



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 10 November 2009

President's Office

Thrice Blessed

by President Keith E. Kohlmeier

Threes stick out in this devotion. Perhaps it is because I am writing this in the season of the Reformation. It seems so often that the themes of the reformers often came in triads, thus the theme for this month seemed to be a natural. The reformation underlines our relationship with the triune God and celebrates the foundation that we stand upon as a church under the three banners -

FAITH ALONE, GRACE ALONE, SCRIPTURE ALONE.

In like manner, it is a season of celebration that those who are in Christ are three times blessed. That is, we have yesterday covered by the forgiveness won for us. We have today covered by the peace that fills us. And we are covered for tomorrow through the hope that encourages us and draws us forward into the eternity that follows.

God spoke that tri-blessing in the wonderful reformation chapter 8 of Romans.

✠ Forgiveness – “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.” 8:1-2

✠ Peace – “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” 8:31, 37-39

✠ Hope – “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us ... For in this hope we are saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.” 8:18, 24-25

Thrice blessed we stand firm and advance with boldness toward tomorrow!



“Goods, fame, child and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The kingdom ours remaineth.”
Martin Luther

I N S I D E	District Calendar	2
	Calls in Kansas	2
	Guinea Trip	2
	Mission Receipts	2
	Mission & Stewardship	3
	LCEF	4
	Planned Giving	4
	Caring Ministry	5
	Business Office	5
	Education	6, 7
	Miscellaneous News	7
	Guinea	8
Retreat Center	8	

District Website/Email

Website: www.kslcms.org

President's Office

Rev. Keith Kohlmeier - kekohl@kslcms.org

Marie Holt - marie@kslcms.org

Mission & Stewardship

Rev. Mark Frith - mtfrith@kslcms.org

Lori Hennessey - lori@kslcms.org

Educational Services

Jim Bradshaw - jbradshaw@kslcms.org

Joyce Tate - joyce@kslcms.org

Business Office

Debbie Crites - debbie@kslcms.org

Tami Lierz - tami@kslcms.org

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Steve Bremer - sbremer@kslcms.org

Barb McComas - barb@kslcms.org

Planned Giving

Doris Wilson - servantwo@kslcms.org

Caring Ministry/Disaster Response

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:
Workers Together Editor
Kansas District LCMS
1000 SW 10th Ave
Topeka KS 66604-1104
Phone: 785-357-4441, ext. 223
Fax: 785-357-5071
Email: lori@kslcms.org
Deadline: 15th of each month

Calls Pending

- Rev. Andrew Wehling from Grace, Liberal to Trinity, Madison, Neb.
- Rev. Andrew Wehling from Grace, Liberal to Gethsemane Lutheran Church & School in Northglenn, Colo.
- Audrey Duensing-Werner from Faith, Topeka to Memorial Lutheran, Sioux Falls, SD, as Director of Student Ministries and Worship Team Leader

Calling Congregations/Schools

Trinity, Colby
 Zion, Claflin/St. Peter, Holyrood
 Immanuel, Junction City
 Immanuel, Kansas City (Hispanic Pastor)
 St. John, Oberlin
 Bethany, Overland Park (Principal)
 Grace/Trinity, Wichita
 Holy Cross, Wichita (Senior Pastor, Principal)

Kansas Leaders Visiting Guinea!

A small team of Kansas District leaders is scheduled to visit our Guinea missionaries, March 2-23, 2010 - District Staff members Chaplain Rocky Mease, Jim Bradshaw, Debbie Crites; Guinea Task Force members Jane Limback and Nina Borgstadter; Mission Board member Betty Kruse and her husband, David. The main purpose of the trip is to facilitate a spiritual retreat for Rev. Tim and Beth Heiney; Tim, Heidi, Philip and Leslie Norton; and Andrea Herman. Jane Limback (Our Saviour, Kansas City) is serving as the leader for this trip. Another goal is to encourage our District congregations and Lutheran schools to become active participants and supporters of this mission, both through prayer and financial support. "We are especially looking forward to meeting the kids in Guinea as we travel from village to village," says Limback. With this in mind,

