



# WORKERS TOGETHER

MAY 2024

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



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## Christ at Work in Guinea/West Africa

Construction began in April 2023 on the two main seminary buildings in Guinea. Progress continues on the two structures. For the 2023-2024 academic year, the current group of students and supervisors remains in the existing church facility while construction is completed. Classes began in September 2023.

An abundance of mission work is taking place in Guinea and West Africa, and there is still much to be done! Please consider participating in this year's Pentecost Offering, and supporting the great work being accomplished.

*More information about the 2024 Pentecost Offering is found on pages 2 and 11.*

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# PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

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Rev. Justin Panzer | District President



**“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.” (1 Peter 2:9)**

**“Engaging in Christ’s Mission”** is one of our triennial aims. How do the baptized, royal priests of Christ accomplish this work both here and abroad? We have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light. The crucified and risen Savior changes us. 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.

Since 1997, the LCMS Kansas District has been supporting the work of the church abroad in Guinea, West Africa. Since then, this has expanded into the Francophone regions. Your generosity has been used in support of missionaries, seminary students, theological education, medical supplies, human care needs, and physical structures.

This is our 27th year in partnership with this mission. **Soli Deo Gloria!** Last year, around \$25,000 was received from the

2023 Pentecost Offering. Another \$25,000 designated for West Africa was included, totaling \$50,000 that was sent from the Kansas District. These gifts will be used to continue supporting

**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!

the Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET) Guinea seminary, as well as the provision of Lutheran education and resources to the people of Guinea and West Africa. Construction on the seminary building will be

finished soon. The Word is being preached and the Sacraments rightly administered. **God is growing and strengthening His Church!**

We continue this partnership of preparing workers for God’s harvest after all these years. I encourage you to prayerfully consider supporting God’s mission in West Africa with a contribution to the upcoming Kansas District Pentecost Offering in May, which is our major fundraiser for international missions. Every gift helps as we steward what God has entrusted to our care!

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

**Pentecost  
Sunday  
May 19, 2024**

- ◆ Donate online on the West Africa/Guinea page: <https://kslcms.org/guinea-westafrica>
- ◆ Contribute during your church’s offering on Pentecost Sunday
- ◆ Mail a check with “Pentecost Offering” in the memo line to the LCMS Kansas District (1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604-1104)



# PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

## Out and About in Kansas

### President Panzer's May Travel Schedule

- May 2-3** Board of Directors (*District Office, Topeka*)
- May 7** Alliance for Defending Freedom (ADF) (*Webinar*)
- May 19** Oklahoma District 100th Anniversary (*St. John's Lutheran, Okarche, Okla.*)
- May 26** Preaching at Redeemer (*Lawrence*)

## District Convention Mailing in May

### Congregations and Church Workers:

Be on the lookout for a mailing coming later this month from the Kansas District Office containing information about the 2025 District Convention, which will be held June 5-6, 2025, at the Tony's Pizza Event Center (TPEC) in Salina. The theme for the 2025 Convention will be **"Abiding in the Word"** based on John 8:31-32.

The mailing will contain a cover letter listing important dates and instructions for Call for Nominations, Delegate Reporting, Nominee Acceptance and Biography/Profiles, District Reports, and Overtures. The mailing will also contain the assessment for each individual Kansas District congregation.

Please note, new for this Convention, forms are digital, fillable PDFs found on the 2025

District Convention page on the District website at [kslcms.org/2025-convention](https://kslcms.org/2025-convention).

Please fill out the forms online, download and email to the District Convention email, [ksdconvention@kslcms.org](mailto:ksdconvention@kslcms.org). If you have convention-related questions, please also use this email address.

### Upcoming Convention Dates

- ♦ **November 30, 2024:** All nomination and delegate forms are due to the Kansas District Secretary. Timely submission will facilitate nominee acceptance and floor committee selection.
- ♦ **April 4-5, 2025:** Floor committees will meet to discuss assigned overtures.



**Rev. Sean Baker** was installed as senior pastor of Bethany, Overland Park, on April 14. From left, (front row) Revs. Scott Goltl, Sean Baker, associate pastoral candidate Matthew Goltl, Justin Panzer; (middle row) Revs. Lee Hovel, Andy Keltner, Dr. Edward Kettner, Luke Jacob, Joel Schultz; (back row) Revs. Scott Holder, Thomas Krause, Thomas Harries and Philip Cook.



**Rev. Timothy Wilcoxon** was installed as pastor of Trinity, Burlington, on April 28. From left, (front row) Revs. Timothy Booth, Justin Panzer, Timothy Wilcoxon, James Kirschenmann, Peter Bertram; (back row) Revs. Timothy Roth, Joshua Woelmer and Norbert Tegtmeier.

