



# Workers Together



*"The servant mission of The Kansas District is to equip, encourage and empower each congregation in its mission vision and Christ-care ministry."*

Volume 16, Issue 8 September 2009

## And Now It All Begins! by President Keith E. Kohlmeier

It seems like that line is appropriate as we approach September and the beginning of fall schedules. It affects families, ministries, and communities. Even if your summer hasn't been the picture of respite, you know that the fall schedule is going to accelerate whatever you are doing. I usually enjoyed the end of July and first part of August. It was the time when we got our last vacation in, tried to finish any summer projects, went school shopping, enrolled for school, laid out the fall and winter ministries at church, and began to prepare and train those who would staff those ministries. When the last week of August came it usually began with the Monday morning words, "And now it all begins!"

Actually, those are not original words. They always took me back to the last scene of an evangelism movie I remember seeing in the theater in Washington, Kansas when I was a child. The movie was "Jesus of Nazareth." I don't remember much of the film, but I do remember the



ending. At the point where the screen would usually be filled with the words "The End," it surprised me. It ends with the scene of the empty tomb of Easter and the fictional character named Zerah who did the most to get Jesus tried and executed. He comes to view the empty tomb and says with a note of doomed reservation, "And now it begins."

I recently was given a special piece of art that brought that truth back to me. The painting is by Salvador Dali, and the name of it is "Christ of St. John of the Cross." It is now hanging in a prominent place in our home. In the painting you focus first on the crucified Lord. But underneath the cross you have the setting of a quiet Galilean fishing lake with boats prepared for the day. One of Dali's traits is his use of light. And the light of the picture brings those two worlds together. In the background you see the first glimmers of sunrise on a new day. In his own way he expresses, "And now it begins."

In His own way, I pray that our Lord communicates this truth to each of you as workers, leaders, servants in the church in this season of our work. First, that you can begin again with the anticipation and the confidence under the cross that each day is a "new beginning" for you personally and in the ministry by which you touch His children. And secondly, that those whom you touch in His name at home, through your church or ministry, and especially those who up to now only see life as having an ending, may by your words and example be able to say, "And now it all begins."

**"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you." John 15:16**

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### District Website/Email

**Website:** [www.kslcms.org](http://www.kslcms.org)

#### President's Office

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#### Caring Ministry/Disaster Response

Chaplain Rocky Mease - [chaprm@aol.com](mailto: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:  
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](mailto:lori@kslcms.org)  
Deadline: 15th of each month

## Calls Accepted

- Rev. Aaron Filipek from Beautiful Savior, Olathe to Zion, Newton

## Calling Congregations/Schools

Zion, Claflin/St. Peter, Holyrood  
St. John, Oberlin  
Zion, Newton  
Bethany, Overland Park (Principal)  
Grace/Trinity, Wichita  
Holy Cross, Wichita (Senior Pastor, Principal)

## Milestone Ordination Anniversaries

### June

Alvin Bruenger 50 years  
Ron Flentgen 45 years  
Harvey Hanneman 45 years

### August

Roland Boehnke 55 years

## Prayers

- Congratulations to Rev. Mark and Kristina Lovett, Concordia, Hoisington, at the birth of a son.
- Rev. Tom Mendenhall, Our Redeemer, Hutchinson, recurrence of cancer and upcoming surgery
- Rev. Larry Brakenhoff, St. Paul, Alta Vista, cancer treatments
- Rev. Jim Larson, retired, health concerns
- Rev. Arno and Nina Meyer, retired, health concerns
- Barb McComas, District Office, cancer treatments
- Dorothea Juergensen, the mother of Joyce Tate, District Office, health concerns
- Addisyn Wilson, granddaughter of Doris Wilson, District Office, health concerns

## Area Chaplains

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

### Wichita Hospital Referral

♦ *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.

