



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

MONTHLY KANSAS DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

WORKERS TOGETHER

NOVEMBER 2025

Regular Features

President's Office	2-3
Calls & Vacancies / Prayer Requests	4
Missions & Stewardship	5
Education & Youth	6-8
Caring Ministry	9
Business Office	10
LCEF	11
District Meetings & Events	12
Synod & Partners	13
Around the District / Staff Directory	14-15



Above left: Rev. Dr. Joel Biermann leads a keynote presentation. Above right: President Rev. Justin Panzer delivers the sermon at the Joint Church Workers Divine Service. Below: Rev. Dr. Peter Jurchen leads a keynote presentation.



2025 Joint Church Workers Conference

The 2025 Joint Church Workers Conference was held Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at Hope Lutheran Church & School in Shawnee.

The theme for the conference was "Abiding in the Word – as Workers in Christ's Kingdom," based on John 8:31-32. The keynote speakers were **Rev. Dr. Joel Biermann**, Professor of

Systematic Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and **Rev. Dr. Peter Jurchen**, Assistant Professor of Lutheran Education and Faith Formation at Concordia University, Nebraska.

Special thanks to all who helped plan, organize, and serve at the Joint Church Workers Conference!

IN THIS ISSUE

Redeemer Lutheran Mission 5
Redeemer Lutheran Mission in Lake Wabauensee was officially chartered on Sunday, Oct. 12.

Kansas District Life Conference 9
Learn more about the Kansas District Life Conference, Jan. 28, 2026.

Business Office Announcements, Reminders 10

Read more about Business Office announcements and reminders, including enrolling in 2026 Concordia Plans benefits, the 2025 Year-End Checklist, congregational commitments, and *Lutheran Witness* billings.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE



Monthly Devotion



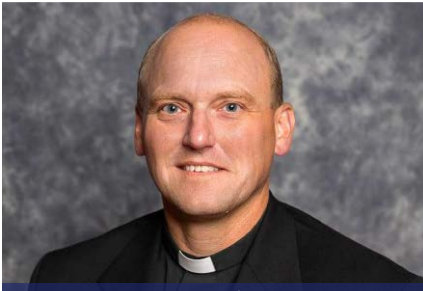
Pastor Ordination Anniversaries



Pastoral Installations



2026 Pre-Lent Conference



Rev. Justin Panzer | District President



“And he [Jesus] said to him, ‘Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.’ ”
(Luke 23:43)

These Last Sundays of the Church Year call us to reexamine ourselves. We have no clue when Christ will come again. Yes, there are signs pointing to His return, but as to an exact date, it is foolish for us to speculate.

While we do not know the exact time and date of Christ's return, we do know the ending to that story. God's promises will be fulfilled on the day of the final resurrection. One day Jesus will come back. Everything will come to an end. One second, we're eating a meal or driving a car or at work, and the next instant we will see Jesus in all His glory.

By faith, we know that on the Last Day those who have died will have their physical bodies rise and live again. On the Judgment Day, those who have believed in Christ as their Lord and Savior from sin will enter the glorious heavenly life forever, with body and soul reunited.

It's in Luke's Gospel where we read that just one criminal speaks against Jesus—and you can hear

the contempt in his voice. He is defiant, angry, and sarcastic as he joins in with the mocking. But, in the midst of mockery, there is hope. It is hope found in the sudden reversal of the one criminal who receives paradise. The criminal is broken and asks for Jesus to remember him. He sees himself as the lost and condemned man he truly is.

Jesus answers the criminal's request by announcing the one true story for all to believe.

“Today you will be with me in paradise” (v. 43). Today—right now. What a glorious word for you and me! There is no such thing as a Roman Catholic purgatory or interim state that believers will end up hoping for others to purchase the rest of their eternal salvation. Where is the hope in that? Where is Christ? It makes His death completely insufficient.

God sent His Son Jesus to be the perfect, once-for-all sacrifice for our sins—past, present and future. **Hebrews 9:27-28**, “Just

as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”

Jesus came into this world to save sinners who are helpless, lost, and condemned. There are no exceptions—all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Christ really matters. He is the only way to salvation. He has transferred us from the domain of darkness into His Kingdom of light. This is why we are faithful in every Sunday worship to hear his Word and receive His Sacrament, to be daily in devotion and prayer, and to be those spiritual priests who are reaching out to the lapsed and the lost, who are not yet known to Christ. Come soon, Lord Jesus!



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Out and About in Kansas

President Panzer's Nov. Travel Schedule

- Nov. 4** Circuit 8 Winkel at Mt. Calvary (Wamego)
- Nov. 9-13** Council of Presidents at Concordia University (St. Paul, Minn.)