# CALLS & VACANCIES

## PASTORAL CALLS

- Rev. Christopher Beck**, Faith, Bloomington, IN to St. Paul, Clay Center (associate) – **declined**
- Rev. Nathanael Biberdorf**, Zion, Claire City, SD & Zion, Browns Valley, MN to Trinity, Medicine Lodge & St. John, Nashville – **declined**
- Rev. Michael Boothby**, St. John and St. Paul, Ireton, IA to Bethlehem, Greenleaf & St. Peter's, Barnes – **declined**
- Rev. Philip Cook**, Trinity, Mission and Shawnee to Executive Director of LUMA – **accepted**
- Rev. Keith Emshoff**, St. Paul's, Ellsworth to Holy Trinity, Grandview, MO – **pending**
- Rev. Keith Emshoff**, St. Paul's, Ellsworth to Our Savior, Newton, IA – **pending**
- Rev. Nathan Henschen**, Bancroft, NE to Trinity, Medicine Lodge & St. John, Nashville – **declined**
- Rev. Eddie Hosch**, Messiah, Emporia to Emmanuel, Maui, HI – **pending**
- Rev. Randy Jahnke**, Holy Cross, Dodge City to Bethlehem, Greenleaf & St. Peter's, Barnes – **pending**
- Rev. Evandro Kopper**, St. Paul's, California, MO to St. Andrews, Wichita – **declined**
- Rev. John Young**, Our Savior, Fishkill, NY to Messiah, Hays – **declined**

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

- Basehor, Risen Savior (associate)
- Clay Center, St. Paul (associate)
- Greenleaf, Bethlehem & St. Peter's, Barnes (sole)
- Hays, Messiah (sole)
- Leavenworth, St. Paul (associate)
- Medicine Lodge, Trinity & St. John, Nashville (sole)
- Wichita, Ascension (associate)
- Wichita, St. Andrews (sole)

## COMMISSIONED MINISTER CALLS

- Principal David Birnbaum, First, Ponca City, OK to Trinity, Atchison – **accepted**
- DCE Hannah Hayden, Redeemer, Republic, MO to Fairmount Ministries – **declined**
- Nancy Jankowski, Hope, Shawnee to Immanuel, Brandon, FL – **declined**
- Deaconess Candidate Ashley Nelson (CSL) to Leavenworth, St. Paul – **pending**
- Principal Eric Pralle, Zion, Independence to First, Ponca City, OK – **pending**

## CONGREGATIONS CALLING A COMMISSIONED MINISTER

- Emporia, Messiah (DCE intern)
- Garden City, Trinity (Deaconess)
- Fairmount Ministries (Commissioned Minister)
- Independence, Zion (EC Teacher)
- Leavenworth, St. Paul (Teacher)
- Overland Park, Bethany (Teacher)

## PENDING ORDINATIONS / INSTALLATIONS

- Candidate Trey Doak (CLTS, St. Catharines, Canada) to Immanuel, Hoxie & Immanuel, Oakley (sole) – **ordination / installation pending**
- Candidate Matthew Goltl (CSL) to Risen Savior, Wichita (associate) – **ordination / installation Sunday, June 23, 2024**
- Candidate Joseph Goodroad (CTSF) to Grace, Iola (sole) – **ordination / installation pending**
- SMP Vicar Frank Johnson to Zion, Hillsboro – **ordination / installation Sunday, July 14, 2024**
- Candidate John Kastner (CTSF) to Beautiful Savior, Olathe (associate) – **ordination / installation pending**
- SMP Vicar Jeff Lane to Faith, Topeka – **ordination / installation Sunday, August 11, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.**
- Rev. Anthony Masinelli, Grace, Sandy, UT to St. Paul's, Cheney – **accepted, installation pending**
- Rev. Jacob Mueller, Holy Cross, Emma, MO to Hope, Shawnee – **accepted, installation Sunday, June 2, 2024, at 2:30 p.m.**
- Candidate Nathan Nelson (CSL) to Trinity, Leavenworth (associate) – **ordination / installation pending**
- Rev. Sherman Stenson, Austin, TX to Zion, Downs – **accepted, installation pending**
- Candidate Christopher Warneke (CTSF) to Redeemer, Arkansas City (sole) & Trinity, Winfield (assisting capacity) – **ordination / installation Sunday, July 7, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.**

## MAY PRAYER REQUESTS

### Those grieving the loss of loved ones

- ◆ **Family and friends of Rev. Richard Boyer**, emeritus pastor of Faith, Derby. Rev. Boyer entered his heavenly rest April 17, 2024.
- ◆ **Family and friends of Barbara Kjergaard**, sister of Arleata Harmon. Barbara entered her heavenly rest April 6, 2024.
- ◆ **Family and friends of Rev. Gene Holtorf**, emeritus pastor of St. John, Palmer. Rev. Holtorf entered his heavenly rest April 2, 2024.

