



WORKERS TOGETHER

Monthly Newsletter of the LCMS Kansas District | kslcms.org

MAY 2021

Help from Above

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

JOHN 14:26-27

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OUR MISSION is to support and encourage the members of the District in carrying out the mission Christ has given His Church.

President's Office

Calls and Vacancies

PASTORAL CALLS

- Candidate Ian Kinney to Northeast Kansas Partnership – seminary placement (CTSWF)
- Candidate Christian Schultz to First, Paola – seminary placement (CTSWF)
- Candidate Caleb Stoeve to Immanuel, Hepler & Good Shepherd, Erie – seminary placement (CTSWF)
- Candidate Sean Baker to Bethany, Overland Park – seminary placement (CSL)
- Rev. Philip Hoppe – Peace, Finlayson and St. Paul's, Bruno, MN to Holy Cross, Scott City – pending
- Rev. Christopher Vossler – Trinity, McFarland to St. Paul, Sanford, MI, pending
- Rev. Christopher Vossler – Trinity, McFarland to St. John's, Barnesville, MN – pending
- Rev. Brian Stark - Trinity, Holton to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (Admissions) – accepted
- Rev. Scott Holder – Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (Admissions) to Lord of Life, Leawood – accepted
- Rev. Matthew Mau – St. John, Waco, NE to Holy Cross, Scott City – declined

PENDING ORDINATIONS AND/OR INSTALLATIONS

- Candidate Christian Schultz to First, Paola; ordination at St. John, Alma – May 29
- Candidate Ian Kinney to the Northeast Kansas Partnership; ordination and installation TBD
- Candidate Caleb Stoeve to Immanuel Hepler and Good Shepherd, Erie; ordination and installation TBD
- Candidate Sean Baker to Bethany, Overland Park; ordination and installation TBD

CONGREGATIONS CALLING OR PREPARING TO CALL A FULL-TIME PASTOR

- Herington, Our Redeemer (sole)
- Herington, Immanuel (Shady Brook) and Herington, St. John's (Lyon's Creek; sole)
- Humboldt, St. Peter (senior)
- Lawrence, Immanuel (sole)
- Mission and Shawnee, Trinity (associate)
- Olathe, Redeemer (sole)
- Pratt, Ascension (sole)
- Scott City, Holy Cross (sole)
- Shawnee, Hope (senior)
- Topeka, Prince of Peace (sole)

For weekly call updates, visit the [Calls and Vacancies](#) page of the Kansas District website. The list is updated every Tuesday (typically by 10 a.m.).

CONGREGATIONS CALLING A COMMISSIONED MINISTER

- Atchison, Trinity – Teacher
- Cheney, St. Paul – Teacher
- Emporia, Messiah – DCE
- Linn Lutheran School – Teacher
- Marysville, Good Shepherd – Principal/Teacher
- Overland Park, Bethany – Teacher
- Overland Park, Christ – DCE
- Shawnee, Hope – Teacher
- Topeka Lutheran – Teachers
- Winfield, Trinity – Teacher

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CALLS – from the field

- Nancy Jankowski – Hope, Shawnee to Immanuel Lutheran Christian Academy, Broken Arrow, OK – declined
- Candidate Morgan Dunst to Holy Cross, Wichita (Music Teacher) – accepted
- Teacher Madison Maria – Lutheran West, Rocky River, OH to Hope, Shawnee – declined
- Teacher Shannon Manley – Bethany, Overland Park to St. Paul, Leavenworth – accepted
- Principal Chris Dehning – Trinity, Hoyleton to Trinity, Winfield – accepted
- Candidate Melissa Wolf – Missouri District to Trinity, Atchison – accepted

Call Day 2021: Welcome, New Workers!

[Concordia Seminary, St. Louis](#) and [Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne](#) held Call Day services on April 26-28. Pastoral and diaconal students received call placements, and vicars and deaconess interns learned of assignments. (Click the links above to visit the Call Day webpages.) The LCMS Kansas District is pleased to be receiving **four call candidates** and **one vicar**. We pray that the Lord would bless their service in Kansas and grant them and their families a smooth transition to Kansas.