PRE-LENT CONFERENCE

The Kansas District Pre-Lent Conference for pastors will be held **February 2-3, 2026**, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Lawrence (2700 Lawrence Ave., Lawrence, KS 66047). The theme is "How the Church's Divine Pedagogy Invites Conversation with Those Who Disagree with Us." The keynote speaker is **Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall**, Assistant Vice President of Mission and Identity and Associate Professor of Theology at Concordia University Chicago.

Participants can arrive Sunday evening, February 1. There will be a Circuit Visitors and Region Vice-Presidents meeting on Sunday at 6 p.m. **Registration is open.** Visit the homepage of the Kansas District website <https://kslcms.org> to register and find a [schedule](#). The **registration deadline is January 26.**



Rev. Joseph Crosswhite III was installed as pastor of First Lutheran Church in Phillipsburg on Sunday, Oct. 19. From left, Revs. Matthew Goehring, Philip Hoppe, Joseph Crosswhite, Joel Hiesterman, David Hutson and Justin Panzer.

Rev. Michael and DCE Shanna Hageman were installed as LCMS missionaries to Tanzania at Faith Lutheran Church, Abilene on Sunday, September 28. Faith, Abilene was Rev. Hageman's home congregation. From left (first row), Rev. Justin Panzer, DCE Shanna Hageman, Rev. Nathan Harkins, Rev. Dr. Frank Johnson; (back row) Revs. Alan Stahlecker, Michael Hageman and Gary Wolf.



Pastors celebrating their ordination anniversaries were recognized at the 2025 Joint Church Workers Conference on Oct. 1. From left (years in parentheses), Revs. Timothy Meyer (10), David Kahle (20), Jay Watson (30), Joel Schultz (25), Rodney Fritz (45), Seth Meyer (25) and Dr. Edward Kettner (50).

Not pictured but still celebrating ordination anniversaries are Revs. Henry Blickhahn (10), Dean Christ (15), Clark Davis (45), Ron Gloe (45), Robert Grimm (40), John Kirk (50), CJ Lutinen (10), Timothy McCall (15), Daniel Myers (35), Gerald Radtke (55), Rick Twenhafel (30), Timothy Wangerin (35), Terry Wiechman (15), Dr. Cliff Winter (60) and James Woelmer (35).

CALLS & VACANCIES

PASTORAL CALLS

Rev. Robert Hoffman, St. Stephen, Waterford, MI to First, Paola – **declined**

Rev. George Morris, St. Paul, Watertown, MN to Messiah, Emporia – **declined**

Rev. George Morris, St. Paul, Watertown, MN to St. Paul, Leavenworth – **declined**

Rev. Darren Pflughoeft, St. Paul, Lusk, WY to Holy Cross, Dodge City – **pending**

Rev. Caleb Schewe, St. John, Monticello, IA to Holy Cross, Dodge City – **declined**

PENDING ORDINATIONS / INSTALLATIONS

Rev. Albert Bader, St. John, Ogallala, NE to Immanuel & Bethlehem, Bremen – **installation Sunday, Nov. 16, 2025, 8:30 a.m. at Immanuel, Bremen**

Rev. Jody Walter, Emeritus, Webster, WI to Immanuel, Hoxie & Immanuel, Oakley – **installation Sunday, Nov. 16, 2025, at 3 p.m.**

Rev. John Philipp Augustine, Plainview, MN to Christ, Augusta & Grace, El Dorado – **installation Sunday, Nov. 30, 2025, at 3 p.m. at Grace, El Dorado**

Rev. Reed Shoaff, Salem, Taylorsville, NC to Messiah, Hays – **accepted, installation pending**

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CALLS – from the field

DCE Heather McCormick, Faith, Topeka to St. Paul, Pipestone, MN – **declined**

CONGREGATIONS CALLING or PREPARING TO CALL A FULL-TIME PASTOR

Chanute, Zion (sole)	Hoisington, Concordia (sole)
Dodge City, Holy Cross (sole)	Leavenworth, St. Paul (sole)
Ellinwood, St. John (senior)	Medicine Lodge, Trinity & St. John, Nashville (sole)
Emporia, Messiah (sole)	Paola, First (sole)
Garden City, Trinity (senior)	Wichita, St. Andrews (sole)

CONGREGATIONS CALLING A COMMISSIONED MINISTER

Cheney, St. Paul's (Teacher)
Leavenworth, St. Paul (Principal) (Teacher)
Ottawa, Faith (Director of Church Ministries)
Shawnee, Hope (5th grade Teacher)
Wichita, Ascension (Teacher)