team members will seek support from the 16 Lutheran elementary schools in Kansas to donate towards the purchase of French Bibles and copies of Concordia Publishing House's *100 Bible Stories* to distribute to the Children's Christian Concern Society (CCCS) schools while they are there. Team members will also seek support from congregations to cover the costs of travel - transportation to, from and in Guinea; travel insurance; visas; lodging; food, etc. We want to support the ministry of CCCS and strengthen the Kansas District Partnership with Guinea. Watch for more information coming soon!



District Calendar	
November	
20-22	District Youth Gathering, Wichita
25	District Office Closes at 2:00 p.m.
26-27	District Office Closed, Thanksgiving
December	
24-25	District Office Closed, Christmas
31	District Office Closing at 2:00 p.m.
January	
1	District Office Closed, New Year's
24-25	Circuit Counselor's Conference, Wichita
25-27	Pre-Lent Conference, Wichita
29-30	Board of Directors, District Office

Prayers

- Vicar Terry Wiechman, Trinity, Wichita, health concerns
- Rev. Larry Brakenhoff, St. Paul, Alta Vista, health concerns
- Rev. Jim Larson, retired, health concerns
- Rev. Ed Trost, Bethany, Overland Park, upcoming back surgery on Nov. 9
- Marvin Kohlmeier, District Office, recovery from back surgery
- Rev. Arno and Nina Meyer, retired, health concerns
- Barb McComas, District Office, cancer treatments



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 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

District Congregation Mission Receipts

Last month: Sept. 16, 2009 - Oct. 15, 2009 \$148,239
 Sept. 16, 2008 - Oct. 15, 2008 \$134,788

Year-to-date: Jan. 16, 2009 - Oct. 15, 2009 ... \$1,187,811
 Jan. 16, 2008 - Oct. 15, 2008 ... \$1,218,668

To LCMS: Jan. 16, 2009 - Oct. 15, 2009 \$498,881
 Jan. 16, 2008 - Oct. 15, 2008 \$511,841

Proclaim God's Word! by Rev. Mark Frith

"Those who had been scattered preached the Word wherever they went..." Acts 6:1

There is power, strength, and wonder in the Word of God. Philip was the apostle who went down to a city in Samaria due to the scattering of the believers because of persecution precipitated by the stoning of Stephen. Philip proclaimed the Word, "the Christ," and evil spirits were driven out of people. The book of Acts says that there was great joy in that city as a result.

You and I might think to ourselves sometimes, "Oh, if only I could see that same kind of power when I proclaimed the Word." We may think that, we may want that, but let's remember that "results" are always the LORD'S doing and worry. It is my belief that those same results are still happening, but maybe we credit more of it to modern medicines and

procedures than we do the strength and power of the Word.

I would encourage you - pastors, commissioned ministers, deacons and deaconesses - to take the Word to the street more often. Of course, you entrust your people to take the Word to the streets, domains, places of work and school. However, I want to encourage you to be like Philip and take the Word to the local diner or coffee shop, maybe to the local high school sports event. Speak your sermon out in a conversational format and invite conversation on it from others. How much different will these experiences be from those who volunteer to sit before you on Sunday morning or other times? Preach the Word wherever you go.



Conversations of Grace Web Conference

The Conversations of Grace Web Conference has been rescheduled for Saturday, Feb. 27, 2010. New publicity materials - poster, flyer, newsletter/bulletin articles, Sunday announcements, schedule, registration form - will be mailed to all congregations in early November.

The featured speakers are:
◆ Rev. Carlos Hernandez – "Planting Gospel Seeds While Serving Human Needs." Rev. Hernandez works with Rev. Matthew Harrison at LCMS World Relief Human Care. He will share simple ways for getting out into your community, finding unmet needs, and considering possibilities for meeting some or all of those needs. The Gospel proclamation is a natural fit in fulfilling many human care needs of a community. Taking the Gospel out into the streets often times produces abundant fruit, in ways that many of us have long forgotten.



