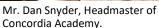
SEPTEMBER 2022 | www.kslcms.org

# **WORKERS TOGETHER**

Monthly newsletter of the LCMS Kansas District

Pastor Mark Lovett starts the first day of Concordia Academy at Immanuel, Wichita, with Matins.







Dan Snyder addresses the Mathematics class at Concordia Academy.

# **Concordia Academy – Classes Have Started!**

The first Lutheran high school of the LCMS Kansas District, Concordia Academy, began classes on Monday, August 22, at Immanuel Lutheran in Wichita. Eleven students are enrolled in the inaugural classes. Concordia Academy seeks to provide students with a Lutheran liberal arts education. Visit the Concordia Academy website to learn more!

# **Regular Features**

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Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:23



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

Worker News / pp. 5–6 In This Issue Youth Fall Events / p. 10 Campus Ministry / p. 11

"The People in Your Neighborhood" / p. 12



Rev. Justin Panzer, District President

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS



# 2022 Pastors Conference October 3-4

Registration opened August 1 for the **2022 Pastors Conference**, being held **October 3-4** at the Holiday Inn at the Campus in Manhattan. Visit our website **kslcms.org** to access conference information and to register.

This year's conference will focus on "Confession & Absolution: The Sacrament of Reconciliation."

There will be three main (plenary) sessions led by **Rev. Ed Keinath**. We will also have three breakout sessions with four different options for each session. Rev. Keinath is the Director of CrossLife Ministries, the counseling center of Ambassadors of Reconciliation in Seymour, IN.

Pastors are invited to arrive on Sunday night, October 2. **The conference begins on Monday, Oct. 3 at 8 a.m.** This year, the conference offering will support the construction of a seminary in Guinea/West Africa.

# **President's Office**

# **September Devotion**

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy" (1 Peter 2:9-10).

**Proclaim. Teach. Share.** That was our 74th Kansas District Convention theme. All of this is centered in the crucified and risen Christ for the forgiveness of our sins and our justification before God.

God's only Son, Jesus, is the starting point for what we proclaim. His Word brings faith. The center of everything that we do as Lutheran Christians is Christ crucified and Him raised. Our theology is Biblical theology. We are pointed to Jesus. We point people to Jesus in return.

God uses poor, miserable, sinners like you and me to proclaim His Word, and He Himself gives the promise that it will do exactly what it was sent forth to do. God's Word goes out for the purpose of saving. It condemns the damned sinner and brings to life those who have been crushed in their sins. What joy the forgiveness of sins brings! What peace that surpasses all human understanding. What mercy God gives to us now and forever. What privilege God has given to His baptized people, His royal priests, to proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Pet. 2:9)!

How excited are you tell someone else where the cheapest gas station is in town? How excited are you to share on social media the happenings of your children or grandchildren? Do you not tell others about the latest movie you just saw, and that it is definitely worth their money to go and see it as well? Should it not be the same for us, who have been saved now and eternally, to share with the same vigor and excitement, Jesus, with neighbors, families, and friends! In fact, it is our duty, our privilege, our "response-ability" as His baptized, royal priesthood to proclaim His excellencies to all!

Dear friends, I love being Lutheran. I take great joy in being Lutheran. I pray that you do, too. Don't take it for granted. We worship, we preach, we teach all to receive and give the gifts of Jesus. Jesus first gives us the joy of being served by Him so that we can serve others.

(Continued on Page 3)

# Save the Date Circuit Reformation Festival 2022

# Sunday, October 30, 2022 Immanuel Lutheran

(909 South Market St. Wichita, KS 67211)

Immanuel Lutheran is hosting the annual joint-circuit Reformation Festival of circuits 10 and 11. Join us in worship. fellowship and growth in wisdom and virtue as the Rev. Dr. Cameron MacKenzie. chairman of Department of Historical Theology at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, will preach and deliver the banquet lecture. The offering from the service will support the Joint-Seminary Fund, Banquet tickets are \$15, while children 10 and under eat for free. Childcare is provided during the lecture.

**4:00 p.m.** – Divine Service

**5:30 p.m.** – Dinner

**6:15 p.m.** – Lecture (Rev. Dr. Cameron MacKenzie)

7:30 p.m. – Closing Prayer

RSVP by Monday, Oct. 24 at 316-264-0639 or secretary@ilchurch.org.

Please pay at the door.

Clergy wishing to participate should contact Rev. Mark Lovett at <a href="mailto:pastor.mdlovett@gmail.com">pastor.mdlovett@gmail.com</a>.