### Those experiencing recent / ongoing health issues

- ◆ **Kevin Adams**
- ◆ **Rev. Richard Andrus**
- ◆ **Gideon Franson**
- ◆ **Rev. Robert Grimm**
- ◆ **Cindy Hammons**
- ◆ **Rev. David Kahle**
- ◆ **Melody Maki**
- ◆ **Judy May**
- ◆ **Rev. Jim Mayes**
- ◆ **Carrie Meyers**
- ◆ **Rev. Dr. John Wille (South Wisconsin District President)**

### Those celebrating the gift of new life

- ◆ **Rachel and Adam Goodpasture** (son Caleb Mark, April 26).
- ◆ **Rev. Ian and Hannah Kinney** (daughter Seraphina Anne, April 24).
- ◆ **Rev. Sean and Molly Baker** (daughter Lucy Joy, April 15).
- ◆ **Rev. Kevin and Alicia DeHope** (son Benjamin Carlton, March 28).
- ◆ **Rev. Joseph and Amanda Barlau** (daughter Lydia Joan, March 14).

## Congregations / Schools Facebook Prayer List

- ◆ St. Peter's Lutheran, Humboldt – **May 6**
- ◆ Prince of Peace Lutheran and Preschool, Topeka – **May 13**
- ◆ St. John Lutheran, Palmer – **May 20**
- ◆ Mt. Calvary Lutheran, Wamego – **May 28**



# WELCOME TO KANSAS!



**Trey Doak (CLTS, St. Catharines, Canada)** is the pastoral candidate to Immanuel, Hoxie, & Immanuel, Oakley.



**Carolyn Ferguson (CTSFW)** is the deaconess intern to Immanuel, Wichita.



**Joseph Goodroad (CTSFW)** is the pastoral candidate to Grace, Iola. He is pictured with his wife, Olivia, and their son.



**John Kastner (CTSFW)** is the associate pastoral candidate to Beautiful Savior, Olathe. He is pictured with his wife, Beatrice, and their children.



**Christopher Warneke (CTSFW)** is the pastoral candidate to Redeemer, Arkansas City, and assisting capacity pastoral candidate to Trinity, Winfield. He is pictured with his wife, Sarah.



**Josiah Sandcork (CSL)** is the vicar assigned to Beautiful Savior, Olathe.

2024 Call Day services were held at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW), Ind., and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL) in late April.

The Kansas District was blessed to receive **six pastoral candidates, one deaconess, two vicars, and two deaconess interns.**

## Kansas Candidates serving in other Districts

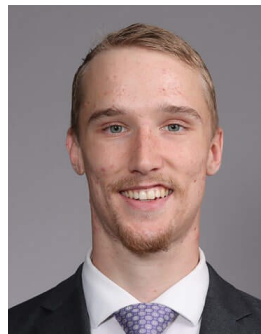
**Jonah Schultz (CSL)** from the Kansas District (Bethany, Overland Park) assigned to Salem, Jacksonville, IL (*pastoral candidate*)

**Josiah Schultz (CSL)** from the Kansas District (Beautiful Savior, Olathe) assigned to St. John, Keystone, IA (*pastoral candidate*)

**Caleb Wehling (CSL)** from the Kansas District (Grace, Liberal) assigned to Our Savior, Norfolk, NE (*associate pastoral candidate*)



**Matthew Golti (CSL)** is the associate pastoral candidate to Risen Savior, Wichita (*Matthew is from Ascension, Wichita.*)



**Jacob Harding (CSL)** is the vicar assigned to Zion, Linn.



**Lara McComack (CSL)** is the deaconess intern assigned to Calvary, Topeka.



**Ashley Nelson (CSL)** is the deaconess candidate to St. Paul, Leavenworth (*Ashley is from Christ the King, Salina.*)



**Nathan Nelson (CSL)** is the associate pastoral candidate to Trinity, Leavenworth.

# MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP



Campus Ministry



Planned Giving



Evangelism / Outreach



Grants and Scholarships



**Rev. Mark Boxman**

Campus Ministry Coordinator  
Senior Pastor at Trinity, Salina

**Wow!** Young adults have such curiosity! They think. They have questions. They love to learn. They want to know what God has to say about all kinds of topics. They want their

## Ministry to College Students

mind and worldview to be shaped not by godless philosophy, but by a true and genuine fear of the Lord, and trust and love in His redeeming grace. Their enthusiasm for learning is exhilarating!