◆ Rev. Fred Darkow – "Our Youth: From Church Dropouts to Missionaries." Rev. Darkow has a huge heart for reaching the lost in communities. He has spent hours and hours writing materials that he takes with him when hitting the streets of communities.

Back to the Bible Catechism and Family Evangelism are two pieces that he will share with our participants. Making disciples is done through baptism and teaching. We know that from Matthew 28. Taking time to teach takes the dedication of the congregation to spend time with new

followers. Pastor Darkow presents great tools for beginning deliberate outreach in catechism classes, extending through High School, and into early adulthood. The whole family can get involved.

Make plans now to attend! More details are available on our website at www.kslcms.org/cog.

Mission Commitments

All congregations should have received a letter and mission pledge form for 2010. We ask that you prayerfully consider your support of District and Synod. You can submit your commitment any of the following ways:

◆ send the **green** copy to Lori Hennessey, 1000 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, KS 66604

◆ call Lori at 800-357-4421 ext. 223

◆ email Lori at lori@kslcms.org.

For budget purposes, we would appreciate receiving your commitment no later than Jan. 15, 2010.

Fan into Flame News

Visit our District's [Fan Into Flame web page](#) to find:

◆ [Kansas Ablaze Mission Plan](#)

◆ [Ablaze/Fan into Flame Facts](#)

◆ [How to Get Started](#)

Nationally, gifts and pledges have surpassed \$52 million; in Kansas, \$553,000.

Campus Ministry

We need your help! Only fifteen congregations sent us names of students attending colleges in Kansas to pass along to our campus ministry contacts. We want to help college students continue to grow in their Christian faith, to mature for leadership roles in the Church, and to participate in mission opportunities. Most of our campus ministries are located on the property of an LCMS congregation, where students are invited to receive Word and sacrament ministry and share in the life of that congregation, as well as enjoy Christian fellowship with other college students.

It's not too late! Please send names of students, college they're attending, and their college mailing address and email address to: lori@kslcms.org OR Kansas District LCMS, Attn: Lori, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604.

Next Generation Note



"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet

when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree..."
Matthew 13: 31-32

LCEF relies on mission-minded investors. Investors like you provide more than 90% of the outstanding loan portfolio. Current estimates indicate that LCEF will need an additional \$100 million in new funds each year.

Despite the economic recession, God's Word, His mission, LCMS congregations nationally, and congregations in the state of Kansas are moving forward to fulfill His Great Commission. In Norton, Topeka, Lawrence, Wichita, Overland Park, and Mission, congregations are building, planning additions, dedicating, and expanding ministry.

To strengthen our financial position and build LCEF to a stronger posture tomorrow, we are introducing our newest investment opportunity - the NEXT GENERATION NOTE. This is a "New to Kansas" program that encourages charitable gifts to LCEF for a higher interest rate in return. This new offering is being made available only to those individuals or congregations who **currently hold investments of more than \$5,000 in the 2 Year Fixed Notes @ 6%**.

Currently, and as far as I know, all past investments with LCEF were set up as, "You invest money, LCEF pays you interest." The "Next Generation Note" is different in this way - "You invest money, **and** make a donation, LCEF pays you a greater rate of interest." So this "Next Generation Note" is tied to a donation.

◆*Why the donation?* LCEF has grown to a financial position that investments only will not support our needs for funds in the future. Yes, our financial results were impacted by a market investment decline in late 2008, but management has made a number of operating adjustments. The "Next Generation Note" is one of those corrective actions. In banking terms, donations will improve our capital to asset ratio.

◆*How much is the donation?* The "Next Generation Note" will call for a 10% gift (donation). With an initial investment of \$5,000, a 10% gift would be \$500. The amount of the investment in the "Next Generation Note" would be \$4,500.