# **September Devotion, Cont.**

We take up the mission of the Church—to baptize and teach all nations. We rejoice, not in anything that we bring to Christ. Rather, we rejoice in passing on what we have first received from Him. What we do can't be helped. It is as natural as breathing, as life itself. It is impossible to be a believer, that is, to be in the royal priesthood, and not to be involved in this mission together. It is impossible for us to not look around our neighborhoods and communities and see those who need the same love of God in Christ Jesus that we already possess. We come into contact with these people every day—at work, at school, at the coffee shop. Yes, even in our own family people need to be reconnected with the Savior.

We live in uneasy times. Still, we carry in our bodies the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may be made known through us. Be in worship and the Word, so that you are ready to make a defense for the reason of the hope of Christ that you have. Rejoice not in anything that you might bring to Christ, but rather rejoice in passing on what you have first received from Him. Truly, filled with the Word and Sacraments of Christ—the means of grace—we, as His priests, His believers, "show forth the excellencies of God."

Proclaim, Teach, and Share the crucified and risen Savior. We live lives that honor God and serve our neighbor. Opportunities abound each day! God will bless our participation in that work as we await the end of the story—the resurrection of the Body and the life everlasting.

To that end, please join me in praying the convention prayer:

"Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

# **2022 Reformation Offering**

The annual Kansas District Reformation Offering supports mission work right here in Kansas. Here are some ways you can get involved:

**Prayers.** Pray for congregations, workers and fellow LCMS Kansans as they are actively engaged in mission work, and for God to bless their efforts.



Gifts. Contributions to the Reformation Offering will support mission projects in Kansas (e.g., church planting, evangelism training, specialized ministries). Gifts may be mailed to the LCMS Kansas District, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, Kansas 66604-1104, or given online on our Kansas District Offerings page (under the "Business Office" tab.)

Reformation Offering materials will be available by mid-September on the <u>Mission Funding</u> page (under the "Missions" tab).



# **CTSFW Installation**

Rev. Dr. Jon Bruss & Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Boyle

On Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022, 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time (9:00 a.m. Central Time) the Concordia Theological Seminary of Fort Wayne (CTSFW) will hold the Opening Service, for its 177th academic year.

Two Kansas District pastors, **Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Boyle** (formerly of Trinity and Grace, Wichita), and **Rev. Dr. Jon Bruss** (formerly of St. John's, Topeka) will be installed as professors at the Divine Service.

You can view a livestream of the Opening Service and Installation on the CTSFW Chapel page:

https://www.ctsfw.edu/daily-chapel/.

For more information, go to: <a href="https://www.ctsfw.edu/ctsfw-events/event-opening-service-2022/">https://www.ctsfw.edu/ctsfw-events/event-opening-service-2022/</a>.

# **Calls and Vacancies**

## **PASTORAL CALLS**

Rev. Kurt Cockran, Risen Savior, Basehor to Mt. Calvary, Richfield, MN – pending

Rev. Matthew Nelson, Our Redeemer, Columbia Falls, MT to SPR Partnership – declined

Rev. Aaron Schnelle, Bethany, Wichita to Bethel, Clearwater, FL - pending

# PENDING ORDINATIONS AND/OR INSTALLATIONS

**Rev. Aaron M. Filipek**, Zion, Gwinner, ND to Trinity, Wichita, and Grace, Wichita – Saturday, Sept. 3, 3:00 p.m. (installation and reception will take place at Trinity Lutheran, Wichita)

**Rev. Boyd "Andrew" Wright**, St. John, Keystone, IA to St. John's, Topeka – accepted, installation pending

### CONGREGATIONS CALLING OR PREPARING TO CALL A FULL-TIME PASTOR

Alta Vista, St. Paul, Lake Wabaunsee, Redeemer and Clarks Creek, St. Paul (SPR partnership; sole)

Girard, Trinity (sole)

Haven, St. Paul (sole) Herington partnership: Immanuel,

Our Redeemer, and St. John's (sole)

Leavenworth, Trinity (associate)

Liberal, Grace (sole)

Lincoln, St. Paul & St. John (sole) Meade, St. John and Beaver, OK,

Peace (sole)

Wichita, Risen Savior (associate)

# **CONGREGATIONS CALLING A COMMISSIONED MINISTER**

Emporia, Messiah (DCE) Marysville, Good Shepherd (Principal)

Overland Park, Bethany (DCE)



**Rev. Matthew Goehring** was ordained and installed as pastor at Immanuel, Norton, on August 14. From left: Revs. Steven Frank, Michael Schmidt, Michael Hageman, Dave Hutson, Matthew Goehring, Joel Hiesterman, Justin Panzer, Philip Hoppe, and Michael Brockman.