We thank the Lord for every campus ministry throughout Kansas! Young people gather every week with a competent teacher for in-depth study of the Christ-centered Word of God. Thank you, Lord!

**High school seniors** are getting excited about graduation

and plans for the fall. As opportunity arises, be engaged in those plans and work with these beloved children of God on a plan to be fed and strengthened in the true faith during this next step in their life's journey.



**We Pray:** Dear Father in heaven, You have entrusted to us the care of children. As our young people transition into adulthood and develop their own habits, instill in them the strong desire to remain connected to a faithful, Christ-centered church that they may be strengthened and preserved in the true faith unto life everlasting. Lord, have mercy. Amen.



## Jesus Door-2-Door

On April 13, **49 people** from five different LCMS congregations gathered at Hope Lutheran Church in Shawnee for a Jesus Door-2-Door (JD2D) event.

After canvassing training, participants divided into 10 teams to canvass the neighborhood. The teams knocked on 212 doors. 78 people

answered the door, and 49 took the survey.

13 people (26%) were unchurched. 16 (33%) were unfamiliar with Hope Lutheran Church and School. When asked, "Where do you believe you will go when you die?" 40 people responded with "Heaven," but only 26 were sure it was because of what

Jesus Christ did for them.

The Gospel was shared with 47 people, and one individual requested a follow-up visit!

If you would like your congregation to host a JD2D event, please reach out to **Rev. Timothy Koch**, [revtimkoch@gmail.com](mailto:revtimkoch@gmail.com).



## KANSAS DISTRICT MISSION ADVOCATES

**Revs. Joel Hiesterman, David Gruoner and Dean Christ** (pictured above left to right, with President Panzer) are available to give presentations at Mission Festivals and/or Mission Sundays about the mission work being accomplished in the Kansas District, as well as the work in Guinea and West Africa.

Congregations interested in having a Mission Advocate give a presentation should contact **Janet Powell** at the District Office, [janet@kslcms.org](mailto:janet@kslcms.org) or 785-357-4441, ext. 2001.



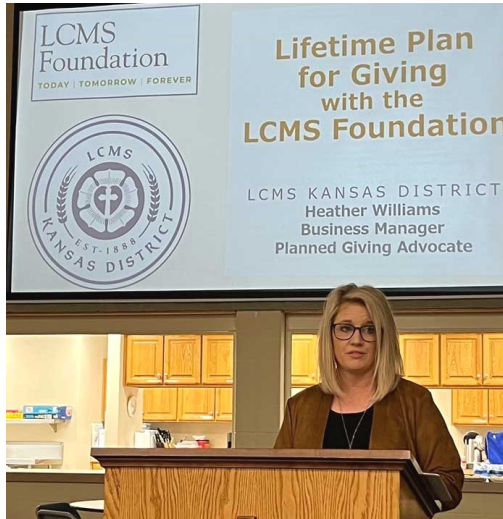
# MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

## Out and About in Kansas

### Rev. Daniel Grams' May Travel Schedule

- May 14** **Circuit 7 Winkel** (*Bethlehem Lutheran, Greenleaf*)  
**Linn Lutheran School visit** (*Linn*)
- May 19** **Preaching at Redeemer** (*Lawrence*)
- May 21** **Circuit 3N/3S Winkel** (*First Lutheran, Paola*)

## Planned Giving: Creating Your Legacy



**Heather Williams**, Kansas District Business Manager, shares a Planned Giving presentation at the Older Adult Ministry event at Messiah, Hays, in August 2023.

A good gift plan within one's estate plan can help manage taxation. For an extended period, Federal Estate Taxation exemptions (*how much is exempt*

from Federal Estate Tax) have been high. In 2024 it is set at \$13.6 million per person, or \$27.2 million per couple. For most of us that is not a concern. However, some states have estate or inheritance taxes. In addition, retirement plans like annuities, IRAs' or 401(K)'s can be loaded with income tax liability. If you are planning on making a charitable gift to your favorite ministry from your estate, you want to make sure you use the right asset to reduce this liability.

If you would like your congregation to learn more about gift planning, please call 785-357-4441 or email [heather@kslcms.org](mailto:heather@kslcms.org) to schedule a Planned Giving presentation.

Business Manager **Heather Williams** or LCEF DVP **Jeffrey Maltz** will visit your congregation during Bible class, after church or during a potluck or other fellowship event.

## Scholarships Available

Our LCMS congregations and schools need church workers, and the Kansas District is ready and willing to help. The District is once again offering scholarships to students pursuing a degree in church work at one of the Synod's universities or seminaries. Last year the Kansas District awarded over \$45,000 in scholarships to future church workers!