NOVEMBER PRAYER REQUESTS

Those grieving the loss of loved ones

- ♦ **Family and friends of George Brown**, father of Rev. Luke Brown, pastor of Immanuel, Ellsworth. George entered his heavenly rest October 21.
- ♦ **Family and friends of Rev. Paul Hoppe**, father of Rev. Philip Hoppe, pastor of Trinity, Colby. Rev. Paul Hoppe entered his heavenly rest October 13.
- ♦ **Family and friends of Chris Rau**, father-in-law of Rev. Don Haselhuhn, pastor of St. John, Lincoln, and St. Paul, Westfall. Chris entered his heavenly rest October 1.
- ♦ **Family and friends of Vickie Doughty**, sister of Rev. Van Edward Mease, pastor emeritus. Vickie entered her heavenly rest September 13.
- ♦ **Family and friends of Rev. Daniel Matasovsky**, brother-in-law of Rev. Dennis Hill, pastor emeritus. Rev. Matasovsky entered his heavenly rest September 13.

Those experiencing recent / ongoing health issues

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ♦ Kevin Adams | ♦ Rev. Dean Christ | ♦ Rev. Dennis Hill |
| ♦ Rev. Richard Andrus | ♦ Rev. David Gruoner | ♦ Rev. David McCloskey |
| ♦ Simon Begley | ♦ Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan | ♦ Carrie Meyers |
| ♦ Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer | ♦ Cindy Hammons | ♦ Rev. Kevin Peterson |
| | | ♦ Ashley Real |

Those celebrating the gift of new life

- ♦ **Chaplain Cody and Katie Norton** (son Henry Earl, Oct. 4).
- ♦ **Rev. Michael and Lindsey Schmidt** (daughter Annabelle Claire, Sept. 9).

Congregations / Schools Facebook Prayer List

- | | |
|---|---|
| ♦ Trinity Lutheran Church, Colby – Nov. 3 | ♦ Lord of Life Lutheran Church & Early Education Center, Leawood – Nov. 17 |
| ♦ St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool, Fairview, and Zion Lutheran Church, Hiawatha – Nov. 10 | ♦ Messiah Lutheran Church, Emporia – Nov. 24 |

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

† Redeemer Lutheran Mission,
Lake Wabaunsee

🌐 Jesus Door-2-Door

Out and About in Kansas

Rev. Daniel Grams' Nov.
Travel Schedule

- Nov. 2 Circuit 13 Reformation Service and KLSSF presentation at St. Peter (Holyrood)
- Nov. 3 KLSSF information session at Fairmount Coffee Co. (Wichita)
- Nov. 4 Circuit 11 Winkel at St. Paul (Cheney)
- Nov. 5 Holy Cross Lutheran School visit (Wichita)
- Nov. 7-8 LCEF Conference (St. Louis, Mo.)
- Nov. 11 Circuit 7 Winkel at Mt. Calvary (Marysville)
- Nov. 11 Linn Lutheran School visit (Linn)
- Nov. 12 Good Shepherd Lutheran School visit (Marysville)
- Nov. 14-15 Kansas District Youth Gathering at Rock Springs (Junction City)
- Nov. 16 Stewardship Sunday at Faith (Ottawa)
- Nov. 21 Trinity Lutheran School visit (Winfield)
- Nov. 22 Stewardship Philippians Conference at Trinity (Winfield)
- Nov. 22-23 Preaching at Trinity (Winfield)



Pictured from left to right is President Rev. Justin Panzer, Rev. John Fries (pastor of the SPR Partnership) and Rev. Christopher Kellogg (emeritus pastor who helped implement Redeemer Lutheran Mission as a mission outreach project.)

Congratulations!

Redeemer Lutheran Mission, Lake Wabaunsee, was officially chartered as a congregation of the LCMS Kansas District on Sunday, October 12. Over 70 people were in attendance for the service.

Redeemer is part of the SPR Partnership with St. Paul's, Alta Vista and St. Paul's, Clark's Creek. They are served by Rev. John Fries. **Soli Deo Gloria!**

On October 11, Rev. Timothy Koch was invited to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis to lead a Jesus Door-2-Door (JD2D) event with some of the faculty and students. Rev. Matthew Clark and Ascension Lutheran

Jesus Door-2-Door



Church graciously served as hosts.

11 canvassing teams knocked on 351 houses and conducted 68 surveys. **Two individuals expressed a desire for a follow-up visit from the church.** Of the 68 surveys taken, when asked "Where do you believe you will go when you die?" 16 (23.5%) responded with a different answer than "Heaven." Of those who did respond with "Heaven," 13 (19%) were certain of their salvation because of what Jesus did for them.

