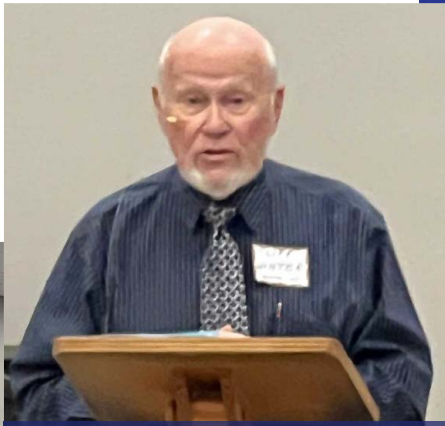




WORKERS TOGETHER

AUGUST 2024

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



Rev. Cliff Winter was the keynote speaker at the SAA55 event.



Rev. Mark Boxman was the Bible study leader.



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DOXOLOGY workshops will take place Sept. 19 at Christ, Topeka, and Sept. 20-21 at Redeemer, Lawrence	

Saints Alive After 55 Highlights

70 participants attended the annual "Saints Alive After 55" gathering for older adults held July 21-22 at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Salina. The theme for the conference was "What's Love Got to Do With It" based on Matthew 22:36-

39. The keynote speaker was Rev. Cliff Winter, emeritus pastor. The Bible study leader was Rev. Mark Boxman, senior pastor at Trinity, Salina. **Special thanks to all who helped lead and organize the event!**

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE



Monthly Devotion



Pastors Conference



Pastoral Ordinations / Installations



Announcements and Reminders



Rev. Justin Panzer | District President



"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost."

(1 Tim. 1:15)

In his lectures on 1 Timothy, Martin Luther wrote, *"Christ did not come to judge and destroy, but to give Himself for the salvation of sinners. Therefore, let no sinner lose hope. Rather let the one despair who does not want to be a sinner, as the self-righteous. The sinner has the opportunity to hope because 'Christ has come.' Like the devil, the law of Moses condemns. We do not need Christ to condemn us, nor was He sent to condemn. Yet we receive Him this way because we have neither read nor understood Scripture. 'Of whom I am the foremost.' (1 Tim. 1:15). Here there was an argument; that is: 'I consider myself the chief for the sake of humility.' He said this in all seriousness. 'I know of no greater sinner in the church.' David was a great one, but Paul perpetrated more than David, who neither persecuted doctrine nor misled. Let the text stand then. So Paul is saying: 'I comfort all sinners. I stand here to sustain you. None of you can compare himself with me.'" (Lectures on 1 Timothy, 1:15)*

The month of August will, no doubt, bring people back to church

after a summer of activities. **How will we welcome them?** The church is the hospital for sinners. We are forgiven by God through the merits of Christ. We should not be surprised by our own sins, nor should we be surprised at the sinfulness of sinners. The Lord Jesus has taught us to pray: *"Forgive us our trespasses."* Unfortunately, some Christians portray themselves as morally superior to others, which hardly aligns with the Bible's continual call to repentance (*Matt. 3:2*), nor with the confession of sins we hear on the lips of Paul (*Romans 7:18-19*), or the other great saints (*Psalms 32*).

If our churches are truly hospitals for sinners, we confess that we are the foremost. We want, desire, and need desperately to receive the gifts of forgiveness given to us in Word and Sacrament.

If Christ has **the** gift that forgives our sins and strengthens our faith, why would we not want to partake

of it regularly and often? We surely would never want to slap the hand away that wants to feed us, do we? Yet we do this very thing. We shun our God who freely gives what we need in Christ. For this, we must repent.

We have been saved by the precious blood of Christ, the lamb without blemish, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with His own life crucified in our place on the cross. Bodily risen from the dead, we have been made His without any merit or worthiness of our own. The Shepherd is calling you to dwell in the house that bears His Name, that He might feed and pasture you.

The Church is Christ's, bought and purchased by His blood. The focus is always and only Him in everything that we speak, think, and do. His Word must predominate, and we must obediently follow that Word, shining His light and love to others in our words and deeds so that they, too, might be converted and saved. **To Him be the glory!**



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Out and About in Kansas

President Panzer's August Travel Schedule

- Aug. 1-2** Board of Directors at District Office (Topeka)
- Aug. 4** Preaching at St. John (Palmer)
Installation of Rev. Sherman Stenson at Zion (Downs)
- Aug. 11** Preaching at Faith (Emporia) and Calvary (Council Grove)
Installation of Rev. William Hartley at Messiah (Emporia)
Ordination / Installation of SMP Vicar Jeff Lane at Faith (Topeka)
- Aug. 18** Installation of Rev. Joel Cundiff at St. Paul (Leavenworth)