Scholarship amounts are based on available funds and the number of applications received.

**The application deadline for 2024-25 scholarships is June 1.**

The application is available on the District website, under **Grants and Scholarships** from the "Stewardship" drop-down menu.

### Additional organizations offering scholarships to church work students

- ◆ **Kansas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML):** <https://www.kansaslwml.org/organizational-resources/>
- ◆ **Lutheran Laymen's League:** [https://www.lhm-ks.org/lll\\_ks\\_student\\_aid.htm](https://www.lhm-ks.org/lll_ks_student_aid.htm)
- ◆ **St. John's Alumni Association:** [https://stjohnsalumni.org/financial\\_aid.html](https://stjohnsalumni.org/financial_aid.html)

# EDUCATION & YOUTH

✝ Commissioned Worker Installations

📄 Education Resources

📖 Parish Education

👋 Youth Ministry

COMING THIS SUMMER/FALL TO  
AN LCMS CHURCH NEAR YOU:

## Marriage Enrichment SEMINARS

*Single, engaged, married, or widowed, we are all members of Christ's Bride, the Church. But how does that affect how we think about and live in marriage?*

This summer/fall, join fellow Lutherans and other Christians as we meditate upon God's gift of marriage and how we can build each other up in a world where marriage and family are under constant assault.

Dates, locations, and speakers will be announced soon!

For more information, talk to your pastor or email Rev. Philip Hoppe at [pastor@ihoppe.com](mailto:pastor@ihoppe.com) (KS-LCMS Parish Education Committee Chair).

## Out and About in Kansas

### Jim Bradshaw's May Travel Schedule

**May 9** Faith at Work debrief meeting (Messiah Lutheran, Emporia)

## Congregation at Prayer

Produced by the Kansas District

Parish Education Committee (Three-Year and One-Year Lectionary series available), this free resource gives congregation members a short form for devotions, readings, hymns, prayers, and parts of the Small Catechism to focus on that week.

Visit <https://kslcms.org/cap> to access the devotions and additional resources.



**Kansas District Directors of Christian Education and youth ministers** gathered at the Retreat Center in Herington, April 14-16. The retreat theme "Endure" explored the theological foundation for the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering, based on Hebrews 12:1-3.



**Lauran Delancy** was commissioned and installed as the Director of Parish Music at Beautiful Savior, Olathe, on April 7. Lauran is pictured with Rev. Daniel Grams, District Executive for Congregational & School Services.





# EDUCATION & YOUTH



## Middle School Huddle Highlights

**120 youth and adults** participated in the LCMS Kansas District Middle School Huddle, April 19-20, 2024, at Rock Springs 4-H Ranch, south of Junction City. The goal of the Middle School Huddle is to lift up the middle school students of our Kansas District and provide community and faith growth opportunities through time in God's Word.

**Rev. Ryan Matthias**, campus pastor at Concordia University, Nebraska, addressed the theme "Connected," based on John 15: 1-5. Music was led by a praise team also from Concordia University, Nebraska.

Visit the Middle School Huddle page on the District website to see more photos, <https://kslcms.org/middle-school-huddle>.

## Higher Things Youth Conferences

*Higher Things* is a youth conference focused on worship and catechesis, consisting daily of 3-4 worship services, a plenary speaker, and breakout sessions where speakers talk about faith, life here on earth, and most importantly, Jesus. Also included are meals and fun activities.

Two of the three *Higher Things* Conferences (Mequon, WI and Clarksville, AR) for this summer are full. Any further registrations will be placed on the waitlist.

Visit the *Higher Things* website

<https://higherthings.org/events/who-am-i-2024> for more details.

*Higher Things* offers resources such as videos, daily devotions and podcasts discussing a wide range of topics in a Biblical and Lutheran manner. Visit [www.higherthings.org](http://www.higherthings.org) and click on the "Content" section to learn more.

If you have any other questions about *Higher Things*, please contact **Rev. Christopher Craig**, pastor of Bethlehem, Sylvan Grove, at [Christopher.craig@ctsfw.edu](mailto:christopher.craig@ctsfw.edu).

## Save the Date!

The 2024 Fall Confirmation Retreat for 5th-8th grade youth will be held **October 4-5**, at Rock Springs 4-H Ranch located south of Junction City (1168 Highway K157, Junction City, KS 66441). This year's Confirmation Retreat theme will be "The Lord's Prayer."

If you have any questions, please contact **Rev. Christian Schultz** (First, Paola) at [pastor@firstlutheran-paola.org](mailto:pastor@firstlutheran-paola.org).