### Kansas City Hospital Referral

## District Congregation Mission Receipts

Last month: July 16, 2009 - Aug. 15, 2009 ..... \$96,446  
July 16, 2008 - Aug. 15, 2008 ..... \$128,097  
Year-to-date: Jan. 16, 2009 - Aug. 15, 2009 ..... \$936,762  
Jan. 16, 2008 - Aug. 15, 2008 ..... \$975,069  
To LCMS: Jan. 16, 2009 - Aug. 15, 2009 ..... \$393,440  
Jan. 16, 2008 - Aug. 15, 2008 ..... \$409,529

## District Calendar

### September

7 District Office closed  
15-16 Circuit Counselor's Conference, Topeka  
24-25 Principal's Conference, Topeka  
26 Youth Ministry Academy, Salina  
28-29 Timothy Gathering, Topeka

### October

2-4 Singles Fall Retreat, Herington  
11-13 Professional Workers Conference, Overland Park  
17 Conversations of Grace Web Conference, host sites across Kansas  
24 Passing on the Faith Workshop, Topeka  
30-31 Board of Directors, Topeka



## 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@kslcm.org.

**Pastors Wives' Retreat**  
**March 5-6, 2010 at the Retreat Center**  
**Mark your calendars!**

## District Directory

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  
Steve Bremer (118)  
Barb McComas (100)  
**Education** press 5  
Jim Bradshaw (206)  
Joyce Tate (206)



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

## Revitalization in Urban Communities by Rev. Mark Frith

*“In those days when the number of disciples was increasing...” Acts 6:1*

Last month this article raised the issue of revitalization in our rural and small town communities and stated that I'd address the same issue among our urban communities this month. Rather than reiterate the general tenets last month that also apply to this subject, I will commend you to review the article online at [www.kslcms.org](http://www.kslcms.org), click the Publications tab.

Many of our urban congregations are struggling to support a full-time pastor and keep up with building maintenance issues. I am not going to exhaust the many and varied reasons for these challenges, but it would be prudent to raise a few of them.

It would seem that a significant reason for struggles in viability is the heavily ethnic diversities of our urban centers. These diversities challenge our Anglo-concentrated, LCMS, North American congregations. While there is exception, ethnic groups appear to have affinity to like-kind.

I am going to over-simplify this next one, but might it be that, if on a hunt for congregations that appear strong and vibrant, all you need to do is follow the money? Who has the money in our society? Where is the concentration of the money? One last question: who determines who gets to say where the concentration of money will remain? For the most part, it stays pretty close to home. As Americans we spend money...on ourselves. We invest money...for ourselves. It is no surprise, therefore, that we struggle at ministering in our urban areas - we're just not willing to go there.

Money is important in the work of the church, but really it isn't "key" to faithful, vibrant, viable ministry. Our Lord convinced the apostles of that in the Book of Acts. Today, just because a congregation in suburbs looks vibrant and alive by outward marks, doesn't necessarily mean that it is strong, vibrant, and intact. **The power of the Holy Gospel is key.** Throwing money at our urban centers isn't the

answer to revitalizing urban ministry. It can be helpful, but it is not key. Remember Peter's conversation with the lame man in the Book of Acts? "Silver and gold have I none... but in the name of Jesus Christ, I say WALK." Revitalization in the urban community is largely done by WALKING about the community with the Gospel. It means taking time, lots of time, to WALK the Gospel proclamation in places where we might not have otherwise chosen to live or walk. In the urban communities of our District, we largely leave it to a few to do - by themselves. That has to change if we are to see a faithful vibrancy and viability in urban congregations.

It is probably time that our Kansas District form an **Urban Ministry Committee**, so that to begin with, the few who are ministering alone, no longer do so ALL alone. We need to connect our urban congregations, workers, and parishioners to one another. It may be that forming metro ministry teams will be helpful to build community and mutual support systems. We should focus NOT on finding a way to pour money into our urban congregations, but finding ways and means for better supporting the Gospel in community by reconnecting ourselves to those we have largely abandoned or simply ignored. The norming-Spirit of the Gospel drives us to embrace one another's ethnicities (as different as they may be) for the sake of appreciating how fearfully and wonderfully God has made us, but redeemed us all in Christ Jesus.

## Mission Grants

Applications for mission grants from congregations/organizations needing financial assistance to expand ministry must be completed and returned to the District Office by Sept. 15 to be considered by the Board of Mission for the 2010 fiscal year.