Rev. Christopher Warneke was ordained and installed as pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Arkansas City, and assisting capacity pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Winfield, on July 7. From left, (front row) Revs. Justin Panzer, Craig Niemeier (*Christopher's father-in-law*), Christopher Warneke, Paul Warneke (*Christopher's father*); (middle) Revs. Mark Boxman, Scott Goltl, Thomas Johnson, Matthew Goltl, Mark Lovett; (back) Rev. Scott Snow, Rev. Nick Cordt, lay deacon Larry Junker, Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer, Rev. Seth Meyer, Rev. Michael Schotte and Rev. Timothy Gordish.



Rev. Nathan Nelson was ordained and installed as associate pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Leavenworth, on July 14. From left, (front row) Revs. Justin Panzer, Nathan Nelson, Dr. Damian Snyder; (back row) Revs. Edward Mease, Kenneth Nettiing, Timothy Wangerin (*Nathan's father-in-law*), Robert Weinkauf and Brett Hinrichs.



Rev. Dr. Frank Johnson was ordained and installed as associate pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Hillsboro, on July 14. Dr. Johnson has completed two years of the four year Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) program. From left, (front row) Revs. Dr. Richard Serina, Dr. Frank Johnson, John Werner, Justin Panzer; (back) Revs. Joseph Barlau, Clark Davis, Kurt Letcher, Alan Stahlecker and Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Vicar Jeff Lane.



Rev. Joseph Goodroad was installed as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Iola, on July 20. From left, (front row) Revs. Justin Panzer, David Symm, Ervin Daugherty, Ted Cook, Joseph Goodroad, Michael Knox, Timothy Booth, Caleb Stoevers; (back) Revs. Donald Copley, Michael Hofmann, Kevin Peterson, Michael Schotte, Jon Franson and Timothy Wilcoxen.



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE



Rev. John Kastner was ordained and installed as associate pastor at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Olathe, on July 21. Rev. Kastner will serve as the pastor of the church plant in De Soto. From left, (front row) Revs. Daniel Galchutt, Michael Ada, John Kastner, Joel Schultz, Justin Panzer; (middle) Revs. Andrew Wright, Sean Kilgo, Dr. Scott Holder, Jim Woelmer; (back) Revs. Andrew Wehling, Joshua Woelmer, Jacob Mueller and Philip Cook.



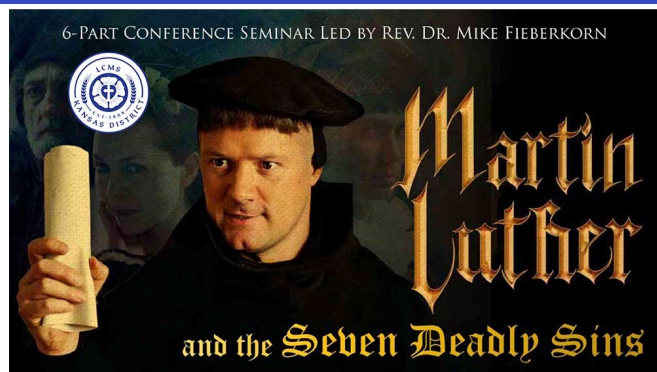
Rev. Brendon Moore was installed as associate pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church, Wichita, on July 21. He will serve as the pastor of the Maple campus. From left, Revs. Scott Goltl, Matthew Goltl, Timothy Gordish, Dr. Michael Bingenheimer, Brendon Moore, Nick Cordt, Matthew Schultz and Keith Kohlmeier.

Don't Forget! District Convention Forms

Congregations and Church Workers: The District Convention letters and instructions were mailed to congregations in May, 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 included a cover letter listing important dates and instructions for Call for Nominations, Delegate Reporting, Nominee Acceptance and Biography/Profiles, District Reports, and Overtures. The mail-

ing also contained 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. Please fill out the forms online, download and email to the District Convention email, ksdconvention@kslcms.org. Sign any required forms and mail them to the District Office (1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604-1104). For Convention-related questions, use the Convention email listed above.



Pastors Fall Conference

The 2024 Pastors Fall Conference will be held **October 7-8** at St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, Topeka. The theme for this year's conference is "Martin Luther and the Seven Deadly Sins." The keynote speaker is **Rev. Dr. Michael Fiebkorn**, associate pastor of Zion Lutheran Church and School in St. Charles, Mo.

Registration opens August 1. Visit <https://kslcms.org/pastors-conference> to register and find more information.

