

# WORKERS TOGETHER

Monthly Newsletter of the LCMS Kansas District | [kslcms.org](http://kslcms.org)

OCTOBER 2021

## The Just Shall Live by Faith

Rom. 1:17

For faith grounds us on the works of Christ, without our own works,  
and transfers us from the exile of our sins into the kingdom of His righteousness.  
This is faith; this the Gospel; this is Christ.

*What Luther Says*, v. 2, 2891 (p. 922)

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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

- Rev. David Kahle, Zion, Imperial, NE to Redeemer, Olathe – accepted
- Rev. Matthew Jennings, Good Shepherd, Yucca Valley, CA to St. Peter, Humboldt – accepted
- Rev. Kevin DeHope, Grace, Bakersfield, CA to Prince of Peace, Topeka – pending
- Rev. Wesley Hromowyk, Zion, Columbus, Ohio to Zion, Linn – pending
- Rev. Stanley Palmer, Our Redeemer, Kinsley and Zion, Offerle to St. John, Aliceville – declined
- Rev. Jared Nies, St. John, Perham, MN to Immanuel, Lawrence – declined
- Rev. Matthew Jennings, Good Shepherd, Yucca Valley, CA to Holy Cross, Scott City – declined
- Rev. Karl Gibbs, Immanuel, Carrollton, MO to Trinity, Colby – declined

### PENDING ORDINATIONS AND/OR INSTALLATIONS

- Rev. Matthew Jennings at St. Peter, Humboldt – January 9, 2022

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

- Aliceville, St. John (sole)
- Colby, Trinity (sole)
- Haven, St. Paul (sole)
- Herington, Our Redeemer; Herington, Immanuel (Shady Brook); and Herington, St. John's (Lyon's Creek; triple parish partnership (sole)
- Lawrence, Immanuel (sole)
- Linn, Zion (sole)
- Pratt, Ascension (sole)
- Scott City, Holy Cross (sole)
- Shawnee, Hope (senior)
- Topeka, Prince of Peace (sole)

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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.).

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### CONGREGATIONS CALLING A COMMISSIONED MINISTER

- Emporia, Messiah – DCE
- Overland Park, Bethany – DCE
- Overland Park, Christ – DCE

### COMMISSIONED MINISTER CALLS – from the field

- DCE Samantha Wagner, candidate status to Christ the King, Salina – accepted

## Peace, Beaver Joins the Kansas District



The Kansas District is pleased to welcome **Peace Lutheran Church in Beaver, Oklahoma**, to the district. Peace, established in 1968, has formed a partnership with St. John Lutheran Church in Meade, Kansas. The congregation is located about 40 miles south of Meade in the Oklahoma Panhandle. Both Peace and St. John are being served by Pastor Kent Peck, who was installed at Peace September 19.

With the addition of Peace, we now have 160 congregations in the Kansas District. We pray that the move will be a blessing for mission and ministry in the area.

## Convention Update: Nominations Due Next Month

The deadline for nominations for elected office for the 2022-2025 triennium is just around the corner. We'd appreciate having delegate reporting forms by the end of November, too. Please visit the [convention webpage](#) for additional information and necessary forms. **We've included high-priority highlights below.**

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS | Deadline November 30, 2021

**All previously submitted nominations will be honored; please see the gray Status Sheet that was sent to congregations in May for a summary.** 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. If you have not yet submitted nominations, you are invited to do so using the appropriate nomination forms, which are available on the convention webpage at [kslcms.org](#).

### DELEGATE REPORTING FORMS | Preferred submission deadline November 30, 2021

**The gray Status Sheet sent to congregations also includes delegate information.** If you have not yet submitted delegate names or need to make a change, please complete the appropriate delegate reporting forms and send them to the District Office by November 30.



## Invitation: "Living as the Baptized" Tour

# Living as the Baptized

2021 DISTRICT TOUR

### Manhattan

Saturday, November 6  
St. Luke's | 9-11 a.m.

### Hays

Saturday, November 6  
Messiah | 5-7 p.m.

### Dodge City

Sunday, November 7  
Holy Cross | 3-5 p.m.

### Wichita

Tuesday, November 9  
Holy Cross | 6:30-8:30 p.m.

### Iola

Thursday, November 11  
Grace | 6-8 p.m.

### Mission

Saturday, November 13  
Trinity | 9-11 a.m.

**What does it mean to "Live as the Baptized?"** You're invited to join the conversation and network with others at one of the locations listed above in November.

**Invitations with full details will be sent to congregations early this month.** We've set up an [event page](#) on our website where you can get directions and pre-register.

Pre-registration for the event isn't required, but our congregational hosts would appreciate having an idea of how many attendees to expect at their location. Some added encouragement: If you pre-register and attend the event, we'll enter your name twice in the drawing for one of two special prizes: a \$500 congregational mission grant (for laypeople) or a one-night stay at our relaxing Retreat Center (for workers).

