

Workers Together

Kansas District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Volume 14, Issue 9

October 2007

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District Website/Email

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Chaplain Rocky Mease - chaprm@aol.com

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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 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

From the President's Office

Parables, Prodigals and Hummingbirds by President Keith Kohlmeier

Last Sunday our Pastor led us in a study of the gospel lesson for the morning (Luke 15). Although the heading at the top of the paragraph in my bible said, "The Parable of the Prodigal Son," Pastor alerted us to the fact that one of the hearts of the account was Jesus' accent on the elder son.

Many of you probably heard the same insight. After receiving home the younger son who had squandered all that the father had lavished upon him,

the father celebrated his return by killing the 4-H steer and restoring to him his place within the family. The elder brother was incensed. Interesting that it didn't cost him anything to receive this brother home, the father assured him that "you are always with me, and everything I have is yours," yet he "became angry and refused to go in." It wasn't about a brother who came home; it wasn't about having less himself, but a brother who seemed to have rights and privileges at the table even though he had not "earned them."

Invite

Marlene and I love to sit on the deck in the morning drinking our coffee and discussing the day ahead. One of the joys of our back yard creek is that we have all kinds of wildlife that join us. This time of the year we really enjoy the flock, gaggle, herd (I'm not sure what the term is) of hummingbirds that come to our red nectar feeder. But we have learned through the experience that every feeder attracts one "bully." The bully is a dominant bird who stakes out the feeder and will defend the food source against anyone else. It has nothing to do with the bird being hungry. He or she eats their fill, and then expends the rest of the morning and energy chasing the others away when they get close to the feeder. There is no threat of it running dry. I keep it supplied all the time so that they can enjoy it. And yet the bully flies around yelling, "Mine, Mine, Mine."

Encourage



Elder sons and hummingbirds just don't understand. All that they have they enjoy from the hand of one who loves and cares for them. The supply of all that they have comes from one who welcomes them, but who also loves and offers welcome and sustenance to others.

Celebrate

Elder sons and hummingbirds (and congregations, ministries and members of the same) are encouraged to be greeters at the door to God's gracious gifts for all. They are encouraged to be heralds. Their chorus is never to be "Mine, Mine, Mine!" but "His! His! His! His Love is here for YOU!"

May all that you do in this season of activity resound with that chorus to the community around your feeder and banquet table, that others are invited and encouraged to come in, and may the celebration continue among you, and among the angels in heaven.

His love is for ALL!

Calls Pending

- Rev. Tom Brewer from Shawnee to First, Venice, Calif.
- Rev. Dan Galchutt from St. Paul, Haven to Trinity, Long Prairie, Minn.
- Sarah Wittrock from Utica, Mich. to Trinity, Salina, DCE

Calls Declined

- Rev. Christopher Bushre from St. John, Lyons, Neb. to Bethlehem, Greenleaf
- Chuck Merriman from St. John, Ellinwood to St. John, Mattoon, Ill., DCE
- Rev. John Stubenrouch from Immanuel, Hepler to St. John, Wilcox, Neb.
- Rev. Gary Werling from Good Shepherd, Gretna, Neb. to Immanuel, Lawrence, Sr. Pastor

Calling Congregations/Schools

St. John, Aliceville
 St. John, Alma (Teacher)
 St. Peter, Barnes
 St. Luke, Bazine
 Zion, Downs
 Bethlehem, Greenleaf
 St. Paul, Junction City
 St. Paul, Lincoln
 Christ, Manhattan
 Trinity, Mission (Min. of Outreach)
 Zion, Newton
 Christ, Overland Park (Senior Pastor)
 Trinity, Parsons
 Trinity, Salina (DCE)
 Calvary, Topeka

Elder Training Workshop



November 3
 Trinity Lutheran Church
 702 S. 9th St.
 Salina, Kansas 67401
 Deadline: Oct. 15



The cost is \$25 per attendee or \$100 per congregation, which includes lunch and materials. Elders should be accompanied by their pastor and all pastors attend free! Contact Marie at 785-357-4441 ext. 219 or marie@kslcms.org for more details or to register.