CALL CANDIDATES from CTSFW



From left:

Ian Kinney (CTSFW Candidate, with wife Hannah and two children) to the Northeast Kansas Partnership (Associate Pastor)

Christian Schultz (CTSFW Candidate, with wife Magdalena and two children) to First, Paola (Pastor)

Caleb Stoeber (CTSFW Candidate, with wife Bethany and two children) to Immanuel, Hepler and Good Shepherd, Erie (Pastor)

CALL CANDIDATE AND VICAR from CSL

From left:

Sean Baker (CSL Candidate) to Bethany, Overland Park (Assistant Pastor)

Zachary Roll (CSL) to Beautiful Savior, Olathe

KANSAS DISTRICT SEMINARIANS Placed Elsewhere

Brendon Moore (CSL; Ascension, Wichita) to Grace Lutheran, Winter Haven, FL (Associate Pastor)

LCMS KANSAS DISTRICT



SEAN BAKERZACHARY ROLL

CONCORDIA SEMINARY, ST. LOUIS



DEPARTING VICARS (2020-2021)

Brennick Christiansen, Risen Savior, Basehor

Luke Elowsky, Beautiful Savior, Olathe

Jaron Melin, Trinity, Girard

Nathan Speerbrecker, Bethany, Overland Park/Stilwell

2022 Convention News

Congregations and rostered workers will be receiving updated convention information, including a revised Call for Nominations, in early May. Digital copies of these documents have also been posted on the [convention webpage](#).

Three key changes to note:

- 1) **The mailing includes a new document, a Status Sheet** summarizing previously submitted nominations, delegate names, and assessments. If the information on this form doesn't square with your own records, please contact Tami Lierz in the President's Office at 785-357-4441, ext. 5001 or tami@kslcms.org.
- 2) As indicated in the reissued Call for Nominations, **the new deadline for nominations is November 30, 2021**. All previously submitted nominations will be honored. If you haven't yet submitted nominations, you have until November 30 to do so. If circumstances have changed with one or more of your nominees, you may submit a new nomination, which will effectively cancel and replace the original.
- 3) **Circuit visitor nominations (usually included in this process) are closed**, as circuits completed circuit visitor selection in the fall of 2020. The slate of circuit visitors will be ratified by the convention in 2022.

Please give special attention to timely submission of delegate names. With the extra year of preparation time, congregations should be in a good position to identify voting and advisory delegates and submit the appropriate forms in the fall.

For the latest convention updates, visit our convention webpage. If you have questions, you can email them to us at KSDconvention@gmail.com.



COVID Update

We seem to be moving in a positive direction with respect to the pandemic, with transmission slowing and restrictions relaxing. Yet we remain watchful. A few quick items to bring to your attention:

We've posted a document called "**Moving Forward After COVID**" on our [Coronavirus Resources page](#). The document is a revised version of the "Coming Out of the COVID Shutdown" guide we issued a year ago, with new sections on repairing divisions in the body of Christ and worker wellness. Even if your return to "normal" is well underway, the document is worth scanning for additional ideas.

The **Soldiers of the Cross Amplified** program, which provides financial assistance to LCMS workers and other eligible parties who have suffered a financial setback due to the pandemic, is still available, but that likely won't be the case indefinitely. If you or someone you know has a financial need stemming from the pandemic, check out the [program flyer](#) on our website.

Grace Place Wellness offers myriad resources to support pastors in their calling. One new resource is the [Grace Place Wellness Community](#), a closed online platform that provides pastors (and their spouses) with ideas, discussion opportunities, prayer support, and more. The group meets every Tuesday at 1 p.m. CST and interacts throughout the week. Grace Place is offering the first month free.