To request a grant application, please contact Lori Hennessey at 800-357-4421 ext. 223 or [lori@kslcms.org](mailto:lori@kslcms.org).

## Conversations of Grace Webcast

Fourteen congregations in Kansas have agreed to serve as host sites for our second annual Conversations of Grace Evangelism Seminar on Oct. 17.

The Kansas Outreach Team has worked hard to improve upon last year's conference. This year's webinar has been shortened and made more succinct, practical, and applicable. Two leading Evangelists of our Synod will be presenting methods for reaching the lost for Christ. Rev. Carlos Hernandez will present a method called "Gospel Seeds," to demonstrate how we can better analyze our communities in order to more readily "sow the Gospel seed" into hearts and minds of people without a church home. Rev. Fred Darkow, the founder of OAFIC (Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ), a youth evangelism movement, will present "Moving from Dropouts to Missionaries," to demonstrate how youth and their families can more deliberately and encouragingly converse with others with the Gospel, for the sake of the Gospel.

Publicity materials - posters, flyers, bulletin/newsletter articles and bulletin inserts - were mailed to each congregation. Find these materials and much more, including online registration, at [www.kslcms.org/cog](http://www.kslcms.org/cog). The deadline to register is Oct. 9.

## Education Loan Repayment Grants

The Kansas District Education Loan Repayment program began in 1998 and helps professional church workers with assistance in repayment of their educational loans. These grants are available to all rostered professional church workers - synodical graduates and those who have completed colloquy - working in the Kansas District with graduation dates of 2000 or later.

Please contact Lori Hennessey at 800-357-4421 ext. 223 or [lori@kslcms.org](mailto:lori@kslcms.org) for an application. The deadline for submitting applications is Sept. 11.

## Be Financially Prepared for Emergencies

Are you ready for that unexpected expense? Last week I was informed that the city is replacing the main sewer line in my easement. As part of the project, they will be checking the line going to my home. To the best of my knowledge, the line dates back to 1930! I know for sure it has not been touched since 1978. It makes sense to replace it now while the yard is being torn apart, but it is not an expense I was planning to make.

But this is precisely why I started the Family Emergency StewardAccount several years ago when LCEF first offered it. I have been making monthly automatic deposits so I would have a “nest egg” accumulated for emergencies such as this. Because the account has a generous interest rate as compared to other institutions, I think I have made a good decision.

Most important to me, though, is the fact that while I have been saving, my dollars have been used to grow the church through LCEF loans to churches right here in Kansas and also to mission fields and rostered church workers throughout synod.

Stewardship principles call for us to sacrificially and lovingly return to God from the bounty He has provided. I have come to believe that it is also important to “tithes” my savings by putting a share of my savings for use in God’s Kingdom work. This is the mission of LCEF. Have you considered investing a portion of your savings in this way? If you are ready to make the commitment, Steve Bremer, Tami, or I are ready to assist you. Contact us at the District Office for help in making investment decisions. *by Barb McComas*

### LCEF Interest Rates

September 2009 

#### Steward Account Rates:

##### Congregational Certificates

Demand	1.125%
Steward Account	2.125%

##### Individual Accounts

Less than \$1,000	0.625%
\$1,000 - less than \$5,000	0.750%
\$5,000 - less than \$10,000	1.125%
\$10,000 and over	2.125%

#### LCEF provides loans for LCMS

##### Congregations, Schools and

##### Professional Church Workers:

Monthly, quarterly or annual adjustable	5.875%
5 Year fixed	6.375%

##### Congregation Endowment

##### (60-Month Fixed or Floating):

Min. Investment	Rate	APY
\$1,000	2.695%	2.722%
\$10,000	2.820%	2.850%
\$100,000	2.945%	2.978%

## Planned Giving

### Estate Planning Contracts

A simple way of passing your estate to the next generation is the use of estate planning contracts. These contracts help you avoid probate and minimize taxes. Some of the more common contracts are listed below.

◆ **Payable on Death:** The use of a Payable on Death contract (P.O.D.) will allow assets such as your savings accounts, bank accounts, CD’s and money market accounts to pass to your beneficiaries without being probated. You may also request the P.O.D. on all the securities and mutual funds you own.