CALLS & VACANCIES

PASTORAL CALLS

Rev. Steven Frank, Redeemer, Atwood to St. John & St. Paul, Vergas, MN – **accepted**

Rev. Joseph McCalley, Columbia, MO to Trinity, Medicine Lodge & St. John, Nashville – **pending**

Rev. Christopher McCarthy, Wall, South Dakota to Trinity, Medicine Lodge & St. John, Nashville – **declined**

Rev. Kevin McReynolds, Redeemer, Mountain Home, AR to Messiah, Hays – **pending**

Rev. Benjamin Micheel, Christ, Topeka to Trinity, St. Joseph, MI – **pending**

Rev. Michael Penikis, Candidate to Faith, Menomonie & Holy Trinity, Boyceville, WI – **accepted**

Rev. Jordan Schut, Holy Cross, Rochester, MN to St. Paul, Clay Center (associate) – **declined**

Rev. Aaron Wagner, Christ the King, Salina to Our Redeemer, Marshall, MO – **declined**

PENDING ORDINATIONS / INSTALLATIONS

Rev. Sherman Stenson, Austin, TX to Zion, Downs – **installation Sunday, August 4, 2024**

Rev. William Hartley, IIM to Messiah, Emporia – **accepted, installation Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024, at 8:30 a.m.**

SMP Vicar Jeff Lane to Faith, Topeka – **ordination / installation Sunday, August 11, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.**

Rev. Joel Cundiff, St. Paul, St. Joseph, MO to St. Paul, Leavenworth (associate) – **accepted, installation Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024, at 10 a.m.**

CONGREGATIONS CALLING or PREPARING TO CALL A FULL-TIME PASTOR

Atchison, Trinity (senior)

Basehor, Risen Savior (associate)

Chanute, Zion (sole)

Clay Center, St. Paul (associate)

Dodge City, Holy Cross & Jetmore, St. Paul (sole)

Ellsworth, St. Paul's (sole)

Emporia, Messiah (sole)

Hanover, Trinity (sole)

Hays, Messiah (sole)

Hoxie, Immanuel & Oakley, Immanuel (sole)

Medicine Lodge, Trinity & St. John, Nashville (sole)

Mission / Shawnee, Trinity (two associates)

Wellington, Calvary (sole)

Wichita, Holy Cross (senior)

Wichita, St. Andrews (sole)

Congregations / Schools Facebook Prayer List

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CALLS

Principal David Birnbaum, First, Ponca City, OK to Trinity, Atchison – **accepted, installation Sunday, Aug. 4, 2024**

DCE Hannah Elsey, Faith, Topeka to Fairmount Ministries – **accepted, installation Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024**

Amy Goltl, Immanuel, Olivette, MO to Holy Cross, Wichita – **accepted, installation Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024**

Teacher Sarah Warneke, Candidate to Trinity, Winfield – **installation Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024**

CUNE Teacher Candidate Anna Johnson to Bethany, Overland Park – **commissioning / installation Sunday, Aug. 25, 2024**

CONGREGATIONS CALLING A COMMISSIONED MINISTER

AUGUST PRAYER REQUESTS

Those grieving the loss of loved ones

- ♦ **Family and friends of Michael Reed**, brother of Rev. Marty Reed, Trinity, Atchison. Michael entered his heavenly rest July 15, 2024.
- ♦ **Family and friends of Nancy Harrison**, mother of LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison. Nancy entered her heavenly rest June 12, 2024.
- ♦ **Family and friends of Rev. Dr. John Wille**, President of the LCMS South Wisconsin District. Dr. Wille entered his heavenly rest June 10, 2024.

Those experiencing recent / ongoing health issues

- ♦ **Kevin Adams**
- ♦ **Rev. Richard Andrus**
- ♦ **Gideon Franson**
- ♦ **Rev. Jim Mayes**
- ♦ **Rev. David McCloskey**
- ♦ **Carrie Meyers**

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).

- ♦ St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, Leavenworth – **Aug. 5**
- ♦ Trinity, Paola – **Aug. 12**
- ♦ Zion Lutheran Church & School, Independence – **Aug. 19**
- ♦ St. Luke, Wheaton – **Aug. 26**

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP



Campus Ministry



Mission Advocates



District Mission Grants



Circuit 8 Reformation Service

Christ, Manhattan Campus Ministry



Six students from **LCMSU Kansas State University** and two adults enjoyed a retreat at Lutheran Valley Retreat Center in Florissant, Colo. from April 19-21, 2024. The group got to know each other on the road trip and during the retreat. The Bible study was "Apologetics" led by **Rev. Jim**



Woelmer, pastor of Christ, Manhattan. Selah Hageman wrote, "We not only got to learn about Apologetics and how we can defend the faith in our personal lives, but we also got to admire God's creation with hiking, zip lining, and other fun activities."