Prayer Requests



This month, we ask that you keep in your prayers:

- ❖ **Those grieving the loss of loved ones**, including
 - Rev. Paul Tessaro and family at the death of great-nephew Greyson Veal, who was taken to his heavenly home after a battle with leukemia April 21.
 - Rev. Dennis Kootz and family at the death of his brother, Benjamin Kootz, April 6
 - Jane Limback and family at the death of her father, Leslie, March 20
 - Pastor Michael Hofmann and family at the death of his aunt, Caryn Hofmann, March 14
 - Pastor Scott Snow and family at the death of his father, Bill Snow, March 4
- ❖ **Those dealing with recent or ongoing health issues**, including New England District President Timothy Yeadon, Marty Brooks, Rev. Russell and Nancy Bonine, Arline Eberhart, Dennis Hintz, Karen Boettcher, Philip Wolf, Kevin Adams, Nick Adams, Oklahoma District President Rev. Barrie Henke, Diane Harries, Rev. Richard Andrus, Rev. Dave Meier, and Judy May
- ❖ **Those confirmed in the faith this spring**, that God would grant that they “continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness” (Rite of Confirmation, LSB 273)
- ❖ **Those affected by the coronavirus**, including our church workers, Synod, districts, congregations, schools, and organizations; government leaders and health care workers; and those dealing with isolation, illness, loss, or unemployment
- ❖ **Organizations on our [Facebook](#) prayer list in May:**
 - Campus Ministries, this week
 - St. John’s Alumni Association, May 10
 - LeadaChild, May 17
 - Kansas District LWML (Lutheran Women’s Missionary League), May 24
 - Kansas District LLL (Lutheran Laymen’s League), May 31

If you have a prayer request, please contact Tami Lierz at tami@kslcms.org or 785-357-4441, ext. 5001.

Clergy Candidate Report

2016 LCMS Convention Resolution 12-02A “To Encourage Calling Church Workers on Candidate Status” requires annual public reporting of the names of church workers on candidate status. Per that requirement, we hereby report that we have one rostered worker, Rev. Mark Croucher, on candidate status who is currently eligible for a call.

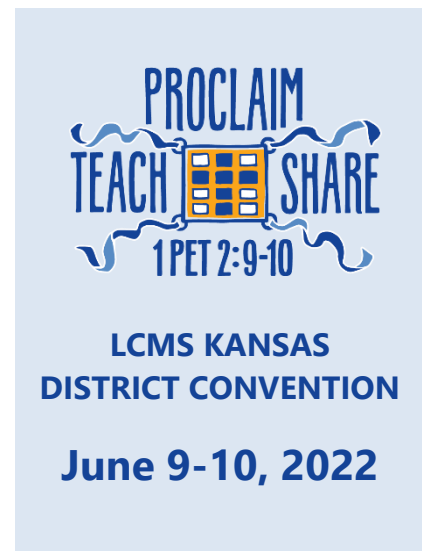
District Calendar

MAY

- 4** Professional Development Committee, Zoom, 4 p.m.
- 7-8** 2022 Middle School Retreat Planning Meeting, Herington
- 11** Children's and Family Life Committee Meeting, Zoom 1-2:30 p.m.
- 18** Older Adult Committee Meeting, Zoom, 10 a.m.-noon
- 25** Circuit Visitors Meeting, Zoom, 10-11 a.m.
- 26** Greenbush PDP Toolbox Training, Zoom, 10 a.m.-noon; Principals with KSDE Zoom – Noon-1:00 p.m.; KSDE KIDS Training, Zoom, 1-2 p.m.; KSDE Data Quality Certification Training, Zoom, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
- 31** Memorial Day (District Office closed)

JUNE

- 11** NLSA District Commission Meeting, Zoom, 10 a.m.-noon
- 22** Circuit Visitors Meeting, Zoom, 10-11 a.m.
- 29** Early Childhood Conference Planning Meeting, 1-2:30 p.m.



Find the full District calendar on the website [HERE](#).

May Staff Travel Schedule

President Justin Panzer

- May 2** Installation of Pr. Timothy Roth, Faith, Ottawa
- May 4** Kansans for Life Banquet, Overland Park
- May 16** Pre-retirement/Pre-call Meeting, Trinity, Girard
- May 29** Ordination of Christian Schultz, St. John, Alma

Rev. Dan Galchutt

- May 2** Mission Sunday/Outreach Consultation, Bethlehem, Sylvan Grove
- May 4** Circuit 10 & 11 Presentation, St. Paul, Cheney
- May 25** Demographic Consultation, Trinity, Winfield

Jim Bradshaw

- May 7-8** 2022 Middle School Retreat Planning Event, Herington
- May 11** Topeka DCE Cluster, Faith, Topeka
- May 13** Kansas City DCE Cluster, Overland Park

ON THE ROAD IN MAY



Ascension, Pratt (the youngest congregation in the District)—photographed by President Panzer at a pre-call meeting.