## GIVE FOR YOUTH

The "Give for Youth" opportunity

serves the purpose of allowing congregations and individuals to support the youth ministries of the LCMS Kansas District in a financial way. This fund assists young people by reducing the cost of District-sponsored youth ministry events

(Note: this does not include the LCMS Youth Gathering and Higher Things because they are national events.)

Financial gifts can be sent to the LCMS Kansas District Office (Attn: Business Office, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604-1104). Please earmark "Give for Youth."

Gifts can also be made electronically through the "Donate" red button found on the [Youth Ministry](#) page of the District website.

If you have any questions, please contact **Rev. Daniel Grams** at [daniel@kslcms.org](mailto:daniel@kslcms.org).

# CARING MINISTRY

💧 LERT / Disaster Response

👏 Older Adult Ministry

✝️ Faith at Work



**Donna Williams**

Disaster Response Coordinator  
[ksddrc@gmail.com](mailto:ksddrc@gmail.com)

Thank you to the many Kansas District LERT teams who participated in the first annual **Faith at Work** event! The service and projects have been a blessing to those served.

If you have photos of your LERT team *Faith at Work* events, please send them

## Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) News

to [faithatwork@kslcms.org](mailto:faithatwork@kslcms.org).

**Help wanted:** LERT team members who are interested in expanding their involvement in LERT Disaster Response.

**LERT site assessments volunteers:** A team of volunteers trained in assessments is needed to prepare for future disaster events. Volunteers need to have completed the Basic LERT class and be interested in serving in times of disaster. If you are interested in hearing more about the **Assessment Team** we would love to hear from you!

Kansas District **LERT Training Teams** needs volunteers! If you

have completed Basic LERT training and would like to be involved in equipping others to respond to disasters and/or critical incidents, we want to hear from you! The Training on Assessments and LERT Basic Train the Trainer events are hosted by the LCMS Kansas District.

**LERT Team Rosters** will be emailed soon! Kansas congregations with LERT teams and/or members will receive an email with an attached spreadsheet indicating the members active in the LERT Volunteer System who are members of your con-

gregation. Please review your roster, and let us know of any information that needs to be changed. Your help in updating our records is greatly appreciated!

### Upcoming LERT Event:

- ◆ **May 11:** Red Cross Readiness "Shelter Fundamentals"

Bethany Lutheran Church  
(9101 Lamar Ave., Overland Park, KS 66207)

Registration is FREE! Find details and register at [lcms-lert.org](http://lcms-lert.org).

Contact is **DJ Johnson**,  
[kckjohn92@gmail.com](mailto:kckjohn92@gmail.com).



Immanuel, Lawrence Faith at Work service project, April 6.



## SAINTS ALIVE AFTER 55

The 2024 Saints Alive After 55 (SAA55) Conference will be held **July 21-22** at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Salina (111 W. Mag-nolia Rd., Salina, KS 67401). The event will be **7:00-9 p.m. on Sunday, July 21**, and **8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. on Monday, July 22**.

The theme for the conference is "What's Love Got to Do with It" based on Matthew 22:36-39. The keynote speaker is **Rev. Cliff Winter**, emeritus pastor. The Bible study leader is **Rev. Mark Boxman**, senior pastor at Trinity, Salina.

Register and find a schedule on the homepage of the District website, <https://kslcms.org>. Registration is open until July 8.

57 congregations, schools, and RSOs participated in the first annual **Faith at Work service projects** across the Kansas District, during the month of April.

A variety of service projects took place, including painting and yard work in local communities, donating items to children in need, visiting shut-ins, and cleaning up local parks. *Faith at Work* will be an annual service event where groups of all ages and skill sets find needs within their local communities to serve throughout the month, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Thank you to all who participated in Faith at Work projects!**

Please send your photos and stories to [faithatwork@kslcms.org](mailto:faithatwork@kslcms.org) and/or use the Facebook hashtag **#FaithatWorkKS2024**.

# BUSINESS OFFICE



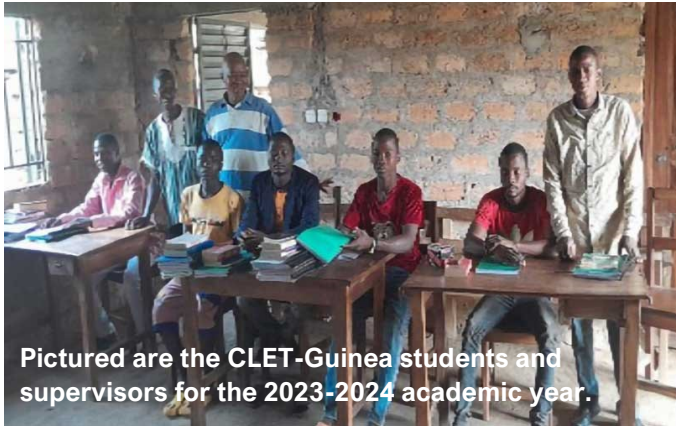
Kansas District Resources



Announcements and Reminders



Donate / Kansas District Offerings



Pictured are the CLET-Guinea students and supervisors for the 2023-2024 academic year.