Our staff is looking forward to hearing your ideas in November!

## Koinonia Facilitators Prepare for Conference

In September, **Koinonia facilitators** for the upcoming Pastors Conference in Junction City participated in a training session led by Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy, president emeritus of the LCMS Minnesota South District. The Pastors Conference, being held October 10-12, will make use of the Koinonia framework to discuss the role of technology in the church. Dr. Nadasdy will kick things off with a keynote address on October 11.

**Online registration for the conference is now closed.** Please contact Tami Lierz with any registration questions at 785-357-4441 or [tami@kslcms.org](mailto:tami@kslcms.org). For a conference schedule, visit the [event page](#) on our website.



## Prayer Requests



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

- ❖ **Those grieving the loss of loved ones**, including
  - Rev. Dan Metzger and Nancy Trier-Metzger and family at the death of Nancy's mother, Betty Louise Trier, September 25
  - Rev. Jason Toombs and family at the death of Pastor Toombs' father, Daniel Ray Toombs, September 22
  - The family of Deaconess Emerita Linda Kinnett, who entered heavenly rest September 13
  - Teacher Kathy Bartels and family at the death of her father, Arwin Bauman, September 2
  - Shannon Fender and family at the death of her mother, Donna Oldham, August 17
  - Rev. Ed and Rebecca Mease at the death of Rebecca's mother, Char Underwood
  
- ❖ **Those dealing with recent or ongoing health issues**, including Rev. Chris Schultz, Jac E Lu Erslund, Paul Schmidt, Rev. Dale Dumperth, Rev. Matthew Schneider, Rev. Roland Boehnke, Carrie Meyers, New England District President Rev. Timothy Yeadon, Philip Wolf, Kevin Adams, Nick Adams, Diane Harries, Rev. Richard Andrus, and Judy May
  
- ❖ **Congregations and schools on our [Facebook](#) prayer list in October:**
  - First St. John, Kensington, this week
  - Good Shepherd (Erie and Marysville School Association), October 11
  - Churches named Grace (Wichita, Hill City, Strong City, Kansas City, Liberal), October 18
  - Churches named Grace (Iola, Lyon, El Dorado, Larned, McPherson, Ulysses), September 27

*A happy coincidence? Our churches named Grace just happened to land in the last two weeks of October on the prayer schedule, providing a perfect lead-in to the Reformation. "By **grace** we are saved through faith!"*

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

### OCTOBER

- 1 Professional Development Committee, Zoom, 1-3 p.m.
- 3-5 Educators Conference, Junction City, KS
- 10 Circuit Visitors Meeting, Junction City, 6 p.m.
- 10-12 Pastors Conference, Junction City, KS
- 12 Board of Missions Meeting, Junction City, KS, 2:30 p.m.
- 14 KDYG Planning Meeting, Hotel Topeka, noon-3 p.m.
- 15 Board of Caring Ministry Meeting, Zoom, 10 a.m.-noon
- 18 Board of Education and Youth Meeting, Zoom, 1-3 p.m.
- 19 Middle School Event Planning, Zoom, 12:30-2:30 p.m.
- 21 Early Childhood Workshop Planning, Zoom, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- 22 Kansas State Dept. of Education Meeting, 10 a.m.-noon
- 25 Board of Administration Meeting, Zoom, 12:30 p.m.  
Board of Stewardship Meeting, Zoom, 7-9 p.m.
- 26 Executive Council Meeting, Zoom, noon
- 28-29 Kansas District Board of Directors Meeting

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Convention Planning Meeting, District Office, noon-3 p.m.
- 5 KAIRS Exec Committee Meeting
- 6 District Tour, St. Luke's, Manhattan, 9-11 a.m.  
District Tour, Messiah, Hays, 5-7 p.m.
- 7 District Tour, Holy Cross, Dodge City, 3-5 p.m.
- 9 District Tour, Holy Cross, Wichita, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 11 Church Worker Conference Planning Meetings, District Office, 10 a.m.-noon
- 11 District Tour, Grace, Iola, 6-8 p.m.
- 13 District Tour, Trinity, Mission and Shawnee, Mission Campus, 9-11 a.m.
- 13 LCEF National Meeting
- 14-19 LCMS Council of Presidents Meeting
- 16 Children's and Family Life Committee, Zoom, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- 19-21 Kansas District Youth Gathering, Topeka
- 23 Circuit Visitors Meeting, Zoom, 10-11 a.m.
- 24 **Thanksgiving Holiday; District Office closes at 2 p.m.**
- 25-26 **Thanksgiving Holiday; District Office closed**
- 30 Older Adult Committee, Zoom, 1-2:30 p.m.