2021 Pastors Conference



The 2021 Kansas District Pastors Conference will be held in Junction City October 10-12, under the theme, "How Good It Is when Brothers Dwell in Unity," based on Psalm 133. This year's conference will incorporate roundtable discussions guided by recommendations from the Koinonia Task Force; the central topic will be "Technology and the Church." Dr. Dean Nadasdy will be leading the discussion, aided by other facilitators.

Due to the emphasis on group discussion, there will not be a call for papers or breakout sessions. Registration information will be available this summer.

Missions and Stewardship

THIS MONTH: Kansas District Pentecost Offering

Earlier in this newsletter, we brought you news of call candidates and vicars placed in the Kansas District from our two LCMS seminaries. Pictured here, we have two more Lutheran vicars, Alexis Kondiano and Moses Théa (with Vicar Kondiano's family). These vicars are serving in a very different setting—French-speaking West Africa—but they're sharing the same message of salvation through Christ alone with those around them. Praise be to God!



Our annual Kansas District Pentecost Offering provides much-needed support for preparing servants like these for the ministry through theological education at the Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET). There are now CLET seminaries in three locations in West and Central Africa: Togo (the original site), the Congo, and Guinea. Gifts from this year's offering will be directed to support operations at CLET-Guinea.

To learn more or give a gift, visit our [Kansas District Pentecost Offering webpage](#). Among the various resources posted on that page, we highly recommend the **video presentation by LCMS missionaries Rev. Gary and Steph Schulte**, who shared their work as part of the Synod's "Missions Unpacked" virtual learning experience earlier this year. Please keep the missionaries, churches, and schools in West and Central Africa in your prayers.

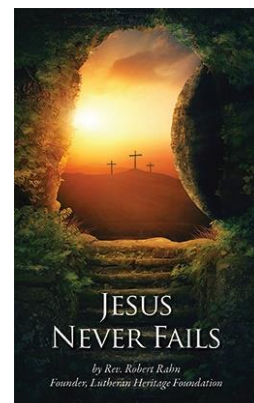
Galchutt Completes Consultant Training



It's official: Rev. Dan Galchutt completed Thom Rainer's "Church Consultation University" April 16 and is now a certified church consultant. His training has provided him with insights and tools for helping ministries in the areas of general consultation, demographics, finances, hospitality, communications, and outreach activity. If you're interested in learning more about how these tools might benefit your congregation (free of charge), please email Rev. Galchutt at dangalchutt@kslcms.org.

FREE Resource for Sharing the Gospel

During these turbulent times, a central message that everyone needs to hear is "Jesus Never Fails!" And now, the Lutheran Heritage Foundation (a recognized service organization of the LCMS) has this short devotional booklet available at no cost to you in a variety of languages, for outreach to immigrants in your community or for short-term mission trips. To read the English edition (great for shut-ins and hospital visits), click here: <https://media.lhfmissions.org/file/lhf-missions/pdfs/English-LHF-Jesus-Never-Fails-booklet-1.pdf>. This booklet is also available in languages like Haitian Creole, Spanish, French, Swahili, Russian and Vietnamese. PDFs are available at [//LHFmissions.org/publications](https://LHFmissions.org/publications); email your order for printed copies to info@LHFmissions.org.



Education & Youth

Concordia Academy Holds Inaugural Fundraiser



One hundred fifty people attended the inaugural fundraising event for the new Concordia Classical Lutheran High School in Wichita on Friday evening, April 16. The Rev. Geoff Boyle (pictured at the podium), pastor at Grace and Trinity in Wichita, serves as the president of the Concordia Academy Board of Directors. The school is slated to open with a ninth-grade class in the fall of 2022.

To learn more about Concordia Academy, visit their website: <https://www.concordiaacademywichita.org/>

2022 LCMS Youth Gathering Update

Planning for the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering is underway! The Gathering will be held July 9-13 in Houston, Texas. Since Houston is a new host city for the Gathering, we look forward to sharing helpful information with you as we learn more!