Megan Jones wrote, "We had good Biblical discussions during our speaker sessions and got a lot closer as a group during camp activities. Colorado was also a great way to truly experience God's creation."

Many thanks to **St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Manhattan** for their support.

For more information about Campus Ministry at Christ Lutheran Church in Manhattan, contact **Rev. Jim Woelmer**, pastor of Christ, jwoelmer@verizon.net or 972-704-6722.

Campus Ministry at Trinity, Girard

Last year, Trinity Lutheran Church in Girard started a college ministry for students attending Pittsburg State University. Currently there is a strong core of four dedicated young people who not only attend the Bible studies but also live a mature faith in their weekly Sunday morning church attendance.

In fact, this is how the campus ministry began, with the college students first finding Trinity. After initial introductions, the congregation was excited for the students to be attending church on their own volition. The campus ministry began in the middle of

the 2023-24 school year, after Christmas break. There is now momentum to continue through the summer and into this next fall semester.

The Bible study meets bi-weekly on the first and third Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. The students feel welcome and at home as the group studies in the living room of the parsonage.

For more information about Campus Ministry at Trinity Lutheran Church in Girard, contact **Rev. Michael Hofmann**, pastor of Trinity, pastorhofmann@gmail.com or at the church office 620-724-8895.



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 or 785-357-4441, ext. 2001.



MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

Out and About in Kansas

Rev. Daniel Grams' August Travel Schedule

- Aug. 1-2** Board of Directors at District Office (Topeka)
- Aug. 4** Installation of Principal David Birnbaum at Trinity (Atchison)
- Aug. 9-10** Concordia Academy (Wichita)
- Aug. 11** Installation of Teacher Amy Goltl at Holy Cross (Wichita)
- Aug. 11** Installation of DCE Hannah Elsey at Fairmount Ministries (Wichita)
- Aug. 18** Mission Festival at Immanuel (Bremen)
- Aug. 25** Commissioning / Installation of Anna Johnson at Bethany (Overland Park)



ICOA, Kansas City hosts Bebes Felices (Happy Babies), a weekly gathering that supports mothers and their children.

The Kansas District is committed to helping congregations and organizations pursue mission projects in Kansas. The District sets aside 10 percent of its congregational receipts each year and makes these funds available in the form of mission grants.

Watch your mail! Mission grant application materials will be sent out early this month.

District Mission Grants

Contact **Janet Powell** at janet@kslcms.org with any questions.

Return completed mission grant applications to the District Office by mail (LCMS Kansas District, Attn: Janet

Powell, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604 -1104) or scan / email applications to Janet.

The deadline to submit applications is Friday, Sept. 20.



Christ Lutheran Church, Topeka received a mission grant to order 100 ESV Outreach Bibles and 100 Mini Arch Books from CPH, to give away at community outreach events.

Circuit 8 Reformation Service & Presentation



Circuit 8 will host its annual Circuit Reformation Service & Presentation on **Sunday, Oct. 27** at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Alta Vista (303 Main St.)** The preacher and presenter will be

Rev. Dr. Daniel Harmelink, Executive Director of Concordia Historical Institute. Dr. Harmelink will focus on the 50th Anniversary of the February 19, 1974 Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Walkout. His presentation includes a brief review of the 20 crises faced by the LCMS before the Walkout, a comprehensive presentation of the actual issues that surrounded the Walkout, and the lingering effects of higher-critical thinking in the world today.

Schedule

- 2:00 p.m.** Reformation Service, with Holy Communion
- 3:00 p.m.** Break / Refreshments
- 3:15 p.m.** Lutheran Hour Ministries / LWML / Flint Hills Lutherans For Life
- 3:30 p.m.** Dr. Daniel Harmelink's Presentation
- 4:30 p.m.** Adjournment

EDUCATION & YOUTH



Commissionings / Installations



Educators Conference



Parish Education



Youth Ministry



James Bradshaw

District Executive for Education
& Youth

**Dear Brothers and Sisters
in Christ,**

*Grace and peace to you in
the name of our Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ!*

I am writing to formally
notify you that **Friday,
August 30** will be my last

day with the LCMS Kansas District before entering into a District board approved three-month sabbatical leave. This will be followed by a period of debriefing in December with staff that will lead into my retirement in January 2025. It has been a joy and an honor to work with such gifted workers across the District and office colleagues these past 19+ years!