**LCMS KANSAS DISTRICT  
CONVENTION  
June 9-10, 2022**

**NOMINATIONS  
DEADLINE  
November 30, 2021**

## Staff Travel Schedule

### President Justin Panzer

- Oct. 3 Preaching at Trinity, McFarland
- Oct. 3-5 Educators Conference, Junction City
- Oct. 10-12 Pastors Conference, Junction City
- Oct. 17 Preaching at Trinity, Burlington  
Preaching at St. John, Aliceville (100<sup>th</sup>  
anniversary of the building)
- Oct. 24 Circuit 8 Reformation Service, Mt. Calvary,  
Wamego
- Oct. 31 Preaching at Redeemer, Lake Wabaunsee  
and St. Paul, Alta Vista

### Rev. Dan Galchutt

- Oct. 3 Mission Sunday, Redeemer, Arkansas City  
Partnership Meeting, Trinity, McFarland
- Oct. 3-5 Educators Conference, Junction City
- Oct. 6 Strategic Planning, Trinity, Holton
- Oct. 10-12 Pastors Conference, Junction City

### Jim Bradshaw

- Oct. 3-5 Educators Conference, Junction City
- Oct. 6 School Visit, Good Shepherd,  
Marysville
- Oct. 7-8 KINDLE Board of Directors, Farmington,  
MN
- Oct. 10-12 Pastors Conference, Junction City
- Oct. 13 School Visit, St. Paul, Cheney  
School Visit, Faith, Derby
- Oct. 15-16 LERT Training Event, Herington
- Oct. 20 School Visit, Trinity, Atchison
- Oct. 21 ECE Workshop Planning, Faith, Ottawa
- Oct. 25-27 Regional Education Executives  
Conference, Kansas City, MO



# Missions and Stewardship

## THIS MONTH: Kansas District Reformation Offering



“The true treasure of the church is the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God.”

MARTIN LUTHER  
Thesis 62 of the 95 Theses

Our annual Kansas District Reformation Offering supports sharing “the true treasure of the church”—God’s Holy Gospel—with people right here in Kansas. A few ways to get involved:

**Prayers.** Please pray for congregations, workers and fellow LCMS Kansans who are actively engaged in mission work, that God would bless their efforts to share the love of Christ.

**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 [Donate](#) page.

**Ideas.** If you have an idea for mission outreach in Kansas, contact Rev. Dan Galchutt, Assistant to the President for Missions and Stewardship, at [dangalchutt@kslcms.org](mailto:dangalchutt@kslcms.org) or 785-357-4441.

**Pastors/Congregations:** Materials for promoting the offering are available at [kslcms.org](http://kslcms.org) on the [Kansas District Offerings](#) page (under the Business Office tab). Thank you for your help in getting the word out!

## 2022 Congregational Commitments

Congregational commitment materials, including an updated “Mission and Ministry” document and 2021 budget summary, were mailed to all congregations in late September. **We appreciate your prayerful consideration of a contribution to our shared work in the district**, which includes not only our activities in Kansas but also the work of our Synod.

You can find electronic copies of the form and supporting materials on the [District Resources page](#) at [kslcms.org](http://kslcms.org).

You may submit your 2022 form, signed by the pastor and congregational president, in any of the following ways:

- Email your form to Shannon Fender at [shannon@kslcms.org](mailto:shannon@kslcms.org), or call her at 785-357-4441, ext. 1001.
- Mail your form to LCMS Kansas District, 1000 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, KS 66604.
- Fax your form to 785-357-5071.

The preferred submission deadline is January 15, 2022. Thank you for your support!



Last month, the Kansas District Education Loan and Scholarship Committee approved **\$36,750** in education loan repayment grants for district workers—just one example of what we can do together as a district.

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, is being observed by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). The celebration is intended to:

- Honor the Lord's saving work among Hispanics, especially those in the Lutheran church.
- Increase awareness of Hispanic and Latin American history and ministry.
- Celebrate the culture and achievements of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

Among the highlights of the month: **The new Spanish Lutheran Hymnal will be available soon!** The project has been in the works for 14 years and will be distributed in 14 countries in Latin America. The new hymnal includes many of the same resources found in the *Lutheran Service Book*, including lectionaries, psalms, prayers, five settings for the Divine Service, creeds, the Small Catechism, and 670 hymns.

You can read more about the new hymnal [HERE](#).

## Family Fun Night in Ulysses

On September 24, Grace Lutheran Church in Ulysses hosted an outreach event, Family Fun Night, which drew about 80 people from the community. Grace is part of a new ministry partnership between Trinity, Garden City; Immanuel, Lakin; and Grace. The congregations are served by Pastors Michael Hageman and Santi Keinbaum.



## Education & Youth

### Educators Celebrate Milestone Anniversaries



Educators were recognized for **milestone anniversaries** at the opening dinner of the 2021 Educators Conference in Junction City. From left (with milestone years in parentheses): Gwen Thomas (35), Lori Leonardi (25), Melissa Wolf (35), Jill Lowe (25), Sarah Abramovitz (10), Laurie Reed (35), Erin Miller (10), Donna Bottemuller (35), Nanette Klenken (5), Susan Schotte (20), Miranda Mondary (5), Ben Venteicher (15), and Brent Howard (25). We're thankful for the dedication of these faithful servant leaders!



