



/ MAY 2023

DISTRICT NEWS

KANSAS

CHRIST AT WORK in Guinea, West Africa

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” **MATT. 28:19-20A**



One of the triennial aims of the LCMS Kansas District is “Engaging in Christ’s Mission.” How do we do this as the royal priests of Christ? Remember, we are His baptized who have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light. The crucified and risen Savior changes us. To that end, the royal priesthood has been given a charge to show God’s love to others, to help our neighbor in need, and to share the Good News.



Rev. Justin Panzer
District President

Since 1997, the LCMS Kansas District has been supporting the work of the church in Guinea, West Africa. Since then, this has expanded into the Francophone regions. This has all been because of your generosity. These have been dollars well spent in support of missionaries, seminary students, theological education, medical supplies, human care needs, and physical structures.

2023 marks our 26th year in partnership with this mission. God be praised! Abundant fruit has been borne through the work of the Holy Spirit. Lutheran pastors are being raised up. Lutheran churches are being planted. The doc-

trine of justification by grace through faith for Christ’s sake is being taught and proclaimed. God is growing and strengthening His Church!

Training and pastoral leaders are greatly needed for the church in West Africa. We still have the opportunity to participate and prepare workers for God’s harvest after all these years. I encourage you all to prayerfully consider supporting God’s mission in West Africa with a contribution to the Kansas District Pentecost Offering in May, which is our major fundraiser for international missions. Every gift helps!

You can also help with prayers. Pray for all the mission work going on in West

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LCMS missionaries Revs. Tim Heiney and Gary Schulte (from left, in back) are pictured with the pastors at the Lutheran church in Guéckédou, Guinea.

MESSAGE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Africa. Pray for the safety and well-being of our missionaries, students, and their families. And pray that the Lord of the harvest would continue to bless this effort and send out laborers into His harvest field!

You can find out details for how to give at our Guinea/West Africa page on the Kansas District website, kslcms.org/guinea-westafrica.

WE PRAY: Lord of the harvest, You invite us to ask You to send workers into the harvest field according to Your gracious will. Grant pastors, O Lord, not only for our congregations in Kansas, but also for the people of Guinea who are made faithful through the study of Your Word. Give us generous hearts to support the work. And bless Your servants to proclaim Your excellencies to those near and far, that Your kingdom be extended and Your name glorified; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIELD



The Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET) Guinea students at the end of the academic year.

- In October 2022, six parcels of land were purchased for the future construction and home of the CLET-Guinea seminary.
- In May 2022, five students successfully completed the academic cycle of basic theological formation.
- Six villages and over 1,000 people were served in the Guékédou and N'zérékoré regions through improvement of drinking wells and construction of latrines.



Stephanie Schulte, LCMS missionary to West and Central Africa along with her husband, Rev. Gary Schulte, is pictured with the women from the Community Health Evangelism (CHE) training class.

HOW TO HELP

- **PRAY** that God will continue to provide strength and guidance for the Guinea and West Africa students, pastors, families, missionaries and church planters, and may He abundantly bless their efforts.
- **VISIT** our Guinea/West Africa homepage at kslcms.org/guinea-westafrica to make an online donation and find additional photos and videos.



- **GIVE** financial support through the Kansas District Pentecost Offering. Your gift could help with the ongoing operational costs of the seminary, as well as provide resources and scholarships for the CLET-Guinea students.

HOW TO GIVE TO THE PENTECOST OFFERING:

1. At your church on Pentecost Sunday.
2. Send a check to:
LCMS Kansas District
1000 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66604
(write "Pentecost Offering" in the memo line)
3. Donate online at kslcms.org/donate.



Scan this QR code for quick access to the donate page.



▲ **Rev. Nick Cordt** was installed as pastor of **Bethany, Wichita**, on March 12. From left, Revs. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer, Michael Schotte, Dean Von Stroh, Justin Panzer, Tim Meyer, Keith Kohlmeier, Matthew Schultz, Terry Wiechman, Mark Lovett, Tom Johnson, Nick Cordt, Tom Thierfelder, Dan Metzger, Dean Christ, Tom Harmon, John Einem, Rocky Mease, David Herald, Dan Myers, Cliff Winter and Aaron Hannemann.