# **Worker News**

# **Welcome, New Educators!**



**Abigail Meyer** (center of first row) was installed as a teacher at Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Marysville, on August 14. Abigail is teaching grades 3-4. From left: Rhonda Beethe, Rev. Philip Miller, Abigail Meyer, Roxanne Bayer, Terry Harries, Allison Klipp, and Rev. Aaron Fenker.



**Sarah Warneke** was installed as a teacher at Trinity Lutheran School, Winfield, on August 14. Sarah is teaching grades 5-6. She is pictured with her husband, Vicar Christopher Warneke.



**Kristi Schkade** (left) and **Kayla Ernstmeyer** were installed as teachers at Hope Lutheran School, Shawnee, on August 21. Kristi is the Language Arts middle school teacher, and Kayla is teaching second grade.

Kim Burke (center of first row) was installed as a teacher at Linn Lutheran School, Linn, on August 14. Kim is teaching grades 3-4. From left: (front row) Laura Stuenkel, Kim Burke, Renae Bott, Kelsey Hatesohl; (back row) Rev. Joshua Hayes, Rev. Timothy Koch, and Principal David Beikmann.



# **2022 Hispanic Ministry Convention**



Jan Maxson was installed as a teacher at Holy Cross Lutheran School, Wichita, on August 14. Jan is the art teacher for grades K-8. She is pictured with Rev.

Scott Snow.



Nearly 300 people attended the **Hispanic Ministry Convention** in Orlando, FL, August 2-5. The convention is held every three years. **Rev. Dan Galchutt** attended, with some Hispanic Ministry leaders and workers from the Kansas District.

# H A

The Beautiful Savior Lutheran
Preschool staff. From left: (front
row) Tiffany Dumm, Janette
Copeland, Lisa Flood, Amanda
Myers, Amy Schultz, Samantha LeBlanc, Carol Boland;
(back row) Karen Ledgerwood,
Laura Kellar, Kendal Cline, Kim
Daly, Michelle Wibe, Kara Herrs,
and Trish Batten.



James Bradshaw presents NLSA certificate to Beautiful Savior Preschool Director Amy Schultz.

# **Worker News, Cont.**



**Dr. Steve Hobus** (standing), Principal at Trinity Lutheran School, Atchison, and the Trinity staff hosted the annual **Lutheran Educators Day (LED)** on August 8. Schools in the Kansas City metro area gathered for worship and the keynote address from the Rev. Dr. Brian Gauthier, a theology professor at Concordia University, Nebraska on the topic, *In the Spirit of Teaching: The Christ-like Shape of Lutheran Educators*. LED is the kick-off event for the 2022-23 academic year, and was attended by 120 educators.

# **Congratulations! NLSA Certificates Awarded**



**Beautiful Savior Lutheran Preschool, Olathe,** was awarded the 5-year National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) certificate on Sunday, August 14, 2022. District Education Executive James Bradshaw presented the award to Preschool Director Amy Schultz and her staff. Schultz also serves as the Early Childhood Consultant for the LCMS Kansas District.

St. John Lutheran Church and School, Alma, staff and board members were awarded the 5-year National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) certificate on Sunday, August 28, 2022. District Education Executive, James Bradshaw (left in front row) presented the certificate. From left: receiving the award (front row) Principal Harmon Butler, Rev. Robert Grimm, and Mr. Perry Piper (School Board Chair).







# **SPECIAL PRAYERS**

For all the workers in the Kansas District, we pray for our heavenly Father to bring abundant blessings to their work. May the Holy Spirit shine through our Lutheran brothers and sisters as they share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those around them. Amen.

For students and families beginning the new school year, we pray for a smooth transition from summer to fall, and for the Lord to bring forth a fruitful academic year. We ask for Him to be present with our Lutheran schools and faculty as students return, eager to learn. May the Lord also watch over those attending college, and provide opportunities for students to get connected with a Lutheran campus ministry. Amen.