**Pentecost is May 19** and there will be a District-wide offering to support mission work in Guinea and West Africa. Last year's offering and designated funds to West Africa resulted in a total of \$50,000! Construction began in April 2023 on the two main seminary build-

ings in Guinea, and progress continues. Other updates from Guinea and West Africa include repairs for the Saint Paul School near Guéckédou, Guinea, after suffering damage from violent storms in May 2023. The Care of Souls Hospital & Prison Ministry

## Pentecost Offering: May 19

continues to meet the material and financial needs of patients and prisoners by providing food, clothes, Bibles, mats, soap, and medical supplies.

**An abundance of mission work is taking place in Guinea and West Africa, and there is still much to be done!** Please consider participating in this year's Pentecost Offering, and supporting the great work being accomplished. The offering will be used to continue supporting the Guinea seminary, as well as the provision of Lutheran education and resources to the people of Guinea and West Africa.

### Give to the 2024 Pentecost Offering

- ◆ **Give** during your church's offering on Pentecost Sunday, May 19.
- ◆ **Donate online** by visiting <https://kslcms.org/donate> (choose "Pentecost Offering" from the dropdown fund menu.)
- ◆ **Mail a check** with "Pentecost Offering" in the memo line to the LCMS Kansas District (1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604-1104).

## Remittance Vouchers

This is a reminder to please include a remittance voucher with any check that is submitted to the Kansas District office in Topeka. This is to ensure that the money is credited properly.

Remittance vouchers are available on the District website under the "Business Office, District Resources" section: <https://kslcms.org/district-resources>.

You can also access a remittance voucher by clicking the link provided [here](#).

## Kansas Secretary of State: Annual Report Filing Frequency Changed

Good news! The Kansas Secretary of State has changed the filing frequency for business annual reports from annually to biannually.

Churches and schools incorporated in Kansas will now be required to file Form INP every two years. Filing years will be determined by formation documents on file with the Kansas Secretary of State. If a ministry was formed in an even year, they will file every even year. If a ministry was formed in an odd year, they will file every odd year.

Please visit <https://www.sos.ks.gov/businesses/information-reports.html> for more information.



# DISTRICT MEETINGS & EVENTS

## DISTRICT CALENDAR

### MAY

- May 7** ADF Webinar, congregations, 12 p.m.-1 p.m. (Zoom)
- ADF Webinar, schools, 3 p.m.-4 p.m. (Zoom)**
- May 9** Ascension Day
- May 9** Middle School Huddle meeting, 9-10 a.m. (Zoom)

- May 19** Pentecost Sunday
- May 19** Oklahoma District 100th Anniversary, 4-6 p.m. (St. John's Lutheran, Okarche, Okla.)
- May 21** Professional Development Committee meeting, 4-6 p.m. (Zoom)
- May 26** Holy Trinity Sunday
- May 27** Memorial Day (District Office closed)

### JUNE

- June 2-7** LVR Summer Camp (Woodland Park, Colo.)

### JULY

- July 4-5** Independence Day (District Office closed)
- July 9-12** Institute on Liturgy, Preaching, and Church Music (Concordia University, Seward, Neb.)

### JULY (cont.)

- July 21-22** Saints Alive After 55 Conference (Christ the King, Salina)
- July 27** Early Childhood Summer Workshop (Our Saviour, Kansas City, Kan.)
- July 31** New Worker Orientation, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (District Office, Topeka)

<https://kslcms.org/about-us/calendar>

### Prof Insights: Faculty-Led Workshop

June 3-5, 2024

Trinity Lutheran Church (702 S. 9th Street, Salina, KS 67401)

#### The Beginnings of Genesis and the Genesis of Beginnings

**Rev. Paul Landgraf**, pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Chamois, Mo., and St. John Lutheran Church, Drake, Mo.

Join Rev. Landgraf as he presents material on the structure and layout of the book of Genesis, as well as other Biblical books.

**The registration deadline is May 20.** Registration cost is \$150.

For more information and to register, visit [csl.edu/workshop-series](http://csl.edu/workshop-series) on the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis website.

The local contact is **Rev. Dennis Kootz**, associate pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, [pastordennis.kootz@gmail.com](mailto:pastordennis.kootz@gmail.com).