District Congregation Mission Receipts

Last month:	Aug. 16, 2007 - Sept. 15, 2007 ...	\$113,462
	Aug. 16, 2006 - Sept. 15, 2006 ...	\$110,218
Year-to-date:	Jan. 16, 2007 - Sept. 15, 2007 ..	\$1,091,920
	Jan. 16, 2006 - Sept. 15, 2006 ..	\$1,075,240
To LCMS:	Jan. 16, 2007 - Sept. 15, 2007	\$458,607
	Jan. 16, 2006 - Sept. 15, 2006	\$451,601

District Calendar

October

2 KAIRS, District Office
 5-7 Singles Fall Retreat, Salina
 7-9 Professional Workers Conference, Topeka
 19-21 Lay Leadership Institute, District Office
 25-27 Board of Directors, District Office

November

16-18 Lay Leadership Institute, District Office
 16-18 Kansas District Youth Gathering, Wichita
 22-23 District Office Closed, Thanksgiving

Prayers

- Rev. Tom Mendenhall, Our Redeemer, Hutchinson, health concerns
- Rev. Gene Holtorf, St. John, Palmer, health concerns
- Rev. Arno & Nina Meyer, retired, Topeka, health concerns
- Terry Wiechman, Trinity, Wichita, health concerns
- Rev. John Drush, retired, Barnes, health concerns
- Barb McComas, District Office staff, health concerns



Area Chaplains

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

Topeka - For hospital visits in Topeka, contact Rev. George Bruening at 785-273-5769 or 636-627-7315.

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
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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)
 Barb McComas (100)
Education press 5
 Jim Bradshaw (206)
 Joyce Tate (206)

Mission & Stewardship press 4
 Mark Frith (222)
 Lori Hennessey (223)
Planned Giving press 6
 Garry Niehoff (101)
 Doris Wilson (101)
Directory press 8
Extension by name press 9
Operator press 0

Caring Ministry

Reverend Rocky Mease, District Chaplain

I said I'd do what?

Every once in a while I look at my calendar and say, "I said I'd do what?" Many of us church professionals have only ourselves to blame for the overbooking we do of our own schedules. I know that if some boss handed me my schedule and told me to do what I have scheduled for myself, I would probably quit. We are often times our own most unreasonable bosses.

This week, the result of my overbooking was getting a couple of dates wrong and needing to be in Denver and Topeka on the same day at the same time. We all know that is only possible for someone who is Omnipresent – and I ain't Omnipresent.

My overbooking, however, is an indication that I might be trying to be Omnipresent. I believe that I often overbook myself as a means of trying to control my life, rather than being simply "present" to where God is leading me. If I have every day plugged on my calendar, God can throw me no surprises! I control my destiny. That is a pretty egregious violation of the First Commandment.

I wonder how many of my fellow brothers and sisters in the ministry might need to make the same confession. I am not saying that we should not work hard in the ministry; I am saying that we need to work well in the ministry. There are way too many times when we may work hard, but fail to get done what God is calling us to do.

I am going to admit that I don't practice what I preach – and I am writing this as much for me as I am for you. Here are some steps that might let us work well, rather than simply working hard:

◆**Pray.** Take time out several times a day for prayer. Ask for God to lead you.

◆**Read your Bible.** I know we hear that all the time. But give God a chance each day to really speak to you – for your sake.

◆**Be Present.** Every time you are involved in ministry be where you are. Don't simply do the right things – be present. If you don't know what that means, ask people. Ask them if they felt you were present with them. Spouses will sometimes even give this as unsolicited advice.

◆**Leave blanks in your schedule.** Leave open times each week and give God an opportunity to surprise you with an opportunity for ministry.

◆**Find a group of people you can trust and with whom you can be honest.** For some this will be a group of professionals. For some it will be a church board or committee. For others this will be a small group of trusted friends. Find a group of people who will not be impressed by what you do, but who will remind you to be who you are. We all need honest feedback and incentive to "be" rather than to "do."