◆*What is the interest rate?* It is 5.25% - 1.5% higher than our standard rate.

◆*What is the term?* The term on the "Next Generation Note" is 5 years.

◆*Can I get the 5.25% rate on a 5 Year Term Note?* No, that rate is 3.75%. The rate on the 5 Year Term Note is still very attractive and a great alternative without making a donation.

LCEF Interest Rates

November 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%

◆*If I roll my 2 year 6% note over to the "Next Generation Note" do I still get a one-time withdrawal?* Yes!

◆*How many dollars in donations have been generated?* Combined with "Next Generation Note" gifts, Investor Relations has received more than \$350,000 in gifts.

This is a good program. The decision is yours, and I will be happy to help answer any questions you may have. Your notes are coming due very soon. We hope you will give prayerful consideration to the "Next Generation Note." If you have any questions, call Steve Bremer at 785-249-9114.

Planned Giving

Will Something You Don't Say Accidentally Disinherit Someone You Love?

When it comes to communicating, almost everyone has some experience at reading between the lines. Parents and children, spouses, employers and employees – everyone learns the meaning of things left unsaid.

But when it comes to life's most important communications, leaving critical specifics unspoken most often

results in misunderstanding.

Nowhere is there more need for careful articulation than when it comes to spelling out your final wishes, hopes and dreams. Whether the complete absence of a plan or simply a poorly written document, the result of inadequate communication can be the accidental disinheritance of a family or

loved ones.

And while there always seems to be a number of reasons to delay attention to a will, no one can make up for wishes unrealized.

For a free brochure on avoiding accidental disinheritance, call our Planned Giving Office at 785-357-4441, ext. 101.

The Future of Health Care by Mary Hume, Parish Nurse District Representative

In the last months we have heard so much about the proposed changes in health care, who will pay and what will be covered. We do not know where this will lead, but we can look at the immediate history and see the changes in advances that have been made in joint replacements, in cancer, and in the surgeries which often required only a few days in the hospital.

So how does parish nursing fit into the puzzle? A parish nurse can be an important link in the health care system. The parish nurse can monitor one who has just

been released from the hospital, arrange for transportation to a future appointment or rehabilitation, arrange for meals so the individual can regain strength, and assist with other needs and encouragement. The parish nurse can also assess spiritual needs and communicate those needs to the pastor. As an extra set of eyes and ears, the parish nurse can be valuable to the individual, to the pastor, and to the congregation.



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.

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.

Concordia Health Plan Annual Open Enrollment deadline is 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.



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 at 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 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 dollars on everything you purchase. If you have questions or wish further information, please contact Debbie Crites at debbie@kslcms.org or 785-357-4441 ext. 204.

Lutheran Witness Renewals

Lutheran Witness billings were sent to all congregations and are due **December 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.

Year End Checklist

It is not too early to start planning for the end of the calendar year. As we approach the end of 2009, congregational treasurers need to be aware of the following:

◆ District Fiscal Year End Close

The District will close its 2009 fiscal year on Friday, Jan. 15, 2010. Any receipt received after that date will be credited to the fiscal year 2010 for your congregation. In order to meet the standards for a not-for-profit corporation audit, we cannot credit any 2009 mission gift received after the close of our fiscal year so please work to meet this deadline. If you are sending any 2010 gift prior to January 15th, please indicate that the gift is for 2010 so that we may credit it correctly for your congregation.

◆ Housing Allowance Approval

Housing allowances for Pastors and Commissioned Ministers should be approved by December 31 in order to obtain the full annual benefit of housing allowance exclusion for 2010. 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's Manual which is available on our website.

◆ W-4

Have all full-time and part-time employees complete a new W-4 for 2010. 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.