◆ **Transfer on Death – Real Estate:** House Bill 2055 establishes a method by which an owner of real estate can designate a beneficiary to receive the real estate upon the owner’s death. Under the bill, an owner of real estate may title the real estate in transfer-on-death form by executing, acknowledging and recording a deed in the Register of Deeds Office in the county in which the real estate is located.

The bill provides the following language to include in the deed:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (name of owner) as owner transfers on death to \_\_\_\_\_ (name of beneficiary) as grantee beneficiary, the following described interest in real estate: (insert the description of the interest in the real estate). This transfer on death deed is revocable. It does not transfer any ownership until the death of the owner. It revokes all prior beneficiary designations by this owner for this interest in real estate.

This provision makes clear that the owner may amend or revoke a transfer-on-death designation. A will may not revoke a properly filed transfer-on-death deed designation.

◆ **Transfer on Death – Motor Vehicles:** House Bill 2056 establishes a method by which owners of motor vehicles can designate a beneficiary to receive the motor vehicle upon the owner’s death. A motor vehicle is registered in transfer-on-death form by designating

on the certificate of title the name of the owner, followed in substance by the words “transfer on death to \_\_\_\_\_ (name of transfer-on-death beneficiary).” The beneficiary has no interest in the motor vehicle until the death of the owner. To add a T.O.D., take your title, proof of insurance, and the address(es) of the person(s) you wish to name as the T.O.D. to the Motor Vehicle Office in your county. You are limited to naming two persons as T.O.D.’s.

◆ **Beneficiary Designations:** Using beneficiary designations on all assets that pass by beneficiary such as life insurance and annuities also avoids probate.

If all of the above assets are titled as suggested above, they are not included in the probatable estate; however, they are taxable in your estate.

For more information on these and other estate planning tools, please call our office at 785-357-4441, ext. 101.

## Considerations for Congregations Regarding H1N1 Pandemic Influenza

These are times when the Church has the opportunity to both provide information and the message of the Gospel to help calm fears. This is not a time to panic. This is a time to pray and prepare.

As with any influenza virus, individuals are encouraged to take the following steps to reduce spread:

- ◆ Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer frequently throughout the day to get rid of most germs and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- ◆ Stay home when you are sick to avoid spreading illness to co-workers and friends.
- ◆ Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue and properly dispose of used tissues.
- ◆ Stay healthy by eating a balanced diet, drinking plenty of water and getting adequate rest and exercise.
- ◆ Have tissues and Alcohol Cleanser available and locate them in visible places throughout the church.
- ◆ Clean commonly touched surfaces frequently (perhaps even more than once daily). The virus can live on surfaces two to three days. (from [www.kdheks.gov](http://www.kdheks.gov) - this

is a good link for up-to-date information)

Please pay attention to what local health authorities are recommending regarding social gatherings. This virus is expected to come in “waves” at different locations and at different times. If your local authorities are suggesting limited social gatherings, your congregation’s leadership should be prepared to respond appropriately.

All individuals are encouraged to get your regular flu vaccine as soon as possible. The H1N1 flu vaccine will become available sometime in October. Those with a high risk of severe illness will receive the vaccine first.

Finally, I would encourage church professionals to be aware of the health workers who may be at risk during this flu outbreak. Hospital workers, doctors, nurses and county health professionals may be experiencing extra stress during peak outbreaks. Be attentive to their spiritual needs. Your expressions of care and prayer both for the sick and their caregivers will be appreciated.

The LCMS also has information on their website at [www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org) - click World Relief and Human Care (under the Ministry Areas Tab), then click flu update.

## Business Office

Debbie Crites, Business Manager

### CHP Health Rates Announced

2010 Concordia Plan Health rates are now available on the CPS website’s Healthcare/Rates page:

[www.ConcordiaPlans.org/detailpage.aspx?Id=55](http://www.ConcordiaPlans.org/detailpage.aspx?Id=55).

Increases are well below the national trend of 7.5%. CPS attributes their ability to hold the increase below the market to maintaining a stable group of employers who participate and their “Walking Together” philosophy as well as Health and Wellness initiatives.