Business Office

Debbie Crites, Business Manager

Concordia Health Plan Deadlines

The fall deadlines for choosing Concordia Health Plan (CHP) coverage options for 2008 have been established. The dates for requesting changes in coverage are as follows:

- ◆ Late August – election forms and information were mailed to all employers and all forms are available on the Concordia Plan Services website, www.ConcordiaPlans.org.
- ◆ September 1 through October 5 – employers may elect a different plan coverage option for year 2008.
- ◆ October 15 through November 16 – Annual Open Enrollment – active, full-time workers employed by a CHP-participating organization can enroll themselves and/or their dependents in the Concordia Health Plan (subject to Annual Open Enrollment guidelines).

Remember that 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 5, 2007. If you are not making a change in coverage, then no action is necessary and the current plan coverage option will continue for 2008. Make your arrangements now.

Lutheran Witness Renewals

Renewal packets for Lutheran Witness 2007/2008 subscriptions were sent to each congregation in July. Concordia Publishing House requires that the renewal instruction sheet (follow instructions completely) and the original computer printout be returned to the District Office for processing, even if there are no changes. Changes (additions, cancellations) were due on August 15, 2007.

Lutheran Witness billings will go out in November using the current subscription number, so please make sure that your congregation is up to date as soon as possible. If you have any questions or need the change forms, please contact Tami at 800-357-4421 ext. 200 or tami@kslcms.org.

2008 Salary Guidelines Available

The Kansas District Salary Guidelines for 2008 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 and scrolling down to the "Business Department." If you are unable to download and view this online, contact Debbie Crites, 800-357-4421 ext. 204 or debbie@kslcms.org.

Mission & Stewardship

Rev. Mark T. Frith, Assistant to the President

Wait for the Gift by Rev. Mark T. Frith

"May another take his place of leadership." Acts 1:20b. St. Peter quotes Psalm 109 in preparation for the election of a new disciple to replace the fallen disciple, Judas. Peter acknowledges that the disciples are leaders. Now the day of Pentecost had not yet arrived and the disciples were waiting for that gift that Jesus had promised. However, it is clear to Peter that he and his sacred band of Brothers would be used as a means for ministry in the name of the resurrected Jesus. The disciples would pray and cast their lots. The lot fell to a man named Matthias. Once again, the Lord had His Twelve.

Pastors and congregational leaders are encouraged to wait upon the gifts of our Lord and to prepare for the harvest to come. Most congregations do this in a form of Consecration or Commitment Sundays. If I can be of any help to pastors and leaders in the area of these stewardship resources, please do not hesitate to call me.

Also notice on this mission and stewardship page that the church here in the Kansas District is calling for specific leadership teams and team leaders to help with the overall stewardship of our collective gifts as a church. If you could be of help or know someone in your congregation who could be of help to us as a District of LCMS congregations, please consult our District webpage for several of the opportunities before us - www.kslcms.org/ks_departments/mission_stewardship/index.htm. I stand ready to receive your call or e-mail (800-357-4421 ext. 223 or mtfrith@kslcms.org) to work with you and to work together for the good of Him who loves us and calls us forward.

We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 1:3

Stewardship Resources

The following list of available stewardship resources was sent to each congregation in the 2008 mission commitment mailing.

- ◆ 12 Months of Congregational Stewardship
- ◆ Ten for Ten: Teaching a Lutheran Perspective on Tithing
- ◆ Life at its Best: Living Wisely in an Unwise World
- ◆ Living as Fruitful Stewards
- ◆ Becoming Money Wise
- ◆ Energizing Your Stewardship Committee
- ◆ Stewards Living a God-Pleasing Life
- ◆ Financial Wisdom for a Lifetime of Marriage
- ◆ Stewardship Studies for Teens
- ◆ Controlling Your Money

These resources are available from Stewardship Advisors - 888-783-2790, stewardshipadv@aol.com or www.stewardshipadvisors.org/Resources.htm.