EDUCATION & YOUTH



Youth Ministry



Educator Service Anniversaries



Kansas Lutheran Schools
Scholarship Foundation (KLSSF)



Educators celebrating their service anniversaries

were recognized at the 2025 Joint Church Workers Conference on Oct. 1. From left (years in parentheses), Amy Goltl (5), Marjorie Krzesinski (40), Amy Schultz (35), Sue Kleber (50), David Birnbaum (35) and Roxanne Bayer (40).

Not pictured but still celebrating service anniversaries are Robert Achong (25), Kathy Bartels (35), Connie Becker (55), Karen Boettcher (50), Teddy Boettcher (50), Marilyn Bruenger (60), Christopher Dehning (15), Janet Dobler (30), Marsha Domann (25), Charles Eaton (50), Jay Floetke (55), Debra Freel (45), Philip Frusti (25), Helen Genter (60), Erin Grass (10), Donna Hass (65), Becky Hillman (45), Karen Horigan (40), Michelle Howard (10), Joshua Keithley (20), Karen Maxson (10), David Ochs (45), Janette Reinke (30), Doreen Scheuerman (20), Evelyn Schmidt (40), Kate Soeken (15), Arlyn Sprecher (55), Gwen Thomas (40), Sarah Warneke (5) and Andrea White (20).



Join the [Kansas District Youth Ministry Facebook page!](#)



Kansas District Youth Ministry Events 2025-2026



kslcms.org/education-youth/youth-ministry



Youth Lead Training
March 19-22, 2026 (St. Louis, MO)



Middle School Huddle
April 17-18, 2026
Rock Springs Ranch (Junction City, KS)



Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR) Camp
May 31-June 5, 2026 (Woodland Park, CO)



Higher Things 2026 Dates
higherthings.org/dcrh/



LCMS Youth Gathering 2028
July 3-7, 2028

Kansas District Youth Gathering



The Kansas District Youth Gathering (KDYG) will be held **November 14-16, 2025**, at Rock Springs Ranch near Junction City. The theme for this year's KDYG is

"FearLESS" based on Joshua 1:9. The keynote speaker is **Chad Janetzke**, theology teacher and Theology Department Chair of Martin Luther High School in Greendale, Wis.

The KDYG is designed for youth in grades 9-12 and their adult leaders.

Visit the KDYG page on the District website for more details, <https://kslcms.org/kdyg>.



St. Paul Lutheran Church, Preston



Trinity Lutheran Church, Ramona



First Lutheran Church & Preschool, Sabetha



Christ the King Lutheran Church, Salina

EDUCATION & YOUTH

Empowering Futures
Formed by Faith



Do you want to transform lives through Lutheran education? Support the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation and empower students with Christ-centered scholarships!

Why Donate?



- 75% State Tax Credit
- 90% of your donation provides up to \$8,000 in scholarships per student
- Scholarships serve low-income students
- Strengthen Lutheran schools and support KLSSF in expanding their mission & impact.

REV. DANIEL GRAMS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

☎ (785) 357-4441

✉ www.klssf.org

🌐 dgrams@klssf.org

(Continued on Page 8)



Trinity Lutheran Church, Salina



Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Scott City



Augsburg Lutheran Church, Shawnee

EDUCATION & YOUTH

Empowering Futures
Formed by Faith



Do you want to transform lives through Lutheran education? Support the Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation and empower students with Christ-centered scholarships!

Support the Mission: Share!

Help spread KLSSF's mission through our downloadable PR Kit, including a bulletin insert, social media graphics, email template, and more!

[Download the PR Kit](#)

KLSSF, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 99-3778196. All donations are tax deductible.

REV. DANIEL GRAMS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

☎ (785) 357-4441

✉ www.klssf.org

🌐 dgrams@klssf.org

CARING MINISTRY



LERT / Disaster Response



Parish Nurse Ministry



2026 Kansas District
Life Conference



LCMS Disaster Response provides an opportunity for the church to be visibly active in reaching out in mercy to serve the hurting with physical and spiritual care. Providing mercy care opens the door to Gospel proclamation.