Here is an overview of the Concordia Health Plan election deadlines. Watch for more details in the upcoming Employer Bulletin.

- ◆ August 2009 – CHP Choice materials, including election form and guides, were mailed to employers
- ◆ September 2009 – SelectAccount sends renewal notices for existing Personal Spending Accounts (PSAs)
- ◆ October 9, 2009 – 2010 CHP Option election forms are due from employers to CPS
- ◆ November 20, 2009 – Excel spreadsheet with worker elections and Worker Election forms are due from all employers who elected to offer “Worker Choice.”
- ◆ All details are outlined in the Choice materials that were mailed in August.

Concordia Health Plan Annual Open Enrollment Period will be held from October 19 - November 20, 2009. All eligible workers and their dependents who are not currently enrolled have an opportunity to join the CHP, with coverage to be effective January 1, 2010. For further information, please visit the Concordia Plan Services web site at [www.ConcordiaPlans.org](http://www.ConcordiaPlans.org).

### Kansas Sales Tax Exemption

If your congregation has a current Kansas Sales Tax Exemption Certificate, it is about to expire. All certificates are being renewed at this time, even if they expire in 2010. You should have received a notice of renewal from the Kansas Department of Revenue that outlines the renewal process. You can go to their website, [www.ksrevenue.org](http://www.ksrevenue.org), and click on the link “Renew Tax Entity Exemption Certificates” on the right hand side of the page and follow the instructions. Don’t have access to the internet? Contact the Business Office at 800-357-4421 ext. 204 and we can send you the renewal forms you need.

Don’t currently have an exemption certificate? Access the Kansas Department of Revenue website and enroll today. All LCMS congregations and schools are eligible to apply and can save sales tax \$\$ on everything you purchase. If you have questions or wish further information, please contact Debbie Crites in the Business Office.

### Lutheran Witness Renewals

Lutheran Witness 2009/2010 subscription renewals with cancellations, additions and address changes were due **August 25**. Changes can be made after August 25, but Concordia Publishing House (CPH) does not guarantee when those changes will take effect.

Lutheran Witness billings will go out in September and are due **November 15, 2009** using the current subscription number. If you have any questions or need more change forms, please contact Tami Lierz at 800-357-4421 ext. 200 or [tami@kslcms.org](mailto:tami@kslcms.org).

## Education Calendar

Sept. 24-25	Principal's Conference at the Clubhouse Inn in Topeka
Sept. 26	Youth Ministry Academy at Trinity in Salina
Oct. 2-4	Singles Fall Retreat at the Retreat Center in Herington
Oct. 3	Youth Ministry Team at Risen Savior in Wichita
Oct. 11-13	Joint Professional Church Worker's Conference at Bethany in Overland Park
Oct. 24	Passing on the Faith Workshop at Prince of Peace in Topeka
Oct. 30-31	Junior High Rallies in Williamsburg & Rexford
Nov. 20-22	Kansas District Youth Gathering in Wichita

## Lutheran School Ablaze Moment

*From Laurie Hofman, Principal at Trinity, Paola*

Many children in our communities live in single-parent households as a result of one parent being incarcerated. The parent raising the children often does not have resources available to them to provide gifts at Christmas or other times during the year. Angel Tree offers members of the community the opportunity to help support these families during Christmas by providing items the child has requested on a wish list.

Last year, students at Trinity Lutheran School in Paola contributed items and money for Angel Tree Christmas gifts rather than spending those resources on Christmas gifts for their teachers. Our school of thirty-one students sponsored three children in our community, filling three extra-large bags with clothing and

toys the children had requested, as well as many extras. Our students carefully wrapped the gifts and were excited to know their contributions made a difference.

We plan to encourage our students to sponsor children from Angel Tree rather than purchase gifts for their teachers again this year. Included in the gifts the children have requested will be items such as Bibles and devotional books at age appropriate levels. Our students will make Christmas ornaments and cards proclaiming the joyous news of our Savior's birth to go with each child's gift bag. We are looking forward to another opportunity to live out our theme for the year, "Sharing HIS Story," based on Psalm 66:16.