Education Calendar

Nov. 20-22	Kansas District Youth Gathering in Wichita
Jan. 25-26	DCE Retreat at Cross Winds in Hesston
Feb. 7	NLSA Training at District Office
Feb. 8-9	KAIRS Conference (Principals) at Ramada Inn in Topeka
Feb. 18-20	LEA-LEAD Conference in New Orleans, LA
Feb. TBA	District Youth Ministry Team Retreat at Risen Savior in Wichita
Feb. 24-26	Early Childhood Consultants in Phoenix, AZ

Lutheran Schools Ablaze!

From Jonathan Kamin, Principal at St. Paul, Cheney

Looking at our current economic times, St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School of Cheney decided to reach out to our community and offer an affordable evening for families. Our Fourth Friday events always start with a meal. For \$3.00, families have a meal, family-friendly events and a movie. During the summer, we enjoyed swimming at the public pool and movies under the stars.

Our Fourth Friday attendance has often been over 100! Fourth Friday events have been popular amongst our school families and our R.E.A.L. Kids latchkey program families. Most of our R.E.A.L. Kids families are not members of St. Paul's, and most of our

R.E.A.L. Kids attend public school.

We have also had many families from town that have found us and we've been able to connect with families that probably would never have come to "church." At our September event, for the first time, our members were outnumbered by non-members.

As St. Paul's continues to reach out to our community and beyond, we are spreading the word about our Christian school ministries and our church. Through our Fourth Friday events, we hope to become a place of refuge for families looking for the peace which can only be found in our Savior's arms.

Adult Education Minute

Being a parent isn't easy. So often we face tough choices about the ways we become involved in our children's lives. We want to be involved in everything they do, but we also know we're raising them to be dependent on God, not on us. It is a struggle.

Ephesians 6:1-4 says: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother' - which is the first commandment with a promise - 'that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.' Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

We can be effective parents who have healthy and godly children through prayerful obedience to God

and His Word. As we stay in His Word and cherish it, we are reminded that God loves us, which helps us love our children. At the same time, our willingness to submit to God models the respectful submission that children are called to have toward their parents. Being uncertain about what to do as a parent is a great reminder to go to Him in prayer.

Walk Thru The Bible In One Day Adult Education Web Conference

Featuring Dr. Reed Lessing,
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
When: Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$25 (includes lunch)
Where: Locations TBA in Spring

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

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

Contact: KDYG Chair DCE Henry Blickhahn (Our Redeemer, Hutchinson) at dce@orlhutch.org.

New LYF Reps in KS

The Kansas District Youth Ministry Team has selected sophomores Rebekka Hepford (Risen Savior, Wichita) and Jenna Delzer (Grace, Wichita) as the two new Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) representatives for the District. Delzer and Hepford join current LYF reps: Alex Augustyniewicz - Sr. (Ascension, Wichita); Elise Schulteis - Sr. (Bethlehem, Sylvan Grove); Austin Steinfert - Jr. (Immanuel, Bremen); and, Rebecca Ludwig - Jr. (Bethany, Overland Park).

LYF is a resource of the Youth Ministry office of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and promotes leadership skill development in teenagers. LYF is committed to empowering youth and adults to use their gifts and energies in service to God and His people as they celebrate their faith in Jesus Christ. All LYF representatives are asked to attend two District Youth Team meetings annually. Delzer and Hepford will receive a paid trip along with an adult sponsor to the annual Council of LYF Representatives (CLYFR) on March 15-18, 2010, in St. Louis. They will be instrumental in leading training for youth leaders at the District Teen Leadership Retreat, August 13-15, 2010. The new LYF representatives will be introduced at the District Youth Gathering in Wichita the weekend of November 20-22.

Zion Lutheran School Earns Award

Zion Lutheran School in Independence has earned the highest award for outstanding achievement in physical fitness. They have been named the President's Physical Fitness State of Kansas Champion for the 2008-09 school year.

This prestigious award is presented to the school with the highest percentage of its students qualifying for the Presidential Physical Fitness Award. To qualify for the award, students must score 85% or higher on the Physical Fitness Test, and 39.5% of Zion's students did just that!