Your Kansas District Coordinators are ready to help you along the way!



Amanda Adams (left) is a Director of Christian Education at Christ Lutheran in Topeka. This will be her sixth Gathering and second time serving as Kansas District Coordinator.

Debbie Dennett (right) is a youth volunteer at Trinity Lutheran in Winfield. This will be her sixth Gathering.

Basic information to help you plan:

- District buses will leave July 7 & 8 (cost \$165).
- The service project & NASA will be July 8 (cost \$30; project, lunch and NASA ticket included).
- The District event will be a beach party in Galveston July 9 (cost \$30; lunch & towel provided).
- Watch for the design for District shirts in the fall (cost \$12).
- **Registration for events will open November 1, 2021 (the same day as Gathering registration).**

Do you have a student or two interested but not enough for your own group, or would you prefer to pair with another group? Let Amanda and Debbie know! We are happy to assist in making this experience possible for everyone!

We're looking forward to hosting Zoom sessions in late summer to help you plan for the 2022 Gathering. To help streamline communication, we have created an email address for the Kansas District Coordinators. Please contact us at nygksdistrict@gmail.com.

In June: LVR Summer Camp #1

Lutheran Valley Retreat Camp #1 (June 6-11) is just around the corner! Forty-two campers from seven churches are signed up for the June camp, and 45 campers from nine churches are registered for the July camp (July 18-23).

Registration is still open for the camps. There are limited openings available for the June camp but plenty of room for July. It would be helpful to have registrations submitted by the middle of May.



Next month: Kansas youth will make trip #1 to LVR in Colorado.

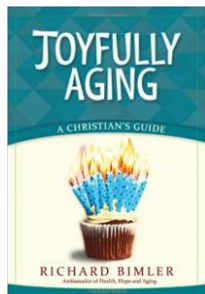
For details about the registration process, visit the [LVR page](#), accessible from the "Education & Youth" menu on the Kansas District website.

The theme for the 2021 camp is "Mountaintop Experience." We will look at scripture passages and events that happened on mountains and note how they proclaim God's glory and His saving nature. We will also look at the Psalms of Ascent as prayers and liturgical tools.

The camp is open to all incoming ninth-grade students to graduating seniors. Price per camper is \$450.

QUESTIONS? Contact DCE Paul White at dcepaulwhite@gmail.com.

CFLC Recommends: *Joyfully Aging*



This month's featured resource from the Children's and Family Life Committee is *Joyfully Aging: A Christian's Guide*, by Rich Bimler (CPH, 2012). In this book, Bimler discusses subjects like "Wit, Wisdom, Wrinkles, and Wows" (Chapter 9), "Amazing Grays" (Chapter 13), and "The Aging-Friendly Church" (Chapter 21). And that's just the first half of the book.

CFLC committee member Jan Borst provides more details in her [video review](#), available now on our YouTube channel.

DCEs Gather in Herington



Kansas District Directors of Christian Education (DCEs) gathered April 11-13 at the Retreat Center in Herington. Programming was provided by Run Hard, Rest Well, a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS.



DON'T WORRY - BE HAPPY!

Phil. 4:6-7

The 2021 Kansas District Early Childhood Conference will be held in person Saturday, July 24 at Faith Lutheran Church (1716 Gage Blvd., Topeka, KS 66604), with keynote speaker Dr. Kim Marxhausen. Planned conference sessions include "Building Stronger Brains with the Arts," "The Best of Early Childhood Literature," and "Conscientious Child Care." The event will run from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

For a [registration form](#), check the Quick Links section of kslcms.org. The registration deadline is July 16.

Caring Ministry

Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) News

Donna Williams, Kansas District Disaster Response Coordinator | ksddrc@gmail.com

BE ON THE LOOKOUT

Established LERT team leaders will receive a spreadsheet listing their LERT team members. We are asking that you please review the list and edit it for any changes. Instructions will be included in the email. If you have any questions after receiving your team list, please let me know.



TRAINING EVENT OPPORTUNITIES: CALENDARS ARE OPEN!

LERT BASIC TRAINING: For new teams and existing teams looking for a refresher course with the new curriculum. This is a great opportunity to get a fresh start and expand learning with your LERT teams after a long hiatus. If your congregation is willing to host a regional LERT Basic Training event, please let me know.