Please note that all communications pertaining to school and youth ministries may be directed to **Rev. Daniel Grams**, Executive Assistant to the President for Congregational & School Services, at daniel@kslcms.org effective August 1. All other communications may be directed to the appropriate personnel at the District Office. Personal cor-

respondences may be sent to me at faithdce@hotmail.com.

I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunities I have been given during my tenure here to serve you. Thank you all and may God richly bless you and keep you!

Blessings in Christ!

Jim Bradshaw

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:3-6

Out and About in Kansas

Jim Bradshaw's August Travel Schedule

Aug. 2 Board of Directors at District Office (Topeka)

Aug. 6 Sabbatical Presentation at Christ (Topeka)

Aug. 17 Marriage Enrichment Seminar at Risen Savior (Wichita)



Organized in part by the
Parish Education Committee of the LCMS Kansas District.

Visit <https://kslcms.org/parish-education> to access individual flyers for each seminar.

ATCHISON

Trinity Lutheran Church

(603 North 8th St. Atchison, KS 66002)

Saturday, Aug. 24 / 9 a.m.-noon

Speaker: Rev. Jim Woelmer

Cost: Free (*freewill offerings accepted*)

Childcare and lunch provided

RSVP: rachel.micheel@cune.org /
913-426-4007

WICHITA

Risen Savior Lutheran Church

(6770 E. 34th St. N Wichita, KS

67226)

Saturday, Aug. 17 / 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Speaker: Rev. Jeff Meyers

Cost: Free (*lunch provided*)

RSVP: <https://forms.office.com/r/8esmZbUphn>

OVERLAND PARK

Christ Lutheran Church

(11720 Nieman Road, Overland Park, KS 66210)

Saturday, Sept. 28 / 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Speaker: Rev. Jeff Meyers

Cost: \$30 per couple (*lunch provided*)

RSVP: Rev. Jeff Meyers, jeff.meyers@clcop.org /
913-345-9700

NORTON

Immanuel Lutheran Church

(14715 W. Washington Rd. Norton, KS 67654)

Saturday, Oct. 19 / Noon-5:30 p.m.

Speaker: Rev. Dan Galchutt

Cost: Free (*lunch provided*)

RSVP: Rev. Matthew Goehring,
ilcnorton@ruraltel.net / 785-877-2430

GIRARD

Trinity Lutheran Church

(109 W. Saint John St. Girard, KS 66743)

Saturday, Oct. 26 / 9:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m.

Speaker: Rev. Jim Woelmer

Cost: \$30/couple or \$15/individual

Childcare: \$10 per child

Lunch provided (*donated by Immanuel, Hepler*)

Registration runs from Aug. 18 - Oct. 15

RSVP: Rev. Michael Hofmann,
pastorhofmann@gmail.com / 915-500-2993

PAOLA

Trinity Lutheran Church

(34868 Block Rd., Paola, KS 66071)

Saturday, Nov. 16 / 9:30 a.m.-noon

Speaker: Rev. Jim Woelmer

Cost: Free (*lunch provided*)

RSVP: Rev. Joshua Woelmer,
joshua.woelmer@gmail.com / 785-893-3960



EDUCATION & YOUTH



Deaconess Claire Gerrard was commissioned and installed as deaconess of Trinity Lutheran Church, Garden City, on July 7. Claire is pictured with Rev. Michael Hageman, senior pastor of the TIG Partnership (*Trinity, Garden City; Immanuel, Lakin; Grace, Ulysses*) and James Bradshaw, District Executive for Education & Youth.



Deaconess Ashley Nelson was commissioned and installed as deaconess of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Leavenworth, on July 14. From left, Rev. Justin Panzer, St. Paul Principal Cindy Hammons, Deac. Ashley Nelson, Rev. Edward Mease and Rev. Timothy Wangerin (*Ashley's father*).



Educators Fall Conference

The 2024 Educators Fall Conference will be held **October 13-15** at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Olathe. The theme for this year's conference is "Endure and Flourish," based on Hebrews 12:1-3. The keynote speaker is **Dr. Bernard Bull**, president of Concordia University, Nebraska. Visit <https://kslcms.org/educators-conference> to find more information.



ENDURE
2025 LCMS YOUTH GATHERING
HEBREWS 12:1-3

The LCMS Youth Gathering is **July 19-23, 2025**, in New Orleans, La. The theme is "Endure" based on Hebrews 12:1-3. Visit <https://www.lcmsgathering.com> for more information!