- Deac. Laura Seaman

Lutheran Early Response Team

"I'm a trained and credentialed LERT Volunteer; now what?" This is one of the top three questions we receive following a Basic Training event. During our training, we talk about how to respond to disasters, what to do, what to say, and how to keep safety a priority. We want to prepare you the best we can for these events that come without warning. However, what about the "off season," that time in between? How does your disaster response training tie into everyday life, including the church and communities in which we live? That, in itself, is the answer to the question. Some of our

best work is done within our congregations and communities in ALL seasons. Training received from your LERT facilitators has a natural progression into the Christ Care groups already functioning within your congregation. The better question is, *"How do I use my LERT training to walk alongside other groups and organizations, perhaps in a support role, to enhance what is already being done?"* There is also the option to create your own service events and/or projects. *Faith at Work* (April 2026) is a great way to focus on these needs as a Christ-centered community, motivated by the love of

Christ. We have a brochure that outlines suggestions and talking points for you to consider when asking these questions. If you would like to have a copy, please contact Donna Williams.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. - Ephesians 2:10

LERT Basic Training

December 6, 2025

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church,
Atchison (603 N 8th St.,
Atchison, KS 66002)

Details and registration:

<https://www.lcms-lert.org>

Blessings,

Donna Williams

ksddrc@gmail.com

Alzheimer's Disease and the Strength of Spirituality

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive neurological disorder that affects memory, thinking, and behavior. It can be deeply challenging for both individuals diagnosed and their families, as the disease gradually impacts daily functioning and personal identity. Early detection, supportive care, and a stable routine can help improve quality of life. While there is no cure, medical advances and compassionate caregiving play a vital role in managing symptoms.

Spirituality offers comfort and hope amid the struggles of Alzheimer's. Faith-based practices such as prayer, Scripture reading, and music can provide a sense of peace and connection, even when verbal communication becomes difficult. Spiritual care affirms the person's value and dignity, reminding families that each life holds purpose, even in illness. For caregivers, leaning on spiritual strength can offer resilience, patience, and compassion. In the journey through Alzheimer's, faith can serve as a steady light in times of uncertainty and change.

Mary Hume, Parish Nurse and Kansas District Representative for Parish Nurses

2026 Life Conference

The Kansas District Life Conference will be held **Wednesday, January 28, 2026**, at St. John's in Topeka (901 SW Fillmore St., Topeka, KS 66606). The 2026 Kansas District Life Conference will once again be in conjunction with the 2026 Kansas March for Life.

Visit the Life Conference webpage on the District website, <https://kslcms.org/2026-life-conference> to register and find more information.

The keynote speaker will be **Rev. Mark Preus**, pastor of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church and Campus Center in Laramie, Wyoming. The topic of this year's life conference will be "Why Pro-Natalism is Not Pro-Life."

BUSINESS OFFICE



Kansas District Resources



Announcements and Reminders

2026 Kansas District Salary, Benefit Guidelines

The 2026 Kansas District Salary and Benefit Guidelines are available on the [District Resources](#) page of our website. The guidelines provide congregations with an objective approach to developing a suitable compensation plan for church workers. If you have any questions, call the Business Office at 785-357-4441, ext. 1002, or email **Heather Williams** at heather@kslcms.org.

2025 Year-End Checklist

As the end of 2025 approaches, the **2025 Year-End Checklist** is available for congregational treasurers. Click on the provided link to access the checklist: [2025 Year-End Checklist](#). You can also find it on the District Resources page of the District website, <https://kslcms.org/business-office/district-resources>.

Please note that the end of the 2025 fiscal year is Thursday, January 15, 2026. Anything received in the District office after January 15 will be posted to the 2026 fiscal year.

Concordia Plans: 2026 Benefits

Don't forget to enroll for 2026 benefits with Concordia Plans. Workers can enroll in a 403(b) retirement savings plan, supplemental life insurance, and health, dental and vision benefits. Concordia Plans also encourages members to log in to their portals to access a variety of wellness solutions. **Open enrollment is Nov. 3-14.** Visit ConcordiaPlans.org to enroll in 2026 benefits.

Automatically Created GoFundMe Non-Profit Accounts

Recently, GoFundMe has begun automatically creating donation pages for non-profits using publicly available IRS data—without the organizations' direct consent. This development directly affects many non-profit organizations, including congregations, schools, and other ministries.

If your congregation or school appears on GoFundMe, please note:

- ♦ No action is required unless you wish to manage the page directly.
- ♦ Claiming a page allows your organization to link a bank account, control the content, view donor information, and ensure proper handling of gifts—but it also brings responsibilities for oversight, donor acknowledgment, and recordkeeping.
- ♦ Not claiming the page avoids these responsibilities, but it's wise to check the site occasionally to make sure your organization's name and information are used appropriately.
- ♦ GoFundMe's terms allow non-profits to request removal of an automatically created page if they do not wish to be listed.

You can search to see whether your church or school has a GoFundMe page by visiting: <https://www.gofundme.com/s?nonprofits=1>. Many LCMS Kansas District ministries are listed here.

While these pages may provide another way for supporters to give, the automatic setup can cause confusion or reputational risk if left unmanaged. We encourage you to check whether your ministry has a GoFundMe page and take action as appropriate. For more information, see GoFundMe's nonprofit terms: <https://www.gofundme.com/c/gofundme-pro-terms>.