► **Rev. CJ Luttinen** was installed as lead pastor of **Risen Savior, Wichita**, on March 26. From left: Revs. Rocky Mease, Matthew Schultz, Nick Cordt, Dan Myers, Aaron Hannemann, Dean Von Stroh, Scott Snow, CJ Luttinen, Terry Wiechman, Dr. Michael Bingenheimer, David Ersland, Keith Kohlmeier, Mark Lovett, Tom Harmon, Cliff Winter and Justin Panzer.



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

The Kansas District is offering scholarships to students at a Synod university or seminary pursuing a degree in church work. Scholarship amounts are based on available funds and the number of applications received. The application deadline for 2023-24 scholarships is June 1.

Applications are available at kslcms.org. Go to "Stewardship" and select "Grants and Scholarships." Also included are links to other organizations offering scholarships, such as the Kansas District LWML, Lutheran Laymen's League and St. John's Alumni Association.



COMING SOON!



The **2023 Saints Alive After 55** event will be held July 16-17 at Christ the King, Salina. The theme will be "I Love to Tell the Story – Leaving a Faith Legacy – What Will I Leave Behind."

The keynote presenter will be Dr. Mary Manz Simon, early childhood educator and author; and the Bible study leader will be Rev. Mark Boxman, senior pastor of Trinity, Salina.

Visit kslcms.org to register and find a schedule (link is on the homepage).

Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR) summer camp will be held June 4-9 at LVR in Woodland Park, Colo. Visit kslcms.org/lvr for all the details. Questions? Contact DCE Beth Stephens (Trinity, Mission/Shawnee) at beth@tlcms.org.

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, will hold a **continuing education class** June 15-17 at Redeemer, Lawrence. Rev. Dr. Jon Bruss, CTSFW associate professor of systematic theology will teach on "The Seven Ecumenical Councils" and why they still matter to us today.

Visit ctsfw.edu/ce to register and for updates on this class.

AROUND KANSAS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Executive to the District President for Congregational and School Services

The LCMS Kansas District is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Executive to the District President for Congregational and School Services. Applicants shall be on the ordained clergy roster of Synod, having had a minimum of five years' experience (10 preferred) in professional church work; a major portion of this experience having been in the parish.

Preferred candidates have been a pastor in a congregation with a school. Knowledge, skills and abilities required shall be determined at the time of call. The man called to this position shall be required to enroll in the School Leadership Development Project (SLED) over two summers if he does not have a school background.

Nominations must be submitted by June 9. The position description, as well as nominations forms are available at kslcms.org/presidents-office/call-for-nominations. Nomination forms should be returned to the Office of the District President at officeofpresident@kslcms.org.

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE FAIR!

The Kansas District Lutheran Laymen's League/Lutheran Hour Ministries will sponsor a booth at the Kansas State Fair Sept. 8-17 in the Meadowlark Building. There will also be a worship service at the People's Bank and Trust Arena at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 10. Volunteers are needed

to help out at the booth sharing Christian materials including Bibles, *Portals of Prayer, My Devotions*, LHM resources, and gifts for children.

Contact Mike Tonn at 316-640-3918 or tonn.mike@yahoo.com if you and your congregation can provide Christian materials and/or serve as booth volunteers.

SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US!



Send photos and stories to:

- ▶ jackie@kslcms.org
- ▶ 1000 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66604

The deadline for the **August** issue is **June 15**.

Photos should be high-resolution with a minimum 300 dpi.

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ONE-YEAR FIXED-RATE TERM NOTE

Lutherans Helping Lutherans

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) has served as the financial extension of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) since 1978, offering funding and resources in support of the church. Our investors make it possible for us to provide customized loans and support services to new and growing ministries as well as loans for Rostered Church Workers who dedicate their lives to sharing the Gospel.

This limited-time offer is available for
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod:

✓ INDIVIDUALS ✓ CONGREGATIONS ✓ ORGANIZATIONS



Lutheran Church Extension Fund
› where investments build ministry

The choice is up to you. LCEF offers a variety of term notes from 1 to 5 years.

At the end of the term, the funds remain yours to re-invest or redeem. Interest is compounded quarterly (March, June, September and December).

JEFFREY MALTZ

LCEF District Vice President | Kansas and Oklahoma
785-230-4112 | Jeffrey.Maltz@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. Rates as of December 2022. Balance restrictions apply. Rates subject to change. Visit lcef.org for details.