Team Leaders & Members Needed

If you have checked out our Mission/Stewardship Department page on the website, you will have noticed there are several vacancies for both team leaders and team members - for professional church workers and laity.

Mission:

- ◆ Outreach Leader & Members - Ablaze Connections
- ◆ Hispanic Ministry Leader & Members
- ◆ Mission Vision Giving Leader & Members
- ◆ New Church Starts/Covenant Congregations Leader & Members
- ◆ Rural/Small Town Ministry Members

Stewardship:

- ◆ Church Worker Development Leader & Members
- ◆ District/Synod Support Leader & Members

If you have an interest in any of these areas, please contact Lori at 800-357-4421 ext. 223 or lori@kslcms.org.

2008 Mission Commitments

Mission Commitment forms for 2008 were sent to all congregations in September. 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, 2008.

Consecration/Commitment Sundays

Many members of God's church in Kansas look forward to the fall harvest. As a leader, do you offer His Church an opportunity to reap a fall harvest by having a Consecration/Commitment Sunday? If you do, great! If this is not your practice, prayerfully consider beginning this fall. It is a great way for God to grow His people spiritually. There are two options available through the Kansas District - Consecrated Stewards and Consecration Sunday. For Consecrated Steward speakers, contact Larry Crume at 800-357-4421 ext. 205 or lcrume@kslcms.org. For Consecration Sunday speakers, contact Don Copley at dcopley1@cox.net.

There are numerous plans and programs that invite spiritual and financial commitment. If you need ideas or materials, please contact Rev. Ken Kaufmann, District Congregational Stewardship Chair, at pastor@stpaul.kscoxmail.com. Please don't deny your congregation the opportunity to grow spiritually and in the joy of giving!

Planned Giving Garry Niehoff, Counselor

How to Redefine the Bottom Line

Anyone who spends much time around the subject of economics knows that there are multiple facets to almost any equation. Personal investing and financial planning are not too different.

On one hand, an investment can multiply in value over time. On the other hand, when it comes time to consider selling that asset, the tax implications can appear to make a significant portion of that increase evaporate!

In fact, in recent years a number of LCMS members have experienced this reality first hand. Many who invested in certain types of property, as well as many sectors of the stock market, over the past decade have witnessed dramatic growth in the value of their investment. It is not at all unusual for a \$10,000 investment several years ago to represent an asset valued at \$50,000 or even \$100,000 today. At the same time, these assets often produce little or no current income.

For an individual or couple nearing retirement, this scenario doesn't add up. Attention almost always turns to identifying possible ways to *redefine the bottom line* and generate current and future cash from the asset in question.

However, with the prospect of selling such an investment comes the reality of long-term capital gains tax, and this reality is a somewhat harsh one. Selling the stock or

property in question will instantly reduce the asset's worth by 15% of the increased value.

For those whose objectives include philanthropy, there is good news. Considerations have been built in to our tax laws that make it possible for you to literally redefine the bottom line – for yourself, for your family, and for those you love.

One example of this is a plan that combines the sale of an appreciated asset with the versatility of a legal trust agreement known as a Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT).

This *Sale and Unitrust* plan makes it possible for you to:

- ◆ Increase the income stream represented by this asset
- ◆ Create some immediate liquidity through the sale of a portion of the asset
- ◆ Realize a philanthropic dream.

Through some careful planning, you can gain immediate cash, enjoy increased annual income, and make a generous charitable contribution – all made possible by the Sale & Unitrust plan for highly appreciated low yield assets.

If you would like to explore how the Sale and Unitrust plan can help you maximize the value of an asset, we invite you to call Doris at 785-357-4441 ext. 101 for a free copy of our brochure – *Redefining The Bottom Line*. It's our gift to interested friends . . . and of course, there is no obligation.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Larry Crume, Vice President

Special Limited Time Offer

LCEF has announced a special limited-time offer in order to meet continued strong loan demand and attract new investors and new dollars to LCEF. Effective September 1, 2007, LCEF is offering a 2-year fixed rate term note at 6.00% base interest rate and 6.136% APY, with a minimum investment of \$500.