Congregational Commitments

Every fall, congregations are given the opportunity to make a commitment to support our joint work in the Kansas District and the Synod for the upcoming year. We appreciate your prayerful consideration for your 2026 commitment!

Congregational commitment forms were mailed to congregations in September, along with an updated "Mission and Ministry" document and a 2025 Kansas District budget summary. Please submit your 2026 form by **Nov. 30** (January 15, 2026, at the latest) in any of the following ways:

- ♦ Email / scan your form to **Shannon Fender** at shannon@kslcms.org or call 785-357-4441, ext. 1001. You can also fax your form to 785-357-5071.
- ♦ Mail your form to the LCMS Kansas District, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604-1104.

Lutheran Witness Billings

Payment for 2025-2026 *Lutheran Witness* subscriptions is due to the District office no later than **Dec. 31, 2025**. 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, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604-1104, Attn: Shannon Fender.

**Please note that 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 for a change form.

LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND (LCEF)



Kansas District Resources



Announcements and Reminders



Dear Kansas District Members,

LCEF's goal is to meet your congregations where they are at and to meet their needs, both immediate and long-term.

You may know that LCEF offers [large construction and renovation loans](#), but did you know we offer smaller loans designed specifically for immediate needs?

Have a leaky roof? Broken organ? Need new carpet? LCEF's [Ministry Improvement Loan](#) may be just what your church needs.

The Ministry Improvement Loan is ideal for repairs, upgrades and enhancements that create a welcoming and functional space for your congregation and visitors. Enjoy features like:

- ♦ Interest-only payments for the first two years
- ♦ Funding up to \$150,000
- ♦ Quick approval process for most unsecured loans

If you find yourself needing a quick fix with a trusted partner, please reach out. I would love to see if an [LCEF Ministry Improvement Loan](#) is what your congregation needs.



Blessings,

Jeffrey Maltz

jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org

785-230-4112

LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not Are IC-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.

Everyday Access

Faithful Purpose

An All Access Account from LCEF offers easy access, online convenience and the opportunity to grow your investment while supporting LCMS ministries.



SUPPORT LCMS MINISTRIES



INTEREST COMPOUNDED AND PAID MONTHLY



NO MONTHLY OR MEMBERSHIP FEES



OPTIONAL VISA* DEBIT CARD



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LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

lcef.org/AllAccess

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4%

Pick Your Term



LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

LCEF offers fixed-rate term notes for 6 months, 1 year, 3 years, and 5 years – all at 4%.

A term note at LCEF allows you to grow your funds while making a real difference. Choose the term that fits your goals and enjoy peace of mind knowing your investment is supporting LCMS ministries and churches.

Please visit the LCEF website <https://lcef.org/term-notes> to see all current rates.

Hope Lutheran Church & School, Shawnee



Grace Lutheran Church, Strong City



Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Sylvan Grove



DISTRICT MEETINGS & EVENTS

DISTRICT CALENDAR

<https://kslcms.org/calendar>

NOVEMBER

- | | |
|--|---|
| Nov. 1 LERT Quarterly meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (Zoom) | Nov. 7-8 LCEF Conference (St. Louis, Mo.) |
| Nov. 1 Treasurers Workshop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (Immanuel, Columbus, Neb.) | Nov. 10-13 Council of Presidents (St. Paul, Minn.) |
| Nov. 3 Board of Administration and Stewardship, 10-11 a.m. (Zoom) | Nov. 14-16 KDYG (Rock Springs Ranch, Junction City) |
| Nov. 3 Executive Committee, 1-2 p.m. (Zoom) | Nov. 18 Older Adult Committee, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (Zoom) |
| Nov. 3 KLSSF information session at Fairmount Coffee Co., 6:30 p.m. (Wichita) | Nov. 18 Middle School Huddle planning, 1-2:30 p.m. (Zoom) |
| Nov. 6 President's Council, 1-5 p.m. | Nov. 18-21 Joint Business Administration Conference (St. Louis, Mo.) |
| Nov. 7 Board of Directors, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (District office, Topeka) | Nov. 22 Stewardship Philippians Conference (Trinity, Winfield) |

NOV./DEC./JAN.

