forest Region, pray that God will strengthen them and provide good leadership and teaching.

✠ for Katie Heiney preparing to go away to boarding school in Dakar, Senegal, and for the family adjustments that go along with that.

✠ for Joel and Jonathan Heiney traveling to Guinea on the 16th and 17th of December, pray that all will remain calm in the country during their visit, and for safe travel and good health during that time.

✠ for James and Tiina May who are adjusting to life in Africa, for their trip to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on the 23rd, and for their language learning experience there.

Visit the Kansas District website's Guinea Partnership page: http://kslcms.org/ks_guinea/index.htm. This page includes information about the Kansas District Guinea Partnership; maps of Guinea; missionary pictures, prayer cards and newsletters; monthly prayer updates; and links to resources.

The website also has a TIM page: http://www.kslcms.org/ks_tim/index.htm. This page includes information about the Together In Mission program through LCMS World Mission and pictures, prayer cards and newsletters for Morris & Jean Olson and John, Susan, Katrina, Louisa & Theodore Mehl.



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