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

LCEF StewardAccount®

The LCEF StewardAccount® is an easy access investment account for both individuals and congregations, paying competitive money market rates and offering investors the following features: **Interest-Bearing Investment; Check-Writing Privileges; VISA ATM/Check Card** (optional); and **Electronic Funds Transfer** (optional).

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

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Interest Rates - October 2007

Steward Account Rates:

Congregational Certificates

Demand	3.375%
Steward Account	4.125%

Individual Accounts

Less than \$1,000	2.375%
\$1,000 - less than \$5,000	2.500%
\$5,000 - less than \$10,000	2.875%
\$10,000 and over	4.125%



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	4.585%	4.664%
\$10,000	4.710%	4.794%
\$100,000	4.835%	4.923%

Educational Services

Jim Bradshaw, Executive

Lutheran Schools Ablaze by Jim Bradshaw

Lutherans have established schools in our country since 1640. The reasons for opening and maintaining these schools have varied across the country and throughout history. All can be traced to six goals. Some schools will exist for all six reasons, others for only two or three of them. Each is a valid reason for the establishment and maintenance of a Lutheran school.

- ◆ To nurture faith.
- ◆ To grow in grace and knowledge.
- ◆ To teach the Word.
- ◆ To communicate and establish Christian values.
- ◆ To equip for Christian service.
- ◆ To reach out with the Gospel to others.

Outreach is an attitude; an attitude that reflects a message so important we have to share it with you; a message so important that it has changed how we live; a message so important that you should be able to see it in our actions.

Characteristics of a mission-minded school include: compassion for the lost; people, not programs; common vision; team ministry; involved faith community.

In the months ahead, you will be introduced to Ablaze stories from our Kansas District Lutheran schools. Read the evidence of how Jesus is being shared throughout our early childhood centers and elementary schools and how the Spirit is at work in these faith communities.

Voyages Curriculum Workshop

A Voyages Curriculum Training Workshop will be held Saturday, Oct. 13 at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Gardner, 306 E. Madison St. Participants will examine the Voyages Curriculum Preschool A, Preschool B and Kindergarten. Information about this curriculum can be found at www.cph.org. Carolyn Bergt from Concordia Publishing House will provide the training. The training will begin promptly at noon and will end at 4:00 p.m. Lunch will not be provided, but drinks and a snack will be available halfway through the training. The training is FREE of charge! Please contact Carol Hill (Center Director, Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center, Gardner) at 913-856-4250 or openarmsdirector@earthlink.net to register.

“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 going to www.kslcms.org/heres_my_buck.htm.

Looking Ahead

Oct. 2	KAIRS, District Office
Oct. 5-7	Fall Singles Retreat, Camp Webster, Salina
Oct. 6	Biblesta, Humboldt
Oct. 7-9	Professional Workers Conference, Topeka
Oct. 13	Voyages Curriculum Workshop
Nov. 9-10	Jr. High Rally, Rexford
Nov. 16-18	District Youth Gathering, Hyatt, Wichita

Rexford Jr. High Rally

The 2nd annual Kansas District Junior High Youth Event will be held Nov. 9-10 at Shepherd’s Staff Retreat Center in Rexford. The theme for the overnight is “Where Your Heart Is, So There Be Your Treasure,” based on Matthew 6:21. The Concordia Youth Ministry Team from Seward, Neb. will be with us.

The cost is \$50, which includes lodging and Saturday breakfast and lunch. To register, contact Pastor Warren Prochnow (620-872-2294 or pastor@hclscottcity.org) or DCE Leland Jackson (620-276-3110 or dceleland@tlcgck.kscoxmail.com). Registration deadline is Oct. 28.

District Youth Gathering

The Kansas District Youth Gathering will take place Nov. 16-18 at the Hyatt in Wichita. The theme, “i.e.”, is a Latin phrase meaning “that is” and indicates that an explanation is about to follow. Focusing on 1 Timothy 4:12-14, we hope to challenge participants to put their faith into action and be intentional in their worship and witness. The Gathering band is Daniels Window from Nashville, Tenn. and speakers for this year’s event are Rev. Jeff Meyer and Rev. LeRoy Sullivan. Both serve in the greater Kansas City area.