## 2010 National Youth Gathering - We Believe

District Coordinators for the 2010 National LCMS Youth Gathering, "We Believe," are hard at work providing resources and services to congregations. Some of the things they do for congregations and districts include:

- ◆ Making transportation arrangements for districts
- ◆ Coordinating special district events at the Gathering
- ◆ Generating district materials such as t-shirts, buttons, banners, etc.
- ◆ And more!

The coordinators for the Kansas District are Vicki Lessman, Trinity Lutheran Church, Wichita, and Elaine Whiteneck, Messiah Lutheran Church,

Emporia. The Kansas District Event at the Gathering will be a Mississippi River Cruise on the steamboat Natchez. It will take place on July 18 at 11 p.m., boarding begins at 10:30 p.m. Here are some other things they are currently working on:

- ◆ Servant Event with Camp Restore, July 15
- ◆ Cajun meal, music, dance at Michauls, July 15 (eve)
- ◆ Swamp tour and picnic, July 16 at Jean Laffite Park
- ◆ Discounted tickets for Mardi Gras World
- ◆ District busing
- ◆ District t-shirt

## Professional Church Workers Conference

**When:** October 11-13

**Where:** Bethany, Overland Park

**Theme:** Come to Rest – Leave Refreshed (Mark 6:30-34)

**Keynote Speaker:** Dr. Bryan Salminen

**Lodging:** Drury Inn for \$85, Pear Tree Inn for \$65 (I-435 & Metcalf)

**Registration:** Online at [www.kslcms.org/pcwc](http://www.kslcms.org/pcwc)

**Cost:**

◆ Regular, Sept. 1-30, \$90

◆ Late, Oct. 1-13, \$95

**Optional Post-Conference**

**When:** Oct. 13, 12:30–3:30 p.m.

**Title:** "Responding to Sexual Temptation in a High-Tech Society"

**Speaker:** Dr. Ted Kober

**Cost:** \$30, includes lunch

## Kansas District Youth Gathering

**When:** Nov. 20-22

**Where:** Hyatt Hotel, Wichita

**Theme:** Realize

**Speaker:** DCE Jeffrey Meinz

**Guest Musicians:** Daniel's Window

**Registration:** Online at

[www.regonline.com/kdyg](http://www.regonline.com/kdyg)

**Cost:** Early Registration is \$89 - hotel cost is separate

**Contact:** KDYG Chair DCE Henry

Blickhahn (Our Redeemer,

Hutchinson) at [dce@orlhutch.org](mailto:dce@orlhutch.org).

Join our Facebook Group

"Kansas District LCMS  
2010 NYG WE BELIEVE"

Visit [www.lcmsgathering.com](http://www.lcmsgathering.com)

and

[www.kslcms.org/nyg](http://www.kslcms.org/nyg)

## Youth Ministry Academy Training

Trinity Lutheran Church in Salina will serve as the host site on Saturday, Sept. 26, for the second Youth Ministry Academy training workshop for adults serving in youth ministry. This workshop will focus on nurturing youth ministry:

- ◆ Who are we? What is our Lutheran identity?
- ◆ How do I grow? Personal spiritual development as an adult leader with youth.
- ◆ How do we grow together? How to teach the Bible and support young people along their faith journey.

Led by professional youth ministry leaders, the three modules will engage the participants through a variety of

## Equipping to Share

Equipping To Share is a special Evangelism training program designed to prepare, teach and motivate us to better serve as His witnesses.

**Date:** Sunday, Sept. 20, 2009

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Place:** Faith Lutheran Church  
1600 N Buckeye Ave  
Abilene, KS 67410

**Cost:** \$10.00 per person at check-in

Lunch will be served at 12:30 (free will offering). Materials will be provided at no charge. Please let us know by Sept. 13 if you plan to attend by contacting Jim Schoenbeck at [schoenbeck@eaglecom.net](mailto:schoenbeck@eaglecom.net) or 785-263-7779.

## Crossways International Workshop

Trinity, Garden City is hosting a Crossways International Weekend Community Workshop, Sept. 11-12, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. on Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. The workshop includes three sessions presented by Dr. Harry Wendt:

- ◆ The Parables of Jesus
- ◆ Praying Like Jesus the Messiah
- ◆ In Heaven's Name, Why on Earth?