# **PRAYER REQUESTS**

For September, we ask you to keep in your prayers:

Those grieving the loss of loved ones, including

Family and friends of Karen Kohlmeier, wife of former Kansas District Mission Awareness Coordinator Marvin Kohlmeier, who entered her heavenly rest August 15

Family and friends of Harold Wagner, uncle of Rev. Dan Galchutt, Assistant to the President for Missions and Stewardship, who entered his heavenly rest July 7

Family and friends of Rev. Dr. Art Graudin, father-in-law of current Circuit Visitors Chair Rev. Andy Keltner, who entered his heavenly rest June 18

Family and friends of Fred Lindsey, stepfather of Rev. Eddie Hosch, who entered his heavenly rest June 4

Those dealing with recent or ongoing health issues, including Ben and Michelle Venteicher, Rev. Neil and Carolyn Buono, Rev. Dr. Mark Schulz, Tom Kleber, Tim Lavrenz, Rev. Lee Hovel, Steve Bremer, Rev. Roland Boehnke, Carrie Meyers, Kevin Adams, Nick Adams, Rev. Richard Andrus, and Judy May.

Those celebrating the gift of new life, including Rev. Aaron and Samantha Wagner (daughter Hannah Lynne Aug. 22), Joe and Jenn Eickmann (adopted daughter Evelyn Joe), Rev. Joshua and Diane Hayes (son Micah Aug. 3), Rev. Aaron and Sarah Fenker (son James July 15), Rev. Joe and Amanda Barlau (daughter Rebekah June 22), Rev. Christian and Magdalena Schultz (son Matthew June 13), and Rev. Ian and Hannah Kinney (daughter Anastasia June 9).

# Congregations and Schools on our Facebook prayer list in September:

Faith, Abilene, September 6

Peace, Andover, September 12

Zion, Argonia, September 19

Immanuel, Canton, September 26

# **EVENTS CALENDAR**

# Out and About in Kansas SEPTEMBER Staff Travel Schedule

- Rev. Aaron Filipek installation at Trinity, **Wichita** (Panzer)
- 4 Preaching at Redeemer, Lake Wabaunsee, and St. Paul's, Alta Vista (Panzer)
- 7 Visit with worker, **Emporia** (Bradshaw)
- DCE Cluster meeting at Christ,Overland Park (Bradshaw)
- 9 School visit to St. Paul, Leavenworth (Bradshaw)
- 9-13 Council of Presidents in **St. Louis, MO** (Panzer)
- 10 District Youth Ministry Committee meeting, **Herington** (Bradshaw)
- National Lutheran School
   Accreditation (NLSA) at Christ,
   Overland Park (Bradshaw)
   Church planting meeting, DeSoto (Galchutt)
- 13 Circuit 16 Winkel at Holy Cross, **Dodge City** (Galchutt)
- 14 Chapel at Topeka Lutheran School, **Topeka** (Galchutt)
- 15-16 Principals Conference, **Topeka** (Bradshaw)
- 16 "The Gathering" at Fairmount Ministries, **Wichita** (Galchutt)
- 18 Mission Festival at St. John, Okarche, OK (Panzer)
- 20 Circuit 5 Winkel at Zion, **Chanute** (Panzer)
- 21 Church planting meeting, **DeSoto** (Galchutt)
  - LCEF meeting, **Topeka** (Panzer)
- 25 National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) at Trinity campus, **Shawnee** (Bradshaw)
  - Congregation Anniversary at First, **Paola** (Galchutt)
  - Preaching ay Trinity, **McFarland** (Panzer)

# **UPCOMING FALL EVENTS**

# **Save the Date**

Educator's Conference October 9–11



Make plans now to attend the **2022 Educator's Conference October 9-11** in Manhattan, KS.

Registration opened August 1. Visit our website **kslcms.org** to access conference information and to register.

The keynote speaker for the conference is **Heidi Goehmann**, a licensed clinical social worker and mental health care provider, theologian, writer, and advocate. Her three keynote presentations will cover emotional awareness and finding hope, strength in resilience and belonging, and mentoring to youth and families through mental health.

# Offering Designation: Church Worker Care Fund

Your congregation and/or school is highly encouraged to designate September's chapel/Sunday school offerings for the continued funding of the Districtwide Church Worker Care support fund. This District discretionary fund has historically assisted pastors and educators, spouses, and their families in addressing a variety of unforeseen emergency worker needs. **Each District school/congregation is invited to raise a minimum of \$50 each.** Visit the District website **Donate | LCMS Kansas District (kslcms.org)** and choose "Church Worker Care" from the donate drop-down menu.



Fall Lay Bible Institute Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022

Join the <u>Concordia Seminary, St. Louis</u>' fall <u>Lay Bible Institute</u>, "How the Early Church Read the Bible," led by Professor of Systematic Theology <u>Dr.</u> <u>David Maxwell</u>.

During this one-day seminar, participants will explore how the church read the Bible in the first 500 years of the church's history, and a fresh perspectives for their own reading of Scripture.