Registration for “i.e.” is \$70 which includes all programming and gathering wear. Registration packets and online registration are available on the website at www.kslcms.org/kdyg. If you have questions after receiving your Gathering packet, contact Donna Williams at 316-283-1441 or dcezion@sbcglobal.net.

Equipping to Share Seminar

Bethany Lutheran Church, Overland Park, is hosting “Equipping to Share,” a Lutheran Hour Ministries seminar at their Stilwell Mission (20200 Mission Rd, Stillwell) on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The focus of this workshop is on personal faith sharing.

The cost is \$10 (includes materials and lunch) and the registration deadline is Oct. 28. For more information, contact Pastor Mark Schulz at 913-648-2228 ext. 128 or mschulz@bethanylutheran-op.org.

LCEF Shares Earnings With Synod

Blessed with record loan approvals and earnings, the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) recently presented The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod with \$3.3 million as a distribution of its earnings. From that total, \$300,000 will be given directly to the Synod (unrestricted) and \$2.7 million to member districts (an average of \$89,000 to each of the 28 member districts within LCEF). Also, a permanent gift of \$300,000 from LCEF will be placed in the new Mission Planting Fund, supporting the *Ablaze!* initiative to plant new missions and revitalize existing LCMS congregations.

LCEF President Merle Freitag presented the symbolic \$3.3 million check to Synod President Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick on Friday, August 31, at the LCEF national office in St. Louis. "LCEF was blessed with a great year of ministry and financial operations," said Freitag. "We reached a new level in loan approvals totaling \$331 million and recorded a record bottom line. We thank God for these blessings and appreciate the opportunity to share them with our Synod and district partners."

While district and Synod leaders will decide how best to use the money, Freitag hopes that the funds will be applied in one or more of three ways: for *Ablaze!* and other mission-planting efforts; for Consecrated Stewards training to enhance stewardship education; and as a contribution to an existing, or the creation of, a rostered church worker indebtedness assistance program.

"The ultimate goal is to celebrate what God has done - for us, through us, and to us," adds Freitag. "May God continue to bless us, not for our sake or for our needs, but so that we may be a blessing to others."

Children's Christian Concern Society 2007 Mission Conference

When: Saturday, Nov. 3, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Where: Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Leawood

Featured Speakers: Rev. Tim & Beth Heiney

Registration: 785-357-7688 or cccs@kslcms.org

Cost: \$25/person, includes lunch

Biblesta Weekend in Humboldt

October 6 is BIBLESTA in Humboldt. The main feature of this 50-year tradition is a parade at 1:30 p.m. with all floats depicting stories from the Bible. Musical entertainment following the parade will feature the well-known Gatlin Brothers. This is a one-of-a-kind event. Plan to come in the morning for a tour of Humboldt and the opportunity to see store windows decorated for Biblesta. There is a free bean feed in the town square at 5:00 p.m.

Updating Kansas District Email List

The Kansas District email list is used to send out timely information such as missionary newsletters, changes or additions to scheduled events and new postings to the website. If your current email address has changed or you would like to be added to the list, please contact Lori Hennessey at lori@kslcms.org.

New Missionaries to Macau, China

At the Professional Church Worker's Conference (PCWC), October 7-9, in Topeka, individuals, congregations and schools of the Kansas District will have a unique opportunity to show support for a young couple who will be serving in Macau, China. Drew Bradshaw and his wife, Nicole, will be "sent" as missionaries on Sunday evening at the conference as they begin a two-year internship in the Director of Christian Outreach program through Concordia University, St. Paul, Minn., beginning in 2008.