The cost is \$35 for the entire event and either \$10 or \$15 for individual sessions.

For more information and to register, contact the church office at 620-276-3110.

instructional strategies: lectures, experiential learning, reflection and small group processes. The cost is \$25 for the day, which includes all instruction costs and lunch. Contact Educational Services at 800-357-4421 ext. 206 to register by the Sept. 18 deadline.

Note: Workshops can be completed on a selected basis or in its entirety (lack of participation in workshop one does not prohibit anyone from attending this workshop as workshop one will be repeated in the future).

## Fall Singles Retreat

The Fall Singles Retreat is Oct. 2-4 at the Retreat Center in Herington. The theme is "Belong," led by Linda Gerbitz, President of the International Lutheran Singles Association. Please contact Staci Timm at 785-823-6727 or [stacitimm@yahoo.com](mailto:stacitimm@yahoo.com) for more details.

**Worship Service at State Fair  
Sept. 13, 10:00 AM, AT&T Arena**  
Hosted by Kansas District LLL  
Speaker: Rev. Seth Meyer, LLL  
Pastoral Advisor  
Special music: Children's Choir  
from Immanuel, Canton

## CCCS Introduces Hope Starts Here

Hope Starts Here, a campaign to benefit the Children's Christian Concern Society, will kick off in St. Louis on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009. Concordia Seminary's Koberg Hall will be the site of a complimentary luncheon at 11:45 and a Spirit of Sustenance social hour at 7:15. Guest visionary Ken Petersen, former Lutheran Hour Ministries' Latin American Area Counselor, and the musical group AriSon will entertain us.

Friends and donors like you make the education of over 17,000 children in 19 countries possible. CCCS wants to share with you that Hope Starts Here. Please reserve your spot by Nov. 1 at [www.cccskids.org](http://www.cccskids.org) or 785-357-7688. Availability is limited.

## Faith & the Home Workshop

**When:** Saturday, Oct. 24

**Where:** Prince of Peace, Topeka

**Theme:** Passing on the Faith - a foundation for family ministry with the practical strategies for faith sharing in the home

**Presenters:** Dr. Marvin Bergman (Seward, NE) & Dr. Steve Christopher (LCMS District & Congregational Services)

**Cost:** \$25 (includes lunch)

**Contact:** Educational Services at 800-357-4421 ext. 206

## LLL Convention

"Share His Story" will be the theme for the 70th Annual Convention of the Kansas Lutheran Laymen's League. The Convention is Saturday, Oct. 17, 1:00-9:00 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 18, 9:00-11:30 a.m. at the Best Western Angus Inn in Great Bend. Spend the weekend learning about the exciting Lutheran Hour Ministries programs that reach out to thousands of people around the world and find out how Kansans support these outreach ministry programs.

Please send your name, address, phone, email and check (\$10/person and \$15/person for the banquet - payable to Zone 14 LLL) to: Nathan F. Schepmann; 228 Edge Ford; Pratt, KS 67124; 620-672-3882. For hotel reservations, call 800-862-6487 by Oct. 2. The LLL rate is \$63.95+tax for outside entrance, \$67.95+tax for inside entrance.

## Organist/Handbell Workshop

**When:** Saturday, Sept. 12  
Organist - 9:00 a.m. to Noon.  
Handbell - 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Trinity Lutheran Church  
910 Mound St  
Winfield, KS 67156

**Leader:** Dr. John Behnke, renowned organist, bell choir director & composer

**Registration:** Contact St. John's College Alumni Association, 620-221-1572, [sjcaal@cox.net](mailto:sjcaal@cox.net)

# Guinea Prayers

## Heiney Family Prayer Requests

- ✚ Prayer of thanks for our move to Siguiri. Thanks for getting Tim through the two months in Guinea without Beth and for getting the house up and running with electricity, water, and many other repairs.
- ✚ Pray about the problems that jumped right up in the various areas as soon as we left: marriage problems with the vicars in the Forest Region, missing bank transfers in N'Zerekore, and places to worship in Conakry. (See our newsletters for details).
- ✚ Pray for our furlough and our time of visiting with churches, especially in Kansas.
- ✚ Pray for our language work as we begin to learn Maninka.