The workshop will be held from **10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 8, 2022,** in Sieck Hall 202 on campus, 801 Seminary Place, St. Louis, MO 63105. The <u>registration</u> deadline is Sept. 23, 2022. Cost is \$20 per person, \$35 with lunch.

For more information or to register, visit **<u>csl.edu/lbi</u>** or contact Continuing Education at 314-505-7286 or **<u>ce@csl.edu</u>**.

# **UPCOMING FALL EVENTS, CONT.**

# Kansas District Mission Grants: Last Call!

The 2023 Kansas District Mission grant application is now available on the District website, under "Mission Funding." The deadline is September 22, 2022.

The Kansas District sets aside 10 percent of its congregational receipts each year and makes those funds available in the form of mission grants, to encourage congregations to pursue mission projects.

Contact **Rev. Dan Galchutt**, dangalchutt@kslcms.org or **Janet Powell**, janet@kslcms.org with any questions.

# CLICK HERE for the full Kansas District calendar!

# ON THE RADAR

**Labor Day**, Sept. 5, District Office closed

**Principal's Conference**, Sept. 15–16, District Office, Topeka

**St. Louis Symposium**, Sept. 20–21, St. Louis Concordia Seminary, Clayton, MO

**Disaster Response Conference**, Sept. 28–30, Fort Wayne, IN

**Circuit Visitor meeting**, Oct. 2, Manhattan, KS

**Pastors Conference**, Oct. 3–4, Manhattan, KS

**District Confirmation Retreat**, Oct. 7–8, Augusta, KS

**Educator's Conference**, Oct. 9–11, Manhattan, KS

Making Disciples for Life Fall Conference, Oct. 10–12, LCMS International Center, St. Louis, MO

# **Parenting Seminar**

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Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022 Messiah Lutheran Church 2000 Main Street, Hays, KS Messiah Lutheran in Hays will be hosting a free parenting seminar on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**Dr. Annette Anschutz,** Associate Professor of Education and Early

Childhood Program Director at Concordia University, NE, will speak on guidance and discipline, faith development, and how to support healthy growth and development at home. This will be most beneficial to parents with children ages 3-5.

The seminar is open to the congregation and the community. Light refreshments and childcare will be provided.

# Concordia Leadership and Service Summit October 20-22, 2022

Concordia University, NE, is hosting the third annual Concordia Leadership and Service Summit (C.L.A.S.S) on October 20-22, 2022. This event is designed for students who show interest in serving as a leader in your congregation or community. The target age is 14-18 years old, grades 8-12.



Students will receive a certificate of documentation of their service hours as well as a certificate of completion for private scholarship applications.

The registration fee is \$50, which includes all programming, on campus meals, and a T-shirt. Adult chaperones and parents are free. **Registration will be open through October 17, 2022**. On-campus housing is available for juniors and seniors, and a block of reserved rooms is available at the Cobblestone Inns & Suites in Seward, NE at a discounted rate *(mention "CLASS" event when reserving a room)*.

Register at <a href="https://cuneclass.eventbrite.com">https://cuneclass.eventbrite.com</a>. Contact Olivia Johnson <a href="Olivia.johnson@cune.edu">Olivia.johnson@cune.edu</a>, or Lori Johnson <a href="https://ocune.edu">lori.johnson@cune.edu</a>, with any questions.

# **CTSFW Workshop Highlights**



The TIG Ministry hosted the CTSFW Continuing Education Workshop, August 25-27, at Trinity, Garden City. The Rev. Dr. John Pless was the speaker, and presented on "Using Catechism in the Congregation." Around 30 people attended, and many churches in the Kansas, Oklahoma, Rocky Mountain, and Texas Districts were represented.

# YOUTH FALL EVENTS



# 2022 Kansas District Confirmation Retreat

"Life and The Law" (Exodus 20:1-17)

Friday, Oct. 7 – Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022

Wheat State Retreat Center, Augusta, KS

Friday, Oct. 7 – Saturday, Oct. 8 we are hosting a Kansas District Confirmation Retreat at the Wheat State Retreat Center in Augusta (11105 SW 86th St. Augusta, KS 67010). During this event we will be looking at our Life in Relation to God's Law. This event is for 5th-8th grade Kansas youth.

The event begins at **6:00 p.m.** on Friday, Oct. 7, and ends at **4:00 p.m.** on Saturday, Oct. 8.

**Registration runs from Aug. 15** – **Sept. 8.** Late registration is from Sept. 9 – 22. The cost is **\$80 per person**, and increases to \$90 per person beginning on Sept. 9.

Visit the **Kansas District website** to register, and print off consent and health forms.