## 2021 Principals Conference

Kansas District school leaders gathered for their annual Principals Conference in Topeka September 15-16. The special speaker for the event was Rebecka Garcia Cook, an executive coach, who walked leaders through "Processing the Pain of the Pandemic."



Left to right: (front row) Chris Francik, Sue Kleber, Sharon Fries, Cindy Hammons, Becky Hillman, Terry Harries; (middle row) Eric Pralle, Nancy Jankowski, Emma Taylor, Jane Limback, Jim Bradshaw, Amy Schultz; (back row) Chris Dehning, Harmon Butler, Dr. David Rindt, David Beikmann, and Dr. Steven Hobus.

## LCMS Youth Gathering: October News

**Photo Request:** We want a picture of your youth group holding a sign about the 2022 Houston Gathering! These pictures will be featured at the Kansas District Youth Gathering in November. Email your photos to [nygksdistrict@gmail.com](mailto:nygksdistrict@gmail.com).

**LCMS Youth Gathering-KS District Info Zoom Meeting** will be held October 14 at 7 p.m. This will be helpful for first-time leaders as well as veteran leaders. We will cover registration, Houston-specific info, and more. Questions are encouraged!

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7974150938?pwd=OWFEa1p1U0QzMFRUejBDM3J4K294dz09>  
Meeting ID: 797 415 0938  
Passcode: Jesus

Visit the [Kansas District page for the National Youth Gathering](#) (Education and Youth > Youth Ministry > NYG) for additional details about the Gathering. District Coordinators Debbie Dennett (620-229-1991) and Amanda Adams (785-632-7101) are here to answer any questions, so please feel free to give them a call or send them an email at the Gmail address noted above.





## Next Month! Kansas District Youth Gathering



The 2021 Kansas District Youth Gathering (KDYG) will be held November 19-21 at Hotel Topeka at City Center (formerly the Topeka Capitol Plaza). The theme for this senior youth event is *Faithful*, based on 1 Thessalonians 5:24. The keynote speaker is the Rev. Bill Yonker, senior pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church, East Dundee, IL. We are excited that our Gathering band is *Remedy Drive*.

This year, we will offer the following sectional topics: *Sexuality* (Rev. Bill Yonker), *Isolation and Mental Health* (Rev. Neil Buono), *Life and Death* (Rev. Matthew Durance), and *Identity* (Rev. Sean & Molly Baker). In addition, students will be able to participate in two to four simple onsite projects within a rotation of sectionals and service.

The registration cost is \$99 plus a hotel room cost of \$97/night (four per room). To register online, visit the event webpage on the LCMS Kansas District website at [kslcms.org/kdyg/](http://kslcms.org/kdyg/).

## High School Leadership Training in Wichita

# HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Led by Julianna Shults  
LCMS YouthLead Director

Hosted By Holy Cross Lutheran  
Wichita Kansas  
600 N Greenwich Rd, 67206

**Saturday, October 23rd 7-9pm**

We will explore how God uniquely made us for servant leadership. By examining our *StrengthFinders*, we will see how to lead through our gifts, skills, and passions and be a supportive part of our team at church.

**Sunday, October 24th 12-3pm**

Free Lunch at noon  
Leadership Training: 1-3pm

One of the most important things we do is study God's Word, both alone and together. We will spend time talking about how to prepare and lead Bible studies and devotions in a group setting. We will learn ways to study the Bible on our own.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own Bible, a highlighter and a pen.

RSVP to Brian Amey at  
[bamey@hcwichita.net](mailto:bamey@hcwichita.net)



### NOTE

If your group would like to stay overnight in Wichita, please connect Brian Amey about housing options. Holy Cross is available for groups to stay overnight, there are hotels close by, and Brian would also set up host families.

## On the Virtue of the Godly Habit of Prayer

Rev. Mark Lovett, Adult Education Committee

***Following is the second of several planned articles from the Adult Education Committee on the topic of prayer.***

Aristotle had much to say on habits and habit forming. However, the Philosopher did not talk about habit the way we do. Not entirely. For the Philosopher, habit was not just something done because of involuntary compulsion but something planned and trained. Even so, for the Philosopher, stopping at the same coffee house on the way to work every day would not have been a habit. Getting two coffees, one for yourself and the other for the homeless man on the corner might better be called a habit by the Philosopher.

For Aristotle, habit is an active condition by which one practices virtue. Virtue can, for brevity but also topical import, be summed up by our Lord's command to love your neighbor as yourself. In other words, virtue is the act of living toward your neighbor in pursuit of his or her good. Habit is the active and purposeful action undertaken to live a virtuous life, not without thought, but with intention of heart.