LCMS missionaries recently established the Concordia English Center in Macau. The center uses a combination of English-as-a-Second-Language teaching, small-group Bible studies and various fellowship activities to gather and evangelize both Cantonese residents of Macau and Mandarin-speaking migrant workers from the Peoples Republic of China. LCMS missionaries also minister to deaf children in Macau at Concordia School for Special Education. A Chinese missionary pastor from the LCMS partner church in Taiwan serves side-by-side with LCMS missionaries to reach out into the community to proclaim the Gospel.

Drew and Nicole will teach English and plan outreach events. They also will be involved in Bible studies and seek to establish relationships leading to firm friendships with the people in Macau so they can see how Drew and Nicole live out the Gospel in their own lives.

Drew's home congregation is Faith Lutheran Church in Topeka. Nicole's home congregation is St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Bloomington, MN. The Bradshaw's attended LCMS World Mission orientation and English as a Foreign Language training at Concordia University, St. Paul, in June. The Lord also prepared them for cross-cultural service through many volunteer opportunities at churches in the St. Paul area and Nicole's volunteer work teaching English to Somali immigrants.

Please pray for Drew and Nicole as they serve in Macau. Specifically, they ask that you pray, "for our families and friends back home who may feel nervous or anxious about the physical distance between us. Pray that our fund-raising goals are met so we can serve in Macau without financial worries. (They must raise the associated cost of placing them in the field and the field expense to support them in Macau.) Pray that we can be effective vessels of the Holy Spirit in spreading the Gospel - that opportunities for witnessing aren't overlooked or avoided, and that relationships with people in the United States and Macau would develop and remain strong. Finally, pray for our health."

68th Convention of the Kansas District LLL/LHM

When: Oct. 12-13

Where: Heartland Inn Motel, Salina

Cost: \$59 plus tax for room, \$10 convention registration, \$5 for Sat. lunch, \$12.50 for banquet

Register: Send your name, address, phone, email and payment (to: Zone 12 LLL) to Norm & Helen Jones, 1201 Louise Ln, Salina, KS 67401.

Guinea Prayers

Prayer Requests from the Heiney family

✠ For our vicar, Julien Kotembedounou, who will be ordained on November 18th this year. Pray that God uses him mightily in the church and keeps him from Satan's claws.

✠ For our seminarians in training, that they do well in their training and that God raises up good and faithful men for the work in Guinea.

✠ For our family as we travel through Kansas this next month - for our schedule, go to: www.kslcms.org/ks_guinea/index.htm.

✠ For Guinea. Rumor has it things are flaring up again due to a lack of kept promises. Pray for peace!!

Prayer Requests from the Norton family

✠ Thanksgiving for a restart of the evangelism in village "F." This village heard the oral presentation of the Bible 3 years ago and no one responded, but now they have asked us to return and are enthusiastically participating, with a leader who is eager to learn.

✠ Thanksgiving for the leadership of the young Maninka church here, who is taking a more active role - in teaching, leading and trying to plan for the future of God's work.

✠ Pray for unity as some have started to drift away after their profession of faith and baptism.

✠ Pray for a good meeting next month with Rev. Paul Mueller, Area Director for LCMS WM; Joy Mueller, project manager for LCMS WM; and Rev. Fred Reinhardt, Area Facilitator with the leadership of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Guinea.

Prayer Requests from Andrea Herman

Please join me in thanking God for:

✠ the Christian family who is living with me and the blessing that they are

✠ the Maninka words that are coming back to me after being away from Maninka for several weeks

✠ the quick resolution to a military incident in the market with no casualties

✠ His gentleness in teaching me what things I need to give up and give to Him

✠ wise, knowledgeable and patient colleagues who are trying to help me find my way through some challenging cultural situations.

Please join me in asking God to provide:

✠ me with the ability to better understand and "hear" the Maninka language

✠ the self-discipline to establish a routine of regular prayer specifically for the Maninka, especially during Ramadan

✠ wisdom in how to proceed with language learning - teacher roles and when to start staying out in the village

✠ peace and contentment to Guineans, especially the military

✠ relief from back pain

✠ a willingness to let go of anything that is in the way of me trusting in God completely.



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

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