The Kansas District Coordinators are **Debbie Dennett** (*Trinity, Winfield*) and **Karen Thurnau** (*Risen Savior, Wichita*). Preliminary bus contracts from Kansas are in place, a T-shirt has been designed, and the Bayou Barn has been secured for the Kansas District event on July 19, 2025. Details will be sent out by email very soon. Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) registration is also open at <https://www.lcmsgathering.com/YoungAdultVolunteer>.

If you have any questions about the Gathering or if you are a first-time leader and want more information, send an email to Debbie and Karen at nygksdistrict@gmail.com.



Fall Confirmation Retreat

The 2024 Fall Confirmation Retreat for 5th-8th grade youth will be held **October 4-5**, at Rock Springs 4-H Ranch (1168 Highway K157, Junction City, KS 66441).

This year's Confirmation Retreat theme is "The Lord's Prayer."

Registration opens August 1. Visit the Confirmation Retreat page on the District website at <https://kslcms.org/confirmation-retreat> to register and find more details.

If you have questions, contact **Rev. Christian Schultz** (*First, Paola*) at pastor@firstlutheran-paola.org.

CARING MINISTRY



LERT / Disaster Response



Church Worker Wellness



Older Adult Ministry



Donna Williams

Disaster Response Coordinator

Upcoming LERT Events:

- ♦ **Aug. 8, 6:30-9 p.m. - Community Awareness, Human Trafficking 101**
Johnson County Firehouse-District 1 (33364 W. 191st St., Edgerton, KS 66021)
This event is FREE to LERT & CERT team members. Find more information at lcms-lert.org.

Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) News

Contact is **Mark Trivilino**, tma41@yahoo.com.

- ♦ **Aug. 10, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. - LERT Basic Training**
Christ Lutheran Church (11720 Neiman Rd., Overland Park, KS 66210)

Registration is \$30. Register at lcms-lert.org.

Contact is **Rick Johnson**, ricksjohnson@sbcglobal.net.

- ♦ **Sept. 7, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - Train the Trainer: Kansas District LERT Training**
King of Kings Lutheran Church (306 E. Madison St., Gardner, KS 66030)

Registration is FREE! Lunch is included. Find more information at lcms-lert.org. The purpose of this event is to add more LERT trainers to the team. If you have completed Basic LERT training and would like to be involved in equipping others to respond to disasters, please register to attend this event!

- ♦ **Sept. 7, 12:30-5 p.m. - Kansas District LERT Assessment Training**
King of Kings Lutheran Church (306 E. Madison St., Gardner, KS 66030)

Registration is FREE! Lunch is included. Find more information at lcms-lert.org.

The purpose of this event is to build a team of volunteers trained in assessments. Volunteers must have completed the Basic LERT class.

Contact **Donna Williams** for more information, ksddrc@gmail.com.

- ♦ **Sept. 14, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. - LERT Community Awareness**

Paola Kansas Town Square (15 Wea St., Paola, KS 66071)

10 people are needed per shift. Shift 1: 9 a.m.-noon; Shift 2: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Register at lcms-lert.org.

Contacts are **Dale Melancon**, 913-522-2684 and **Mark Trivilino**, 913-209-9324.

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY EVENTS

Game Night will be held **Friday evening, August 23**, at Immanuel, Ellsworth (905 Stanberry St.). There will be an informal meeting with attendees to encourage and educate on Older Adult Ministry. This is a free event.

Rev. William Cornelius (St. Peter's, Elk Creek, Neb.) will share his thoughts on Generational Serving as a Servant on **Saturday, August 24**, at Messiah, Hays (2000 Main St.). Clinkscales Elder Law Practice located in Hays will provide a legal perspective during the financial strategies forum. There will be a \$15 fee to cover the cost of a box lunch.

For questions, contact **Sharon Kolanowski** kolanosm32@gmail.com or 785-366-6701.

LCEF Sabbatical Scholarships

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) is excited to launch the first cycle of the **Sabbatical Scholarship Program**. This promotes a sabbatical leave for rest and renewal to support the long-term wellness of ministry leaders and congregations.

Four scholarships of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to selected LCMS church workers and ministries who are planning a sabbatical experience.

Visit <https://lcef.org/grace-place-wellness-sabbatical-scholarship> to complete an application. The deadline for applications is Oct. 31, 2024.

BUSINESS OFFICE



Kansas District Grants



Announcements and Reminders



Congregational Treasurers Workshops



There are District workshops being offered that provide simple, straightforward help relating to clergy tax and church treasurer issues. The presenters will be District Business Manager **Heather Williams** and LCEF District Vice President **Jeffrey Maltz**. Participants will also hear from Concordia Plan Services and meet fellow servants from their specific church

region. A free lunch will be provided, sponsored by the Lutheran Church Extension Fund.