There's one more tidbit about the Philosopher on habit forming that bears mentioning, though. It is this: for the Philosopher, habit is not plural. That is, there is only one true habit and that is to live the life of virtue. Aristotle did not suggest that a man form many habits that were the sidebar of his daily life, which is how we generally think of habits, but that the habit - the action - of living virtuously in thought and deed was the goal - the telos - of a man's life. Toward this goal all action and thought were aimed.

We can easily see how the Philosopher's teaching on habit forming, or perhaps more pointedly, living life well, can be compared to the virtue of the godly habit of prayer. Prayer is not a sidebar for the Christian but the way of life, as the Apostle writes, "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17). And we know by the Gospels that our Lord prayed day and night, sometimes all night, as was His custom (cf. St. Luke 22:39). The Christian lives life well through prayer because it is by and through prayer that we hear from the Father. And speaking to and hearing from the Father defined the life of Jesus (cf. St. John 14:24). It is the goal of the Christian life to be in communion with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to this end all thought and action must be aimed.

The Christian lives life in communion with the Father through the Son by the power and indwelling of the Holy Spirit, as Jesus teaches that He will send the Holy Spirit and that whoever loves Him loves the Father and the Father will come and make His home with him, since he is loved by the Father and asks the Father directly (cf. St. John 14:18-31).

We know, however, that the law of sin wages war in our members doing that which is contrary to the Spirit (Gal. 5:17), which means the deeds of the flesh must be put to death by the Spirit, the same Spirit by whom we pray, "Our Father" (see Rom 8:12-15). Because we struggle against the flesh—that is, the desires of the flesh which are contrary to the Spirit—the life we live in Christ by the Spirit must be trained, disciplined. This is nothing other than the Christian forming the godly habit of prayer in order to live life in the Spirit before the Father.

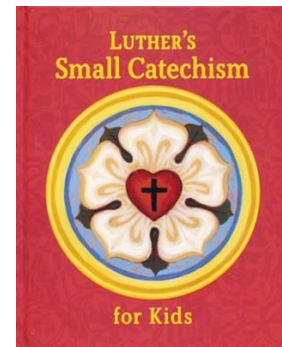
To form this godly habit, we must dedicate ourselves to it. We must realize that the habit of prayer begins with the habit of listening to the Father, which means attending the Divine Service, since there Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are active in our salvation. Our daily prayer must flow from the Divine Service in order to take us back to it, back to the presence of God. Daily meditation on the Scriptures and actively petitioning the Father for those He has given us (family, friends, co-workers, officials, etc.), is not a suggestion but a must. The more we pray and make habit of prayer, the more we draw close to God. And the closer we draw to God the more we leave this world and all its vaunted pleasures behind, pressing on toward the goal of the upward calling of God in Christ Jesus (Phil. 3:13-14).



## CFLC Recommends: Luther's Small Catechism for Kids

Rev. Marty Reed, Associate Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Atchison

I'll get to the review of the newly released [Luther's Small Catechism for Kids](#) from Concordia Publishing House (CPH) in a moment. First, CPH also recently released *My First Catechism*. Don't confuse this book with a book by the same name published by CPH in 2004. This is not an update. These books are different. The 2004 release is still useful for primary grade children. The 2021 release comes first and is truly *My FIRST Catechism*. This is a resource parents can take up first and use with their young children, maybe up to preschool age. This book touches briefly on the six chief parts of Luther's Small Catechism and covers a few other subjects like, "What is worship?" It is beautifully illustrated. Each section has suggested activities for children and selections from the Small Catechism to say and memorize.



*Luther's Small Catechism for Kids* was also released this year, and this book is for kids seven to eleven years of age. As you'd expect, it has all six chief parts of Luther's Catechism, along with select questions and answers and Bible verses from the catechism that seventh and eighth grade children typically use in Confirmation classes.

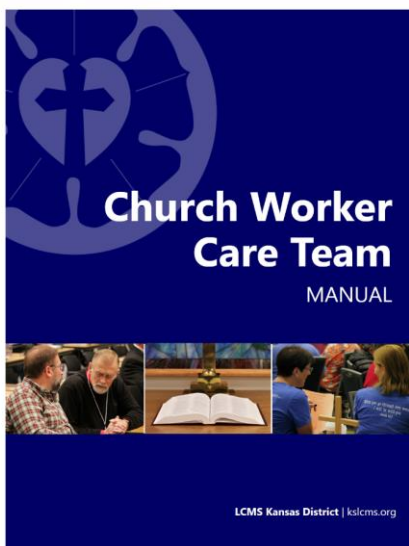
But you'll find more in this book! Each section includes the following:

- 1) Main Focus--a short sentence summarizing that section.
- 2) Bible Illustrations, with a portion of Scripture to read, and questions to discuss.
- 3) Faith Connections, which help apply the topic to daily life.
- 4) Think and Share, which provides more suggestions for discussion.
- 5) A hymn stanza to sing, a short Bible verse to memorize, and a prayer.