### CTSFW Continuing Education Opportunity

June 27-29, 2024

Redeemer Lutheran Church (2700 Lawrence Ave., Lawrence, KS 66047)

#### Apologetics for the 21st Century

**Dr. Adam Francisco**, Academic Director of 1517

Join Dr. Francisco as he presents the history of and various methods employed by Christian apologists past and present, and focuses on the challenges posed to the faith today.

Registration cost is \$150 for 1.5 CEU course for pastors and professional church workers, and \$100 for 1.5 CEU course for retired pastors and laypersons.

For more information and to register, visit [ctsfw.edu/ce](http://ctsfw.edu/ce) on the Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne website.

The local contact is **Rev. Sean Kilgo**, pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, [kilgosr@gmail.com](mailto:kilgosr@gmail.com).

### Prof Insights: Faculty-Led Workshop

July 8-10, 2024

Messiah Lutheran Church (2000 Main Street, Hays, KS 67601)

#### What Does It Mean to be Lutheran in America? Discord in the LCMS in the 1960s and 1970s

**Rev. Dr. Gerhard Bode**, Professor and Chairman of Historical Theology, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Join Dr. Bode as he presents analysis of the controversy within the LCMS in the 1960s and 1970s with attention to doctrinal issues and church-political developments in the Synod.

**The registration deadline is June 24.** Registration cost is \$150. For more information and to register, visit [csl.edu/workshop-series](http://csl.edu/workshop-series) on the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis website.

The local contact is **Rev. Michael Schmidt**, pastor of Peace Lutheran Church and First Lutheran Church, [revschmidt@yahoo.com](mailto:revschmidt@yahoo.com).

# SYNOD & PARTNERS

## LCMS National Grants

The LCMS Office of National Mission (ONM) offers grants to aid LCMS congregations, Recognized Service Organizations (RSOs) and districts to vigorously make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our churches and communities.

Types of national grants include National Development Grants, Million Dollar Life Match, the Schiebel Grant Program, and the Ukraine Refugee Grant Program.

For more information and to apply for a grant, visit [www.lcms.org/serve/national-grants](http://www.lcms.org/serve/national-grants). For questions about grants, contact [grants@lcms.org](mailto:grants@lcms.org) or 888-THE LCMS.

Registration is open for the **2024 Institute on Liturgy, Preaching and Church Music** on July 9-12 at Concordia University (CUNE) in Seward, Neb.

**Registration is open until May 17**, at the adult attendee rate of \$400. Two-day, one-day and full-time student options are also available.

## LCMS U Campus Ministry Staff Conference

The LCMS U Campus Ministry Staff Conference will be held Wednesday, May 29, and Thursday, May 30, at the Luther Memorial Chapel & University Student Center in the Milwaukee suburb of Shorewood, Wis.

The theme is "Live Not By Lies," and will address topics of Christian identity, social media and the Imago Dei. This conference is for pastors, DCEs, deaconesses and others who are leading LCMS campus ministries.

Registration is open, and there is no fee to attend! Lunch and dinner on May 29, and lunch on May 30 will be provided at no charge. To register and find a detailed schedule, visit <https://calendar.lcms.org/lcms-u-campus-ministry-staff-conference-2024>.

To register and find more information about the Institute on Liturgy, Preaching and Church Music, visit the LCMS website at <https://calendar.lcms.org/2024-insitute-on-liturgy-preaching-and-church-music>.

# Growing

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**Jeffrey Maltz**

Kansas & Oklahoma District Vice President  
785-230-4112 | [jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org](mailto:jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org)

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# AROUND THE DISTRICT



**Christ Our Savior, Louisburg**, celebrated Easter with a Sunrise worship service on March 31.

A five-minute rain delay in the middle of the service did not dampen the spirits of those attending. In response to Rev. Andy Keltner's "He is risen!" 100 people proclaimed, "**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**"



**Jim Bradshaw** (left) is pictured with Principal Eric Pralle during a reception in Jim's honor, hosted by Zion Lutheran School, Independence, on March 6.

Jim was recognized for his years of service to the Kansas District and presented with a cake and a gift.

## DISTRICT STAFF / COORDINATOR DIRECTORY

### STAFF DIRECTORY

**Rev. Justin Panzer**

District President

**Rev. Daniel Grams**

Executive Assistant to the President for Congregational & School Services

**Jim Bradshaw**

Executive Assistant to the President for Education & 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

**Dr. Patti Hoffman**

School Ministry Coordinator

**Rev. Ian Kinney**

Life Coordinator

**Lottie Lee**

Professional Development  
Coordinator

**Jane Limback**

Accreditation

**Amy Schultz**

Early Childhood Consultant

**Miriam Wehling**

Youth Ministry Coordinator

**Donna Williams**

Disaster Response Coordinator

## CONTACT US

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