Some of the topics that will be covered at the workshops include a review of the Congregational Treasurers Manual, borrowing and investment options through LCEF, narrative budgets, salary guidelines, board governance, internal control, planned giving, clergy

taxes, document retention, employer resources, and employees vs. contractors.

These workshops are geared towards new and returning congregational treasurers, bookkeepers, financial secretaries, office managers, stewardship leaders, pastors, church members and/or staff who have financial or administrative responsibilities.

Workshop Dates and Locations

- ♦ **August 24 - Messiah, Hays** (Region IV)
- ♦ **Sept. 21 - St. Paul, Clay Center** (Region II)
- ♦ **Oct. 12 - Kansas District Office, Topeka** (Region I)

Register here for the workshops. For questions, please call 785-357-4441 or email heather@kslcms.org.

Education Loan Repayment Grants

The Kansas District provides grants to rostered church workers to help them repay college and/or seminary education loans. All rostered synodical graduates, as well as those who have completed the colloquy program, who are currently working in the Kansas District are eligible for the first 10 years after graduation or ordination to apply for this grant.

Application materials will be available on the District website at <https://kslcms.org/education-grants>.

Applications should be sent to **Heather Williams** (1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604-1104) or via email at heather@kslcms.org.



The 2024-2025 *Lutheran Witness* renewal packets for the Kansas District were sent to congregations in July.

Lutheran Witness Renewal Packets

Check your mail for the packets to make additions, changes, or deletions to your subscriptions.

Renewals will be due to the District Office by Monday, August 26.

Billings will be mailed in October, so please do not send payment now.



DISTRICT MEETINGS & EVENTS

DISTRICT CALENDAR

<https://kslcms.org/calendar>

AUGUST

- Aug. 1** President's Council, 1-5 p.m. (District Office, Topeka)
- Aug. 2** Board of Directors, (District Office, Topeka)
- Aug. 3** LERT Leader meeting, 9-11 a.m. (Zoom)
- Aug. 6** DYMC Executive meeting, 2:30 p.m. (Zoom)
PDC meeting, 4-5 p.m. (Zoom)

AUGUST (cont.)

- Aug. 17** Marriage Enrichment Seminar, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Risen Savior, Wichita)
- Aug. 24** Congregational Treasurers Workshop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (Messiah, Hays)
Older Adult Ministry event (Messiah, Hays)
Marriage Enrichment Seminar, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (Trinity, Atchison)

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 2** Labor Day (District Office is closed)
- Sept. 7** District Youth Ministry Committee retreat (Herington)
- Sept. 9-12** Council of Presidents (St. Louis, Mo.)
- Sept. 19-20** Principals Conference (District Office, Topeka)
- Sept. 21** Congregational Treasurers Workshop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (St. Paul, Clay Center)
- Sept. 28** Marriage Enrichment Seminar, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Christ, Overland Park)

OCTOBER

- Oct. 4-5** Confirmation Retreat (Rock Springs 4-H Center, Junction City)
- Oct. 7-8** Pastors Conference (St. John's, Topeka)
- Oct. 12** Lutherans for Life Regional Conference -Midwest, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (Hope, Shawnee)
Congregational Treasurers Workshop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (District Office, Topeka)
- Oct. 13-15** Educators Conference (Beautiful Savior, Olathe)
- Oct. 19** Marriage Enrichment Seminar, 12-5:30 p.m. (Immanuel, Norton)
- Oct. 26** Marriage Enrichment Seminar, 9:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m. (Trinity, Girard)

St. John's, Topeka 150th Anniversary Celebration

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church in Topeka (901 SW Fillmore St.) is celebrating their 150th anniversary the weekend of **Sept. 14-15**, and you are invited!

The festivities will begin with a Banquet from **5-8 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14** at St. John's. **Rev. Peter K. Lange**, Synodical First Vice-President, will be the guest speaker.

The St. John's Divine Service will take place **10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15**, with Rev. Peter Lange preaching. Following the Divine Service there will be an **Open House at 2 p.m.** and an **Organ Recital with a hymn singing at 3 p.m.** Organist Jonathan Rudy will provide the recital, with a reception to follow.

Banquet tickets are \$15 per person (*cash or check is accepted*). This fee includes one anniversary ornament and church directory per St. John's family. There is also an optional anniversary cup available for \$10.

Ticket sales will take place at St. John's from 9:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. the following days: **Aug. 11 and 25**. The deadline to purchase tickets is Aug. 25.

Contact **Nancy Taylor** at ntaylor713@aol.com.