This book is also beautifully illustrated, with full color pictures. Your elementary-aged children will enjoy this catechism, especially when parents take the time to read it with them and teach the faith in the home.

## Caring Ministry

### NEW! Church Worker Care Team Manual



**The Kansas District has a new resource to support church worker wellness: The Church Worker Care Team (CWCT) Manual.**

The manual, produced by the Kansas District Church Worker Care Committee, encourages congregations to establish a local Church Worker Care Team and provides practical steps and resources for getting started.

You can find a digital copy of the manual, along with other wellness resources, on the [CWCT webpage](#).

**Pastors and congregational presidents will be receiving print copies of the manual in October.** We encourage you to take some time to explore the resources available, both in the manual and on the CWCT webpage, and prayerfully consider starting a CWCT in your congregation.



## Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) News

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

### COMING EVENTS

#### CHAINSAW SAFETY AND OPERATION 101

**NOTE CHANGE: We are removing the Clean-up Response from this event.**



Chainsaw Training event:

- Where: Kansas District Retreat Center, Herington, KS
- When: Oct. 15-16, 2021; Friday: 7-8:30 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
  - Participants must have completed Basic LERT Training prior to attending Chainsaw Training.
- Registration Fee: \$25. Facilitated by Kansas District Advanced Chainsaw Training Team.
- Deadline for Registration: October 8, 2021 (Class size is limited to 10 people.)
- Participants will begin the classroom segment of the chainsaw training on Friday evening and Saturday morning, with the field work on Saturday afternoon. Limited housing will be available at the Retreat Center (\$25) on a first-come, first-served basis for those who would like to stay overnight on Friday night. Please contact Donna Williams if you wish to reserve a room at the Retreat Center. There are also camping sites at Herington Lake adjacent to the Retreat Center Property. Additional housing will be available at the Herington Inn & Suites.

Please see the [Kansas District webpage](#) for registration details. Online registration will be done through the new LCMS-LERT website on the [event page](#). Please contact Donna Williams with questions.

#### SAVE THE DATE – TRAIN THE TRAINER

Dec. 4, 2021; 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the District Office, Topeka, KS

The Train the Trainer course is offered to established and active LERT volunteers who wish to become part of the LERT training team in the Kansas District. Participants will be given a comprehensive overview of the LERT training materials as well as topics such as assessments and setting up a command center.

As we have made a commitment to continue the growth of LERT teams in the Kansas District, it is imperative that we grow our training teams as well. Our **NE Training Team** has been doing a fantastic job of covering all our state-wide training events since LERT came into being in the Kansas District. It is time to grow the training capabilities in order to cover more area and open more training dates for congregations that would like to establish teams. Watch the Kansas District LERT webpage and LERT Facebook pages for details. Questions? Contact Donna Williams.

#### HURRICANE IDA RESTORATION

##### LCMS Southern District

**Website Link:** <http://www.southernlcms.org/disaster-response/>

100% of gifts received via the Southern District website is distributed to congregations, schools, and professional church workers.

From Disaster Response Coordinator, Pastor **Ed Brashier**: The Hurricane Ida response will use the NEW LCMS Volunteer Registration program. Go to [lcms-lert.org](http://lcms-lert.org) and create a profile, then "Fan" the Southern District. For safety's sake, this program requires a background check for all volunteers. This is an "extra mile" measure to protect the homeowners, congregations, and volunteers from those who might be there for the wrong reasons. [Click here](#) for a direct link to the Hurricane Ida LERT Volunteer page.

Grace and Peace,  
Donna Williams  
Isaiah 6:8

# Business Office

## Constructing an Estate Plan: What's in Your Toolbox?

For those who are handy, a new project around the house is always an excuse to purchase a new tool for the garage collection. While that might be a bit of an obsession, there is deep truth in understanding that to do a home improvement project correctly, you must have the right tool. The project will go more smoothly, and the craftsmanship of the result will be far higher, if the right tool is used.



One of the biggest "projects" the Lord gives us with money is planning how to distribute our estates when the Lord calls us home. A will or trust might get the job done. A charitable trust or personal endowment might be required. For flexibility, maybe the choice is a donor-advised fund.

**Which is the right tool?** We don't use wrenches to pound a nail and don't cut tile with a wood saw. Knowing what you are trying to accomplish, you grab the right tool and, in the end, have something beautiful. The same thing is true about using the right gift planning tools in creating your gift from your estate. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Advocate can help you get started in constructing your plan. Contact Dan Galchutt at [dangalchutt@kslcms.org](mailto:dangalchutt@kslcms.org), Jeff Maltz at [jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org](mailto:jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org) or Heather Williams at [heather@kslcms.org](mailto:heather@kslcms.org).