BASIC CHAINSAW SAFETY & OPERATION: We are hoping to hold at least two chainsaw training events this year. If you are interested in participating and becoming **LERT Chainsaw Certified**, please let me know ASAP.

TRAIN THE TRAINER: We need qualified LERT trainers! Is this you? One **Train the Trainer** event will be scheduled in 2021. If you are interested in becoming part of the Kansas District LERT Training Team, this training event is for you! If you are a card-carrying (certified) LERT volunteer and would be interested in becoming part of the Kansas District LERT Training Teams, please give me a call or send me an email.

LERT Response Southern District – Shepherd's Heart Ministry reports that LERT crews have moved to Western Alabama, Perry County, where five homes suffered severe damage or were completely destroyed by recent tornadoes. If you are interested in responding, contact **Ed Brashier**. Our thanks to **Brian Mead, First Paola**, for taking a couple of weeks out of his busy schedule to work alongside Ed and his crews to bring hope to the many families and individuals affected by the March tornadoes in the Southern District.

Please watch the [LCMS Kansas District website](#) and our Facebook pages ([LERT Kansas District](#) & [Lutheran Early Response Team - Northeast KS](#)) for current information on responses and training opportunities.

Grace and Peace,
Donna Williams
Isaiah 6:8

May Is Mental Health Awareness Month

Neil Buono, Church Worker Care Committee

We're invited to pause in May to remember those with mental health struggles. As with many annual times of remembrance, this one often goes by unnoticed. This year, however, the pandemic has heightened awareness of the struggles we all face when life as we know it gets turned upside down and when our traditional sources of support are not available. For those struggling with mental health issues, the last year has been especially hard.

We know that a supportive community is useful in helping us manage our mental health. The pandemic has made this challenging. What's more, we know that we—professional church workers—are not immune from the challenges of good mental health, even if we do not have a diagnosable mental illness. This year has been hard for those whose vocation is to teach, preach or heal—teachers, DCEs, preachers, health care providers. And it's been hard on our families.

What to do? Let's consider **four helpful things to do** to heighten awareness of our own needs and the needs of others. First, set aside a time this month to **reflect on your own mental health** and the health of your family members. The Church Worker Care Committee of the District encourages all of us to regularly attend to our overall health, and this is a good time to do that specifically for our mental health. Second, **have a caring conversation** with someone in your congregation or community who has a diagnosed mental illness or who you know is struggling with their mental health. Listen to their story. Such listening is enormously helpful and is a healing practice. Third, use this month to better **educate yourself** on the nature of mental health



challenges and the resources generally available for care. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is a good resource for learning more. Our District website has the contact information for mental health professionals who are available to work with professional church workers and their families. Take a look at it so you know what's available should the need arise. Last, and most important, **be a voice to end the stigma** associated with mental health issues. The Good News of God is that Jesus didn't think less of those who were sick. If anything, he reminds us that we are all sick and in need of the great physician of body and soul and mind.

RESOURCES

- [Concordia Plan Services: Mental Health Resources](#)
- [Kansas District Worker Wellness Page](#)
- [Kansas Christian Counselors List](#)

NEW! Older Adult Newsletter



The Older Adult Ministry Committee has just launched *Senior Moments*, a new quarterly newsletter intended to encourage and help establish enhanced Older Adult Ministry throughout the Kansas District. The publication, supported by a Kansas District Mission Grant, is being produced at Trinity, Mission and Shawnee and mailed from the District Office.

Print copies of the first issue were sent to all District congregations in April. You can also find *Senior Moments* on the Older Adult Ministry page at kslcms.org.

Check out the newsletter [HERE](#).

Business Office

Thank You, Administrative Professionals!

They know where everything is. They know how things work. They're in the office every day, fielding calls, handling details, and making things run smoothly. Without our hardworking and knowledgeable administrative staff, our mission to "support and encourage" workers would be much tougher!

In recognition of Administrative Professionals Day (April 21), we'd like to thank our wonderful administrative team—Tami Lierz, Shannon Fender, and Janet Powell—for their hard work and dedication.