If you would like more information, please contact **Rev. Michael Ada,** 

pastorada@bslcks.org



# **2022 LCMS Kansas District Regional Youth Gathering**

# Saturday, November 19, 2022

Theme: Living as the Baptized (1 Peter 2:9-10)

We are excited for the 2022 Kansas District Regional Youth Gathering, on Saturday, Nov. 19! For the first

time, District youth groups will be able to select a location to attend. One location will be at **Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church** (13145 S. Blackbob Rd., Olathe, KS 66062), and the other location will be at **Risen Savior Lutheran Church** (6770 E. 34th St. N, Wichita, KS 67226).

**The cost per person (grades 9-12 and adult leaders) is \$50,** which includes the price of a t-shirt. *Note: late registration will increase to \$60 per person.* 

Registration opens for the 2022 Kansas District Regional Youth Gathering on Monday, September 22. Visit the Kansas District website on Sept. 22 for the registration form, updated schedules, a list of hotels, and a list of area churches for Sunday worship. Required health forms will also be posted. Deadline to register is November 1 to guarantee a t-shirt.

Schedules between the two locations will be similar.
Here's an outline for these events:

# Friday Evening, November 18 (OPTIONAL)

- Congregations may choose to arrive for the event and stay at a hotel of their choice and expense. Hotel reservations will be made by individual congregations (hotel suggestions will be provided.)
- Dinner will be on your own.
- Optional activities at the churches begin at 8:00 p.m. (group building activities, fellowship, devotions).

# **Saturday, November 19 (MAIN EVENT)**

- The morning will begin at 9:30 a.m. and finish by 7:00 p.m.
- Activities will include a speaker, music, devotions, mission/service projects, and meals.
- A light breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided.
- Congregations may choose to stay at a hotel of their choice and expense (OPTIONAL).

# **Sunday, November 20 (OPTIONAL)**

• Worship with an area congregation (a list will be provided.)









# DISTRICT MINISTRIES

Engaging in God's Mission

# **Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) News**

Donna Williams, District Disaster Response Coordinator



<u>PREPARE</u> – make (something) ready for use or consideration/ make (someone) ready or able to do or deal with something. <u>ADAPT</u> – make (something) suitable for a new use or purpose; modify; become adjusted to new conditions.

## LERT BASIC TRAINING EVENTS

October 22, 2022

King of Kings Lutheran Church, Gardner, KS

Registration is \$20. Register online at <u>LCMS-LERT.org</u> before Oct. 8, 2022. Contact Mark Trivilino, <u>tma41@yahoo.com</u>.

# **BASIC CHAINSAW SAFETY AND OPERATION**

November 12, 2022

King of Kings Lutheran Church, Gardner, KS

Registration is \$25. Register online at <a href="LCMS-LERT.org">LCMS-LERT.org</a> before Oct. 29, 2022. The class size limit is 10. Contact Mark Trivilino, <a href="tma41@yahoo.com">tma41@yahoo.com</a> or Brian Mead, brian.t.read2@gmail.com.

(participants must complete a Basic LERT Training course before attending a chainsaw class.)

If you are interested in scheduling a LERT Basic Training OR if you are interested in having a LERT representative visit your church, please contact Donna Williams <a href="mailto:ksaddrc@gmail.com">ksaddrc@gmail.com</a>. Visit the <a href="mailto:ksaddrc@gmail.com">ksaddrc@gmail.com</a>.

# Helping Students Stay Connected to the Church High school seniors

are busy making plans



Campus Ministry Coordinator Rev. Mark Boxman (right) with his wife Lynn, and Trey Duffey, a college student.

for life after graduation. They are choosing their college, making housing arrangements, and deciding what their major will be. Fall is a wonderful time to meet with your seniors and encourage those planning to leave your community to make plans for their spiritual care in college.

In our congregation, we will host a luncheon after worship on a Sunday in November, with seniors, their parents, the

pastors and two college students who are active in our college ministry. We will listen to the seniors' plans, hear from the college students on what it is like to walk into a church on Sunday morning the first week of college, and let the college students explain how being in the Word and in worship has blessed them with a growing faith and wonderful Christian relationships. Pastoral comments will be based on the need for oil in our lamps to keep our faith aglow. **Enjoy being a shepherd to your young people as they approach this critical transition period of their lives.** 

Gracious Father, guide our youth that they may number their days and apply their hearts to eternal wisdom. By Your Word and Spirit increase their faith. Lead them to make godly choices and ever to strive for holiness of living, that they may faithfully serve You and finally come to the joys of heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Pastor Mark Boxman Senior Pastor, Trinity, Salina Visit the <u>Campus Ministry page</u> at the District website, and encourage students to fill out the "Campus Ministry Student Contact" form at the bottom of the page.