## In November: CPS Open Enrollment



**CONCORDIA PLANS**

Open enrollment for 2022 benefits with Concordia Plan Services is November 1 through November 19. Workers can enroll in a 403(b) retirement savings plan, supplemental life insurance, and health, dental and vision benefits. Benefit enrollment for workers will continue to take place within their personalized portals at [ConcordiaPlans.org](https://ConcordiaPlans.org). **Be on the lookout for Open Enrollment information from Concordia Plan Services in early October.**

Open enrollment is also a great time to check dependent information and update beneficiaries. Concordia Plan Services also encourages members to log in to their portals regularly to access new and important benefit solutions and to take advantage of useful retirement calculators.

**Remember, the deadline for open enrollment for 2022 benefits is Friday, November 19!**

## Lutheran Witness Billings

Billing statements for 2021-2022 *Lutheran Witness* subscriptions will be mailed to all subscribing congregations the week of October 11. Be sure to watch your mail for the statements! **Payment is due by December 31, 2021.** Include a [remittance voucher](#) with payment, noting the check is for *Lutheran Witness* subscriptions. Make checks payable to the LCMS Kansas District and send to:



LCMS Kansas District  
Attn: Shannon Fender  
1000 SW 10th Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66604-1104

\*No additional additions or cancellations will be taken for this subscription year. You can, however, still make address changes. If you need to update an address on your subscription list, please contact Shannon Fender at 785-357-4441, ext. 1001 or [shannon@kslcms.org](mailto:shannon@kslcms.org) for a change form.

## A Note from Your DVP



# Lutheran Church Extension Fund

> where investments build ministry

Dear Kansas District Members,

Is your church or school in need of repairs or upgrades? If so, we have great solutions.

**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 for:

- 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.
- Projects that improve energy efficiency and save money in the long term.

**The School SMART Loan** is designed to meet the short-term financial needs of LCMS elementary, middle, and high school associations and related recognized service organizations (RSOs).

LCEF's SMART Loan is ideal for:

- S – Security upgrades and system enhancements, including energy efficiency projects,
- M – Maintenance and other facility upgrades, including playground equipment.
- A – Academic resources for classroom use.
- R – Repairs for both the building and fleet (can also be used for vehicle purchases).
- T – Technology needs and equipment leases, purchases, and upgrades.

### Benefits & Features

- Loan structured up to 10 years, depending on needs
- Up to \$150,000
- **0%** interest for first 12 months
- Interest for second 12 months determined using LCEF's [Cost of Funds \(PDF\)](#), adjusted annually
- Interest for remaining term of loan determined using LCEF's [Cost of Funds \(PDF\)](#) plus up to 2.5%, adjusted annually
- Low closing fees and no prepayment penalties

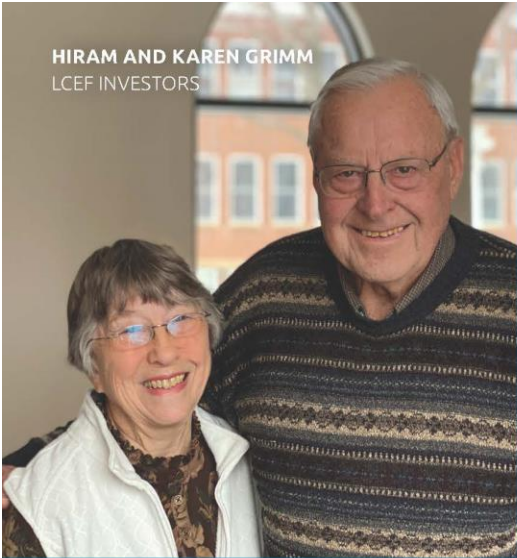
Blessings,

Jeffrey Maltz  
[jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org](mailto:jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org)  
785-230-4112  
[www.lcef.org](http://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.



HIRAM AND KAREN GRIMM  
LCEF INVESTORS



 **Lutheran Church Extension Fund**  
> where investments build ministry

## WHEN YOUR INVESTMENTS DO MORE

Earn a **competitive rate** by opening a Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) PartnerPLUS\* term note – an investment perfect for individuals, congregations, organizations and Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs).

“We keep all of our savings at LCEF ... they are very friendly, give a good return, but the best part of the whole thing is sharing those funds with other churches and schools.”

— HIRAM AND KAREN GRIMM | LCEF INVESTORS

**READY TO JOIN 60,000 LCEF INVESTORS WHO SHARE  
YOUR LOVE FOR THE CHURCH?**

**CALL 800-843-5233 OR VISIT [LCEF.ORG/TERM-NOTE](http://LCEF.ORG/TERM-NOTE).**

**JEFFREY MALTZ**

LCEF District Vice President | Kansas and Oklahoma  
785-230-4112 | [Jeffrey.Maltz@lcef.org](mailto:Jeffrey.Maltz@lcef.org)

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## Around the District

### Installations



**Pastor Kurt Cockran** was installed September 12 as associate pastor at Risen Savior, Basehor. From left, President Justin Panzer, Pastor Chris Craig, Pastor Cockran, Rev. Dan Galchutt, and Pastor Robert Weinkauf.