- Nov. 26-30** Thanksgiving Break (District office closed at 2 p.m. Wednesday the 26th; District office closed the 27th - 30th)
- Dec. 2** Kansas District Leadership Team School Improvement Day (Smoky Hill Education Service Center, Salina)
- Dec. 2-3** Office of National Mission meetings (St. Louis, Mo.)
- Dec. 6** LERT Basic Training, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (Trinity, Atchison)
- Dec. 23 - Jan. 4** Christmas Break (District office closed at 2 p.m. Tuesday the 23rd; District office closed Dec. 24th - Jan. 4th)
- Jan. 12** Board of Education and Youth, 4:30 p.m. (Zoom)

JANUARY

- Jan. 13** Board of Missions, 4:00 p.m. (Zoom)
- Jan. 15** Board of Caring Ministry, 1 p.m. (Zoom)
- Jan. 15-17** LCMS CCN meetings (St. Louis, Mo.)
- Jan. 20** Older Adult Committee, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (Zoom)
- Jan. 21** Lutheran Social Service BOD meeting, 10 a.m. (Wichita)
- Jan. 21** Church Worker Care Team meeting, 1-2:30 p.m. (Zoom)
- Jan. 23-24** LERT Leadership Retreat
- Jan. 28** Kansas District Life Conference, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (St. John's, Topeka)
- Jan. 28** March For Life, 12-1:30 p.m. (Kansas State Capitol, downtown Topeka)

Hymn Festival: Trinity, Mission Campus

A hymn festival will be held on **Saturday, November 8, 5:30 p.m.** at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mission (5601 W 62nd St., Mission, KS 66202) in celebration of Trinity's 85th anniversary and the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. Special guests include organist **Paul Soulek**, Cantor of St. John's Lutheran Church and School in Seward, Neb., student brass players from Concordia University Nebraska, and the Trinity Choir. Participants will be led in hymns, anthems, reflections, scripture, and prayer. The musicians will help attendees learn new hymns and will bring new life to the old favorites through creative musical accompaniments. Please join the hymn festival!

Visit the Trinity, Mission website for more information, <https://tlcms.org/save-the-date-hymn-festival-with-paul-soulek/>.

Concordia Academy – Wichita Concert Series

Concordia Academy – Wichita will be hosting their third annual Concert Series on **Friday, November 14, 7 p.m.** at Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Wichita (6770 E. 34th Street North, Wichita, KS 67226). This event will celebrate Lutheran musical heritage while building community through music, art, and fellowship.

This year's feature is Felix Mendelssohn's **Te Deum**, presented in partnership with the Wichita Grand Opera. The evening will also include a student art show and reception.

Donations will be accepted at the door to benefit the growth Concordia Academy – Wichita and the students.

Visit CAWichita.org for event updates.

Two Kingdoms & The Champions Network

There will be a Liberty weekend held **Saturday, November 15, 8:30 a.m.-noon** at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Liberty, Mo. (205 N. Forest Avenue, Liberty, MO 64068).

There will be three sessions led by **Rev. Mark Firth**, Network Director of Champions for Religious Liberty.

Lunch is provided. Please RSVP by Nov. 10 by completing the following registration: [Two Kingdoms Workshop Registration](https://www.lcrlfreedom.org/champions).

Contact championsnetworkoffice@gmail.com or call 913-732-1090. For more information about The Champions Network, visit <https://www.lcrlfreedom.org/champions>.



St. John's Lutheran Church, Tampa



Calvary Lutheran Church & Learning Center, Topeka



Christ Lutheran Church, Topeka



Faith Lutheran Church, Topeka

SYNOD & PARTNERS



**FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP
FACILITATOR
TRAINING**

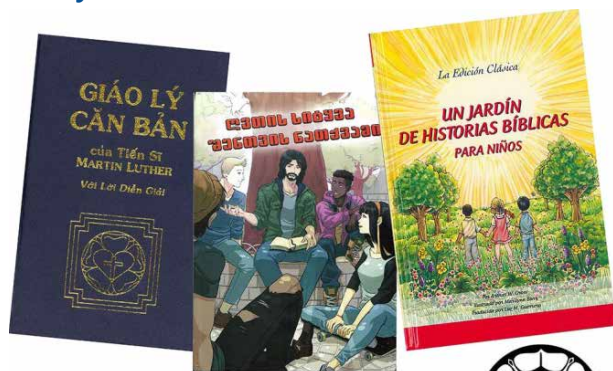
CONCORDIA CENTER
FOR THE FAMILY

Concordia Center for the Family, a Registered Service Organization of the LCMS, is uniting homes and congregations in making lifelong disciples of Jesus.

Through foundational training events, Family

Discipleship Facilitators are being equipped and inspired to strengthen the marriages and families served by our LCMS congregations and schools. *CCF wants YOU as a Family Discipleship Facilitator!* This training opportunity is for called and commissioned leaders of LCMS congregations and schools, along with lay family ministry leaders.

Find out more about the 2026 trainings at <https://fd-training-concordiafamily.org>. Also consider CCF's *Faith & Life Survey* tool to assess how well you are serving families. Find out more at <https://concordiacenterforthefamily.org/faith-life-survey>.