Volunteers empty bins into the garbage truck with workers from Shawnee County Solid Waste.

# The People in Your Neighborhood

# Mel Lang, Office Manager at Christ Lutheran, Topeka

Do you remember that classic song from Sesame Street? "Who are the people in your neighborhood? In your neighborhood? In your neighborhood..." It goes on to name various occupations and people you might see on any given day. I was reminded of this song as I saw the various vehicles for plumbers, firefighters, garbage collectors, police officers, truckers, bus drivers, and repairmen pull into our church parking lot for a Touch-a

**Saturday, August 6, 2022 was our second annual Touch-a-Truck event at Christ.** We had a solid base to build on from last year's event, and were fortunate to receive an outreach grant from the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) to really grow and expand our operation. We were able to purchase some advertising, matching shirts for our volunteers, Christ-centered storybooks to give to the first 100 children at the event, and free snacks for all those in attendance.

-Truck event.

One of the biggest additions the grant funding allowed was a giveaway drawing for three "Truckloads of Prizes." (Granted, they were Tonka Truck-loads, but you have to know your audience.) Attendees could fill out an entry form in hopes of winning one of three themed gift baskets. **We had over 130 households from outside our congregation entered in the drawing – over 400 unique entries total.** In the two weeks following the event, we mailed a postcard to each of those households. Each postcard was printed with our church name/logo, address, contact information, and worship times. On the reverse, each card had a handwritten note by a member of our Board of Evangelism, thanking them for coming to the event and encouraging them to save the date for our Trunk-or-Treat in October. We hope to mail out additional postcards for other events for families and children in the coming year.

We hope and pray this was a positive introduction to our congregation for the many families in attendance. Our volunteers greeted the parents, grandparents, and children on our church grounds with a road sign reading "CHRIST AT WORK" on those matching t-shirts. We gave away nearly 150 children's books, utilizing extra stock from our church library after the initial 100 ran out. Those volunteers handed out 200 bags of mini muffins, and then raided our youth room for additional pre-packaged crackers and cookies when the muffins were gone. We went through multiple rolls of stickers, proclaiming "Loaded with Faith," "Moved by the Lord," and other similar messages matching up to various construction vehicles.

We found this event to truly be a chance to meet "the people in our neighborhood," as the song goes – not only in the various occupations on display with vehicles, but also the numerous people in attendance. I pray that we can continue to find creative ways to share Christ's love to the, "people that you meet when you're walking down the street...each day."



Thanks to the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) for providing an Outreach Ministry Grant to Christ Lutheran, for their Touch-a-Truck event! LCEF has been blessed to be able to offer Outreach Ministry Grants for the past several years to congregations, schools, and other LCMS organizations in Kansas and Oklahoma that are interested in conducting a specific local outreach/evangelism program, activity, or event.

Contact **Jeffrey Maltz by email <u>jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org</u>**, **or phone 785-230-4112**, for more information about LCEF Outreach Ministry Grants, as well as other options LCEF offers, such as the <u>Church Worker</u> <u>StewardAccount</u>.



# **Synod & Partners**

The *Making Disciples for Life* (*MDFL*) Fall Conference is set for Oct. 10–12 at the LCMS International Center in St. Louis.

In-person and online attendance options are available. This *MDFL* conference will focus on providing resources that equip Lutherans to faithfully share God's Word — a Word desperately needed by people who have been deceived by the false teachings of the world.

The conference theme, "Let Us Keep Awake," is based on 1 Thessalonians 5:6: "So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober."

The in-person portion of the conference is limited to 100 participants. The **\$69 per person** registration cost includes meals and snacks. Online participation is unlimited. The **\$29 fee** may be used by an individual, couple, family or group. Visit <a href="mailto:lcms.org/making-disciples-conference">lcms.org/making-disciples-conference</a> to learn more and register.

# **Memory Verse Challenge!**

The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod (LCMS) invites



everyone to memorize a Bible verse together each week. This is a wonderful way to be in God's Word. To access memory verse challenges, visit <a href="mailto:lcms.org/memoryverse">lcms.org/memoryverse</a> or the LCMS Facebook page at <a href="mailto:facebook.com/TheLCMS">facebook.com/TheLCMS</a>.

The memory verses are also shared on the **Kansas District Facebook page** every week.