**Pastor Kent Peck** was installed as pastor of Peace, Beaver (OK) September 19. From left, Pastor Michael Hageman, Pastor Peck, President Justin Panzer, Pastor Stan Palmer, and Pastor Andrew Wehling.

## Retirement Celebration in Emporia



Director of Christian Education **Elaine Whiteneck** (Messiah, Emporia) retired following 40 years of ministry September 26. She served two years in the District as a youth staffer followed by 17 years at St. John, Ellinwood, and 21 years at Messiah.

Well done, good and faithful servant!

## THIS MONTH: Reformation Events

### Manhattan Circuit Reformation Service & Presentation

**Sunday, October 24 | 2-4:30 p.m.**

**Rev. Dr. Lucas V. Woodford, President, LCMS Minnesota South District  
Mt. Calvary, Wamego** -----



**NOTE NEW  
LOCATION!**

- 2 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion (Rev. Dr. Woodford, Preacher)
- 3 p.m. Break/Refreshments
- 3:30 p.m. Presentation (Rev. Dr. Woodford): "What ethic do confessional Lutherans have to offer a conversation and culture wrapped up in endless dialogues and demands for social justice?"

Questions? Circuit Visitor Rev. Larry Boye, [larryboye@hotmail.com](mailto:larryboye@hotmail.com)

### Prof Insights: Faculty-Led Workshop Series

***The Life of Luther***

**Saturday, October 30 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**Dr. Timothy Dost, Professor of Historical Theology at Concordia Seminary  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Salina**

Workshop Description: Dr. Timothy Dost will lead us through the life of Martin Luther from before the Reformation all the way through the peasant revolt. Our study will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m. with a lunch served in between the morning and afternoon sessions.

For more information and to register: Contact Rev. Dennis Kootz, Associate Pastor, Trinity, Salina at [pastordennis.kootz@gmail.com](mailto:pastordennis.kootz@gmail.com) or 785-823-7151. **Please let us know that you are coming. Space is limited, and it helps to know how much food to prepare.**

### Circuit Reformation Festival (Wichita)

**Sunday, October 31 | 4-7:30 p.m.**

**Rev. Dr. Scott Stiegemeyer, Assistant Professor of Theology, Concordia University Irvine  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Wichita**

- 4 p.m. Divine Service (Dr. Stiegemeyer preaching)
- 5:30 p.m. Banquet
- 6:15 p.m. Lecture, Rev. Scott Stiegemeyer
- 7:30 p.m. Closing Prayer

Banquet tickets are \$15/meal; children 10 and under eat free. Childcare is provided during the banquet lecture. The offering supports the *Joint Seminary Fund*. **RSVP to Trinity by October 25:** 316-685-1571 or [office@tlc.kscoxmail.com](mailto:office@tlc.kscoxmail.com). Please pay at the door. Clergy wishing to participate are to contact Rev. Dr. Geoff Boyle ([pastor.boyle@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.boyle@gmail.com)).

Questions? [office@tlc.kscoxmail.com](mailto:office@tlc.kscoxmail.com)

# District Office Directory

## President's Office

- Rev. Justin Panzer, President: [kspres@kslcms.org](mailto:kspres@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 5001
- Tami Lierz, Administrative Assistant: [tami@kslcms.org](mailto:tami@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 5001

## Missions & Stewardship

- Rev. Dan Galchutt, Assistant to the President for Missions & Stewardship: [dangalchutt@kslcms.org](mailto:dangalchutt@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 2002
- Janet Powell, Administrative Assistant (Missions): [janet@kslcms.org](mailto:janet@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 2001
- Shannon Fender, Administrative Assistant (Stewardship): [shannon@kslcms.org](mailto:shannon@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 1001

## Education & Youth

- Jim Bradshaw, Assistant to the President for Education and Youth: [jbradshaw@kslcms.org](mailto:jbradshaw@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 3002
- Tami Lierz, Administrative Assistant (calls; rosters/stats; events): [tami@kslcms.org](mailto:tami@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 5001
- Janet Powell, Administrative Assistant (general school support): [janet@kslcms.org](mailto:janet@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 2001

## Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF)

- Jeffrey Maltz, LCEF Vice President, Kansas/Oklahoma: [jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org](mailto:jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 4002

## Business Office

- Heather Williams, Business Manager: [heather@kslcms.org](mailto:heather@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 1002
- Shannon Fender, Administrative Assistant: [shannon@kslcms.org](mailto:shannon@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 1001

## Communications

- Kris Bruss, Communications Specialist, [kbruss@kslcms.org](mailto:kbruss@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 6001

## Retreat Center Reservations

- Shannon Fender, Administrative Assistant: [shannon@kslcms.org](mailto:shannon@kslcms.org), 785-357-4441, ext. 1001

## District Archives

- Mike Grau: [archives@kslcms.org](mailto:archives@kslcms.org)