Does your church or school have families whose first language isn't English? Why not share a Lutheran book about Jesus with them in their heart language? Get **FREE** resources from the Lutheran Heritage Foundation, including children's Bible storybooks and Luther's *Small Catechism* in more than 180 languages! Visit www.LHFmissions.org for more information.



The resources from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) are intended to encour-

age youth — and adults — to consider becoming a pastor, deaconess, Lutheran school teacher, director of Christian education, director of parish music, director of family life ministries, director of church ministries or director of outreach.

The resources, which include conversation guides, Bible studies, and journey maps, will help you talk about church work and guide young people on their journey to a church work vocation.

Visit <https://resources.lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve> to find resources.

Concordia Technology Solutions

Churches in the Kansas District can now get \$100 off their first purchase of **Church360°**— a suite of easy-to-use tools for managing members, tracking finances, and organizing church life.

This special offer is available through our partnership with Concordia Technology Solutions:

<https://www.concordiatechnology.org/church360-lcms-district-referrals>.

LCMS National Mission: God's Mission Here Podcast

One of the top priorities of the LCMS is to promote and nurture the spiritual, emotional and physical well-being of pastors and professional church workers.

The LCMS National Mission just released Season 10 of the *God's Mission Here* podcast, which covers the topic of church worker wellness. Listen in and find great insights on how to support and care for church workers.

Click on the provided link to listen to the newest podcast episodes: [God's Mission Here, Season 10](https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/church-worker-wellness)

For more information and resources on church worker wellness, visit <https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/church-worker-wellness>.



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & Preschool, Topeka



St. John's Lutheran Church & Classical School, Topeka



Grace Lutheran Church, Ulysses



Zion Lutheran Church, Vassar

AROUND THE DISTRICT



Lutherans For Life Workshop, Circuit 8 Worship Service & Presentations

The Flint Hills chapter of Lutherans For Life hosted a Life Workshop on Saturday, October 25. **Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske**, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life, was the keynote speaker and focused the presentation and dialogue on reaching out to support those that are struggling with life issues. 20 people from the Flint Hills region attended the workshop.

Circuit 8 hosted two events on Sunday, October 26. The first event was a worship service at St. Paul's, Clark's Creek (Junction City). Approximately 65 parishioners participated in the worship service. **Rev. John Fries** (pastor of the SPR Partnership) was the Celebrant and the guest preacher was **Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske** (Executive Director of Lutherans For Life). Participating Circuit 8 pastors included Rev. Robert Grimm (St. John, Alma), Rev. Terry DeGiovanni (St. Luke, Wheaton), Rev. James Woelmer (Christ, Manhattan), Rev. Jim Price (Mt. Calvary, Wamego), Rev. Michael Schmidt (St. Luke's, Manhattan) and Rev. Larry Boye (Emeritus).

The second event was a Circuit 8 forum held at St. Paul's, Clark's Creek. Short presentations regarding LLL/Lutheran Hour Ministries, LWML and LFL were presented by Brad and Susan Brunkow and Judy Boye, respectively. The keynote presentation was delivered by **Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske**, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life. Dr. Fenske focused on life issues through the lens of Biblical teachings, along with logical extensions that impinge on what we believe, teach and confess. Dr. Fenske encouraged congregations to develop plans to provide sanctuary for those affected by surprise or unplanned pregnancies along with many other topics (e.g., assisted suicide, elder care, etc.) that are focus points for Lutherans For Life. The presentations were well received, and about 50 people were in attendance.



LWML Sunday: Immanuel, Bremen

Immanuel Lutheran Church in Bremen celebrated LWML Sunday on October 19. Colorful tied quilts and pillowcase sun dresses were displayed in the sanctuary. These items will be delivered to The Orphan Grain Train. **Praise God for the many gifts and talents of those involved with the LWML!**



Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Wamego



Trinity Lutheran Church, Waterville



Christ Lutheran Church, Wathena

AROUND THE DISTRICT



Lutherans For Life National Conference

Kansas pastors and congregants attended the **Lutherans For Life National Conference** in Colorado Springs, Colo., September 23-26.

Attendees were encouraged in the continued work of upholding and defending life from natural conception to natural death, as well as hearing multiple presentations on practical considerations in dealing with a variety of life issues.

For more information about Lutherans For Life, visit <https://lutheransforlife.org>.

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Donna Williams
Disaster Response Coordinator

CONTACT US

LCMS Kansas District Office

1000 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66604-1104

Phone: 785-357-4441

Fax: 785-357-5071

Website: <https://kslcms.org>

Facebook: facebook.com/kslcms/