Zion, a nationally and state accredited school, has 89 students in grades K-8. Mrs. Gaby Richmond-Reck is a parent volunteer who runs an after-

school fitness program following the guidelines of the President's Active Lifestyle program. In fact, Zion was recognized as an Active Lifestyle Model School for the 2008-09 school year.

Mrs. Richmond-Reck's enthusiasm and commitment to physical fitness is instrumental in the success of the school's fitness program. She has brought an awareness and appreciation for strengthening physical bodies alongside achieving spiritual and academic growth. The children love Gaby and work hard to achieve. She encourages them at every opportunity and believes in their ability to succeed!

Upcoming Servant Events

- ♦ Jan. 3-9 – Rebuilding New Orleans – College students and other adults. Cost is \$300. Register by Nov. 15 with a \$50 deposit.
- ♦ March 13-20 – Building Hope in Mexico – Jr & Sr High and families are welcome. Cost is \$400. Register by Jan. 1 with a \$50 deposit.
- ♦ May 27-31 – Servant Event at LVR – College Students and old DCEs. Cost is \$150. Register by April 15 with a \$50 deposit.

Scholarships are available for all of these events. For more information, contact DCE Leland Jackson at 620-276-3110 or 620-275-9712 or dceleland@tlcgck@kscoxmail.com



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.

November Events at St. John's, Topeka

St. John's invites all church workers and lay members of our district to come hear Rev. Matthew Harrison, the Executive Director of LCMS World Relief and Human Care, at an informal event on Saturday, Nov. 21, at 3:30 p.m. Rev. Harrison will share what he believes are "10 Opportunities for the LCMS." There will be a time for Q & A and a meal to follow at 5:30 p.m. Please email tcstark@stjohnlcmstopeka.org if you plan to come and bring \$5 to cover the cost of the meal.

In thanksgiving to God and to His Glory, St. John's will be dedicating her newly renovated and expanded facilities on Sunday, Nov. 22, 2009. The day's festivities will begin with the Education Hour at 8:30 a.m., Divine Service at 9:30 a.m., followed by the formal dedication @ 10:45 a.m., and concluding with an Open House Reception until 1:30 p.m. The guest preacher for this occasion will be Rev. Matthew Harrison. All are welcome to attend and rejoice with the members of St. John's. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

Join our Facebook Group
"Kansas District LCMS
2010 NYG WE BELIEVE"
Visit www.lcmsgathering.com
and
www.kslcms.org/nyg

Prepare/Enrich Seminars Scheduled

Although the first years of marriage may be the most difficult, they are often remembered as the most joyous. It can be a tremendous time of discovery and growth. Couples learn to express their needs and feelings. Their relationship with each other depends on their relationship with their Heavenly Father.

The inventory Prepare has proven to be a blessing to couples who take it and a great tool for the 70,000 plus pastors who use it to help couples prepare for or enrich their marriage. As my son suggested, "Get it right the first time!"

Pastor Gaylen Burow is offering several Prepare/Enrich Customized Seminars in Kansas City on Friday, Jan. 15, Monday, Feb. 8 and Friday, March 12. Seminars will also be offered at the District Office on Tuesday, Nov. 10 and Friday, Jan 22. Pastors may register online at www.prepare-enrich.com - click on "Find a Workshop" under "Training," then click on "Kansas." Pastors wanting to register for the Nov. 10 seminar at the District Office need to contact Pastor Burow immediately at 913-261-9480 or 913-271-0866 or giburow@att.net.

CCCS Offers Tree of Hope

Choose a meaningful gift to give a loved one and help children around the world learn of a loving Savior through education! CCCS is offering a Tree of Hope option for your holiday giving. For each donation (suggested minimum of \$20), you receive a 4x6 Christmas photo card

with the picture of a child blessed through CCCS. Each card you send tells your friends and family you've honored them with a CCCS gift. Contact CCCS at 785-357-7688 or www.cccskids.org to order your cards or host a Tree of Hope in your congregation or school!