DOXOLOGY Workshops

DOXOLOGY will be holding workshops in Kansas during the month of September. The theme is **"In HIS Image: Navigating Christian Sexuality in a Post-Christian Culture."** Presenters at the workshops will be **Rev. David Fleming** (DOXOLOGY Executive Director for Spiritual Care; Associate Pastor of Our Savior, Grand Rapids, Mich.) and **Dr. Beverly Yahnke** (DOXOLOGY Executive Director for Christian Counsel).

Scheduled DOXOLOGY Workshops:

Sept. 19 – Christ Lutheran, Topeka (3509 SW Burlingame Rd.)
(This workshop will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m. and is open to the public.)

The workshop is FREE. However, due to space limitations, registration is required. **REGISTER HERE** for the Christ, Topeka DOXOLOGY workshop.

Sept. 20-21 – Redeemer Lutheran, Lawrence (2700 Lawrence Ave.)

(Friday, Sept. 20 - Clergy only; Saturday, Sept. 21 - Open to the public)

The workshop is FREE. However, due to space limitations, registration is required. **REGISTER HERE** for the Redeemer, Lawrence DOXOLOGY workshop.

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. For questions about grants, contact grants@lcms.org or 888-THE LCMS.

GOD'S MISSION HERE

A new KFUO podcast is available from National Mission called **"God's Mission Here,"** which spotlights the work God is doing through His people right where they are.

Listen to the latest episode at resources.lcms.org/gods-mission-here.

Concordia Health Plan: New Mental Health Resource

Concordia Plans offers a new and enhanced Employee Assistance Program (EAP) through the Evernorth Confide Behavioral Health Navigator. It includes immediate 24/7 access to clinical help, access to a digital portal, virtual, phone and chat care, and eight free sessions per topic (*from family to financial issues to substance abuse, emotional health and stress*), per year.

This confidential, free mental health resource is available to Concordia Health Plan members and members of their households. Visit ConcordiaPlans.org/MentalHealth to learn more about Evernorth Confide, or call the Concordia Health Plan number for Evernorth Confide at 866-726-5267 to speak with a Care Navigator.

Upheld by God's Hand: LCMS Mental Health Outreach Course

This is a free, online course for LCMS Educators and Youth Workers to gain understanding and awareness of mental health, mental health problems, and mental illness. Participants will also learn strategies for supporting the mental health of children and youth. Create an account on the LCMS Learning website, <https://lcms.talentlms.com> to access the course and videos.

Are **you** eligible for this exclusive opportunity?

If you are a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod rostered or lay church worker, then Lutheran Church Extension Fund's **Church Worker StewardAccount®** is for you.

Learn more about the Church Worker
StewardAccount at lcef.org/cwsa.



Lutheran Church Extension Fund
› where investments build ministry

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. StewardAccount products are not available to investors in South Carolina. StewardAccount access features are offered through UMB Bank n.a.





AROUND THE DISTRICT



Eldor Kaiser and **Les Schmidt** (front row, center) were recognized by Trinity Lutheran Church, Mission/Shawnee on Sunday, June 30, for their faithful years of service in the LCMS over many decades. Their ministry with the Board for Youth Services in the 60s through the 90s had great impact on those serving in youth ministry. The Kansas District DCEs in attendance were also honored in conjunction with the celebration of National DCE Day on June 26. *To God be the glory for those impacted through these servant leaders!*



10 participants gathered at Messiah Lutheran Church, Hays, July 8-10 for a Concordia Lutheran Seminary (CLS) Prof Insights workshop. The workshop was titled "What Does It Mean to be Lutheran in America? Discord in the LCMS in the 1960s and 1970s" and was led by **Rev. Dr. Gerhard Bode**, CSL professor of Historical Theology.

Pictured from left, Rev. Seth Meyer (*Winfield*), Rev. Gary Wolf (*Hoisington*), Rev. Philip Hoppe (*Colby*), Vicar Jeff Lane (*Topeka*), Rev. Joel Hiesterman (*Phillipsburg*), Rev. Dr. Peter Kurowski (*Booneville, Mo.*), Rev. Dr. Gerhard Bode (*Glencoe, Mo.*), Mr. Lester Taacha (*Meade*), Rev. Michael Hageman (*Garden City*), Rev. Andrew Wehling (*Lawrence*) and Rev. Michael Schmidt (*Natoma*).

DISTRICT STAFF / COORDINATOR DIRECTORY

STAFF DIRECTORY

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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

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Communications Specialist

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President's Office / Event Registrar

Shannon Fender

Administrative Assistant
Business Office / Stewardship

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Coordinator

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Miriam Wehling

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