While we're at it, we'd like to recognize and thank all administrative professionals who help carry out the mission of Christ's Church in our congregations and schools. Thank you for using your gifts in the service of Him and His Kingdom!



Last Call: Scholarships for Church Work Students



DEADLINE AHEAD! If you or someone you know is pursuing a degree in church work at one of the Synod's colleges or seminaries, financial aid is available from the Kansas District and other District organizations, but you'll need to move quickly. **The application deadline for 2020-21 scholarships is June 1.**

For an [application](#) and [instructions](#), visit kslcms.org. Navigate to "Stewardship" and choose "[Grants and Scholarships](#)" from the menu. Scholarship amounts are based on available funds and the number of applications received. Awards are sent directly to the college or university.

Do You Need to File Form 5578?

Does your church operate a preschool? An elementary school? If you answered yes to either question, you are required to submit Form 5578 to the IRS each year. Filing the certificate of racial nondiscrimination is one of the most commonly ignored federal reporting requirements. Churches that operate, supervise, or control a private school (including a preschool) must submit [Form 5578](#) each year with the IRS. The deadline for filing is the 15th day of the fifth month following the end of the organization's fiscal year. This is May 15th for those who operate on a calendar year basis. You can obtain a Form 5578 by clicking the link above or by visiting the IRS website at www.irs.gov. You can also contact the IRS for forms and publications at 800-829-3676 (800-TAX-FORM).



FORM 5578

Certificate of Racial
Nondiscrimination

A Note from Your DVP



Lutheran Church Extension Fund

> where investments build ministry

Dear Kansas District Members,

It is my pleasure to represent Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) and serve the ministries of the Kansas District LCMS. We are blessed with close relationships with district congregations, schools and RSOs.

Is your church in need of repairs or upgrades? If so, we have a great solution. **The Church Improvement Loan** is designed to help churches fund critical church repairs and upgrades. Church improvement loans are limited to LCMS congregations and include:

- Maximum 10-year term
- Up to \$150,000
- 24 months at Cost of Funds (COF) adjusted annually, currently 1.875%
- LCEF COF plus up to 2.5% adjusted annually for remaining term
- Payments fully amortized over term

Church improvement loans can be used on **critical repairs** that can lead to substantial damage and cost if not fixed in a timely manner, **upgrades** that enhance your church's appearance and comfort, and **projects** that improve energy efficiency and save money in the long term.

A couple other programs of interest:

PartnerPLUS is a fixed-rate term note for those who wish to invest even more in the future of the LCMS and its Christ-Centered ministries. Earn 1.625% on amounts up to \$50,000 for the two-year term note and 2.125% on amounts up to \$50,000 for the four-year term note. Available to LCMS individuals, organizations, congregations, and Individual Retirement Account investments. Minimum of \$500 to get started.

ConnectPLUS is a fixed-rate term note for new LCEF investors who wish to earn a competitive interest rate while investing in the future of the LCMS and its Christ-centered ministries. Amounts up to \$50,000 earn a 2.125% interest rate. It's now available to congregations and Recognized Service Organizations. Minimum of \$500 to get started.

Mathew 6:33 – "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Blessings,

Jeffrey Maltz

jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org

785-230-4112

www.lcef.org

LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments, nor a solicitation to buy. LCEF will offer and sell its securities only in states where authorized. The offer is made solely by LCEF's Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks. Neither LCEF nor its representatives give legal, accounting or tax advice. Consult your tax advisor as to the applicability of this information to your own situation. UMB Bank n.a. serves as the custodian of the LCEF IRA/HSA programs. StewardAccount access features are offered through UMB Bank n.a.

REPAIR AND REFRESH

Is your church in need of improvements, repairs or upgrades? We can help.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund's (LCEF) Church Improvement Loan provides congregations up to \$150,000 for projects to make necessary repairs, deferred maintenance or energy-efficiency gains.



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JEFFREY MALTZ

LCEF District Vice President | Kansas and Oklahoma
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Around the District

Installation in Ottawa



Pastor Timothy Roth was installed as pastor at Faith, Ottawa May 2. From left, Rev. Tim Heath, Rev. Eddie Hosch, Rev. Don Haselhuhn, President Justin Panzer, Rev. Bert Tegtmeier, Rev. Timothy Roth, Rev. Joshua Woelmer, Rev. Ben Micheel, and Rev. Sean Kilgo.