## Carlos Family Prayer Requests

- ✚ Thanksgiving for all our supporters
- ✚ Thanksgiving for safe travel to Germany and France
- ✚ Transition to new homes and schools for the entire Carlos family (including Peter the cat and Lily the dog)
- ✚ Continued stability and free, fair, and safe elections in Guinea
- ✚ Health and safety of the Guinea missionary team: Tim, Heidi, Philip and Leslie Norton; Andrea Herman; Tim and Beth Heiney; and Doris Kayser
- ✚ That 40-something year old brains can learn French!

## Norton Family Prayer Requests

- ✚ Thanksgiving that we finally have a good internet connection and can keep in regular contact with supporters and family

## Life Issues Conference

Dr. Robert Weise, professor of pastoral ministry and the life sciences at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will be the guest speaker at a Life Issues Conference on Oct. 24 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church in Hays. Speaking on "Playing God: Redesigning Life in this Biotech World," he will give two major presentations during the day on biotechnologies such as stem cell research, cloning, genetic engineering and assisted reproductive technologies.

Sponsored by Lutherans For Life of Kansas, which held a similar conference in Wichita in 2007, the day's events will also include four workshops on other life issue concerns, information on where people can obtain educational materials on life issues, table displays with info on other pro-life organizations, a noon lunch and a brief talk on the new "The American Majority" organization.

The conference is for lay persons, pastors and college students. Cost is \$15 for college students; \$20 for others. Early registration is recommended as space may be limited. Absolute deadline to register is Monday, Oct. 19. Contact Jeanne Mackay at 913-991-3350 for a registration form, or look for registration forms at your church.

For more information on Lutherans For Life, click on [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org) or email Jeanne Mackay at [jeannemackay1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeannemackay1@sbcglobal.net).

- ✚ Thanksgiving that "C.S.", an old contact who fell away, has been reconciled to us and is now taking instruction leading toward baptism
  - ✚ Thanksgiving that village "K.N." has restarted Bible studies after a three and a half year hiatus
  - ✚ Thanksgiving that our house is not on government property and we won't have to move
  - ✚ Pray for a church leader who is impenitent, and has not only left the church but is trying to lead others away from Christ
  - ✚ Pray for "MG.K" who has left town in search of gold but has neglected his faith
  - ✚ Pray for our church construction, we have had challenge after challenge and very little progress
  - ✚ Ramadan started August 22 and will last until Sept. 16. Please pray for the people of Guinea, that many would see visions and dreams that lead them to the true God at this time. Pray that they would see the impossibility of receiving forgiveness through their own efforts.
- ## Doris Kayser's Prayer Requests
- ✚ Thanksgiving to the Lord for our Kansas partners, who love to see seeds of the gospel sown in Maninka and Kissi hearts in Guinea
  - ✚ Pray that Doris would have an extra measure of clarity and wisdom in speaking with people and giving presentations
  - ✚ Pray for grace, mercy and compassion as her parents and Doris adjust to living together for the next four to six months while she does fundraising
  - ✚ Thanksgiving to the Lord as He rises up prayer warriors for this work!!!

## Heineys Visiting Kansas

Rev. Tim and Beth Heiney will be visiting congregations and schools in Kansas September 8-20 and October 5-13. There are a few dates still open, so contact Marvin Kohlmeier at 785-547-6096 or [marvink@carsoncomm.com](mailto:marvink@carsoncomm.com) if you would be interested in having the Heineys speak at your congregation/school. The schedule is posted on the district website's Guinea Partnership page.

## Haskell Celebrates Anniversary

On Sept. 17, 1886, the doors of Haskell Institute, now Haskell Indian Nations University, were opened for the first time. For many First Nations families, this time period began a tragic and broken history in which efforts were made to take the Indian out of the Indians.

Please join us on Sept. 17, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. at Haskell Stadium in Lawrence where 120 drums will be released by the students from Haskell Indian Nations University. This will be a special day - a time to celebrate Haskell University's service to many Native Americans and a time to call for healing past wounds and restoring justice.

For more information, contact Patricia Main at 785-766-5000.