# **Congregational Commitments**

Every fall, congregations are given the opportunity to make a commitment to support our joint work in the Kansas District and the Synod for the upcoming year. **We appreciate your prayerful consideration of your 2023 commitment!** 

Congregational commitment forms will be mailed to congregations at the end of September, along with an updated "Mission and Ministry" document, a 2022 Kansas District budget summary, and the 2022-2025 "Living as the Baptized" strategic plan.

Please submit your 2023 form by **November 30 (January 15, 2023 at the latest)** in any of the following ways:

- Email/scan your form to Shannon Fender at shannon@kslcms.org, or call her at 785-357-4441, ext. 1001. You can also fax your form to 785-357-5071.
- Mail your form to LCMS Kansas District, 1000 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, KS 66604.

# **LCMSFoundation**

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

# **Planned Giving**

The Kansas District is partnered with the LCMS Foundation to offer planned giving services, to assist LCMS Kansans interested in managing their assets for the good of their families, and also the Church.

Three Kansas District staff members— Missions and Stewardship Executive Rev. Dan Galchutt, LCEF DVP Jeffrey Maltz, and Business Manager Heather Williams—are trained planned giving advocates who would be happy to give a presentation to your congregation.

To schedule a presentation, contact Shannon Fender by calling the District office at 785-357-4441, or visit the **Planned Giving page** on the Kansas District website.

The **2023 District Salary Guidelines** are now posted on the **District Resources** page of our website. The guidelines provide congregations with an objective approach to developing a suitable compensation plan for church workers.

If you have any questions about the guidelines, please call the Business Office at 785-357-4441, ext. 1002, or email **Heather Williams** at <a href="mailto:heather@kslcms.org">heather@kslcms.org</a>.

# STAFF DIRECTORY

**Rev. Justin Panzer** District President

Rev. Dan Galchutt Assistant to the President for Missions and Stewardship

**Jim Bradshaw** Assistant to the President for **Education and Youth** 

**Jeffrey Maltz** DVP, LCEF Kansas and Oklahoma

**Heather Williams Business Manager** 

**Jackie Schaefer** Communications Specialist

Tami Lierz Administrative Assistant President's Office/Event Registrar

**Shannon Fender Administrative Assistant** Business Office/Stewardship

**Janet Powell** Administrative Assistant Schools/Missions/LCEF

Mike Grau Archivist

# **COORDINATORS**

**Rev. Mark Boxman Campus Ministry Coordinator** 

**Rev. Ian Kinney** Life Coordinator

**Lottie Lee Professional Development** 

**Jane Limback** Accreditation

**Amy Schultz** Early Childhood Consultant

**Donna Williams** Disaster Response Coordinator

# **CONTACT US**

kslcms.org/staff

785-357-4441

1000 SW 10th Ave. **Topeka, KS 66604** 

# **Around the District**

**Jesus Door-2-Door Event** 

Rev. Timothy Koch, Senior Pastor at Zion Lutheran, Linn

On August 20, 2022, 19 people representing four different congregations (Zion, Linn; St. John, Palmer; Bethlehem, Greenleaf; and



/esus Door-2-Door

Immanuel, Rosebud, MO) gathered at Zion Lutheran Church in Linn, KS, for a Jesus Door-2-Door evangelism event.

After singing some hymns, Pastor Koch led the group in a Bible study over 2 Kings, chapter 5, and how the story of Naaman foreshadows our own healing from God by His promises given to us in Baptism.

The group then rehearsed and role played witnessing methods to be used door-to-door. After lunch, they traveled to Washington, KS, where they knocked on 136 homes. 62 people answered the door, and 46 took the group's canvassing survey. Of those 46 people, 10 people (21%) were unchurched, and 39 people believed they would go to heaven (though only 17 people thought they would get to heaven because of Jesus). Three people believed nothing would happen to them when they died. Three people didn't know what would happen to them when they died, and one person thought they would go to hell.

Through the group's canvassing efforts, FIVE people expressed a desire for a follow-up visit from the congregation.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ was shared with all who would listen.

The next JD2D event is set for September 17, at St. Paul Lutheran in Clay Center. This is open to all, from 6th grade and up. Call or text **Pastor Timothy Koch** at 785-747-7633, if you have any questions.



Messiah Lutheran. Hays served as host congregation for the Older Adult Ministry event on Saturday, August 13. The Rev. Rocky Mease was the keynote presenter.

Immanuel Lutheran, Lawrence, hosted a back-toschool barbeque for college students on Sunday, August 28. There was good food, games, and fellowship. A number of college students attended, along with many from the congregation.