Faculty-Led Workshops Coming to Kansas

You have THREE opportunities this summer—in Hays, Salina, and Ottawa—to take a deep dive into God's Word with professors from Concordia Seminary.

The Old Testament of the Old Testament

Dr. David Adams, Associate Professor of Exegetical Theology at Concordia Seminary

July 12-14, 2021

Messiah Lutheran Church, Hays

Workshop Description: The book of Genesis provides the foundation for understanding the trajectory of God's work to restore the state of shalom that was lost as a result of the fall. In this sense it serves as the Old Testament to the rest of the Old Testament, and subsequently for the coming of Jesus Christ. This workshop covers the book of Genesis with a primary focus on how it provides these theological foundations.

For more information and to register, visit the [event page](#) on the Concordia Seminary website. Register by June 28, 2021. This workshop is being sponsored by Circuit 15 of the Kansas District. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Michael Schmidt, Circuit Visitor, at revschmidt@yahoo.com.



De-coding the Apocalypse: Study of the Book of Revelation

Dr. David Peter, Professor of Practical Theology and Dean of Faculty at Concordia Seminary

July 19-21, 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church, Salina

Workshop Description: The title of the last book of the Bible is translated as "Revelation," but its original title was "Apocalypse." This word literally means "the unveiling." The purpose of this book of the Bible is to unveil the purposes of God in human history. For many people, however, it remains veiled — an obscure, mysterious, and confusing book. The reason many people do not understand the Apocalypse is because it is written in coded language that can only be interpreted by decoding its symbolism. This study will look at the most significant coded symbols of the book and the keys to their interpretation. It will provide a broad sweep of the major themes and message of Revelation, as to better understand this book of the Bible. This "unveiling" will enable participants to see Christ, His church and history (past, present and future) in a whole new light.

For more information and to register, visit the [event page](#) on the Concordia Seminary website. Register by July 5, 2021. If you have questions, please contact Rev. Dennis Kootz, Associate Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, at pastordennis.kootz@gmail.com or 785-823-7151.

Confessing Christ and Living His Mission: Pre-Constantinian Theology and Practice for Our Post-Constantinian World

Dr. Benjamin Haupt, Associate Professor of Practical Theology and Associate Provost, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

August 2-4, 2021

Faith Lutheran Church, Ottawa

Workshop Description: Many would argue that we live in a post-church, post-Christian culture marked by increasing hostility to Christian theology, waning protection of political freedoms of the Christian church, increasing biblical illiteracy and the list goes on. How should Christ's church conduct itself in such a climate? This workshop will address how we got to this place and then look at where we go from here. The workshop will explore various frameworks to understand the interaction of Christianity and culture. Participants will then explore how the early Christian church engaged a culture similar to our own. Examples from the early church will be given to demonstrate their two-fold approach to the issue of Christ and culture: that is, confessing Christ and living His mission. The workshop also will address the use of early Christian writings in preaching and teaching.

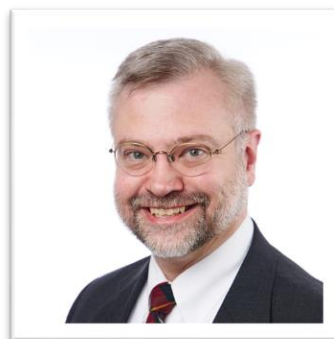
For more information and to register, visit the [event page](#) on the Concordia Seminary website. Register by July 19, 2021. If you have questions, please contact Rev. Timothy Roth through the church office at Faith at secretary@faith-lutheran.net

2021 WORSHIP CONFERENCE

Saturday, August 21, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | St. John's, Topeka

"That the Holy Gospel May Have Free Course: History and Theology of Lutheran Liturgy"

- Dr. Christopher Boyd Brown, keynote speaker
- \$20, lunch included
- Schedule, registration, and other details on the St. John's website: <https://stjohnlcmstopeka.org/learning/worshipconf/>
- Questions? Contact Bethany Johnson (bjohnson@stjlcms.org)



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