Guinea Prayers

Heiney Family Prayer Requests

✚ thanks for the support we've received throughout Kansas as we traveled around visiting churches
✚ for our children - three in the U.S. now and Andrea in boarding school in Senegal
✚ the country of Guinea as it is experiencing some turmoil again in Conakry over the government
✚ for Tim's language work and for both of us as we begin in our new positions with LCMS World Mission

Norton Family Prayer Requests

✚ Pray for the political stability of Guinea, that the people may receive justice and the Gospel have free course to affect people's lives.
✚ Pray for the new village of "S.J." where evangelism has started this month. Pray that God would help people to have "ears to listen."
✚ Pray for the village of "T.D." which invited us and later rejected us. Pray that they will have a change of heart to hear the Word of Life.
✚ Pray for our mental health as we endure the challenges of living with constant uncertainty about the future. Pray that we would not dwell overmuch on the things that we cannot control.
✚ Pray for our evangelism campaign in the villages of "D." and "M.G." next month, that many would hear, and by hearing believe.

Andrea Herman Prayer Requests

Please join me in praising God for:

✚ my returned health
✚ opportunities to share God's word with new friends
✚ keeping the most recent local strike/protest peaceful!
✚ Rain! (We're still getting some, which is a bit unusual.)
✚ His provision and protection in so many ways

Andrea Herman Prayer Requests, cont.

Please join me in asking God for:

✚ comfort to families who lost loved ones during a large recent protest in the capital
✚ the ability to remain focused on Jesus despite the political instability
✚ good health/determining what is making me sick
✚ God's provision for people here as prices are beginning to rise
✚ continued open doors to share God's Word with women here
✚ peaceful elections in Dec./Jan. and a peaceful transition of power from military to civilian
✚ good balance between work, rest and play, especially during these stressful times

Carlos Family Prayer Requests

✚ for comfort as Jack and Cathy deal with "empty nester's syndrome" since Raymond and Hannah are not in the same home with them for the first time
✚ thanksgiving for finding one French language partner and that we may find another
✚ to stay encouraged during our French language classes and practice
✚ for Raymond's continued adjustment to college life and his studies
✚ for Hannah's continued adjustment to boarding school and for her studies
✚ for good health for the whole family through the fall and winter months
✚ thanksgiving for the new individuals and churches that have come forward as supporters of our work and God's mission in Guinea



The Kansas District Retreat Center by Chaplain Rocky Mease

The Kansas District Retreat Center is a marvelous building. As I sit here this morning, I am amazed at how at home one can feel in a place large enough for a very large gathering. Those who built this place, built for multiple uses.

Let me list uses for you in this article - not to limit the scope of how this place can be used, but to encourage you to consider how you will use it.

1) Plan to come here just to get away and reconnect with God and with your family and to let God reach out to you with his saving love and grace.

2) Invite your family here - what a great place to spend with family where no one has to do all the cooking and cleaning - where everyone can be away and at home all in the same place.

3) Plan a church group event - retreats, planning meetings or just a day or two away with no planned purpose other than to be together.

4) This place is for church members, too. Make sure you advertise this fact. While the primary purpose of the retreat center is to provide a space for Church Workers to

get away, one way we support that primary purpose is keeping the place full. Make sure your church members know this is their retreat center, too, and can be used by them at any time.

5) We are having a wedding and reception here - it won't be the last. Consider using the retreat center for other special family occasions.

6) Invite classmates to Kansas to spend a few days for your own personal class reunion. Johnny's - this is a great place to gather the gang and relive the old stories.

7) It is a great place to get away for a romantic weekend, or weekday - surprise your sweetheart on a special day or make a day special.

8) Winkels - you can still use the place free for one day - offer holds this year only.

9) To be fair - teachers and DCE's - plan a faculty retreat and/or cluster retreat - you get one night free, too. (See, there are advantages of reading Worker's Together.)

10) Come alone - and enjoy some seclusion. Jesus is waiting!