



WORKERS TOGETHER

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

MARCH 2026

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ABOVE LEFT: The sanctuary is prepared for Lent at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Kansas City, Kan.
ABOVE RIGHT: The sanctuary is prepared for Lent at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Olathe.
BELOW: The sanctuary is prepared for Lent at Zion Lutheran Church in Vassar.



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Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Kan.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church & Preschool, Kansas City, Kan.

Grace Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Kan.

First Saint John Lutheran Church & Preschool, Kensington

MONTHLY DEVOTION



Rev. Michael Schotte
Second Vice-President
Region 3



March Devotion

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

John 8:31-32

His Word Proclaimed, We Abide In It

“Abide in My Word,” Jesus urges us (*John 8:31*). We are to abide in His Word so that it will be properly proclaimed and heard by us for our life and salvation. At the heart of good and right proclamation and understanding of all of the words that Jesus speaks and are written for us is the proper distinction between Law and Gospel. This is not an outdated concept or only a doctrinal principle from days gone by. It is the way Scriptures—the Word of our Lord—must be understood.

Pages of material have been written, many lectures have been presented, and discussions still continue about

what the right understanding of Law and Gospel is. Still, this can be simply summarized. God’s Law holds us accountable before Him. It reveals to us that we are sinners in the presence of a holy God. The Law silences any of our attempts to justify ourselves or to gain His favor because of any good excuse we think we have or any noble deed we think we have done. The Law shows us our sins and what our sins have earned for us—that is, death and eternal condemnation. This can only crush our hearts and open our ears to hear Jesus’ call to us to repent (*Mark 1:14-15*).

“Abide in my Word,” Jesus urges us. Know, too, that He speaks to you the life-saving Gospel. The Gospel is all about the gift of eternal life and salvation that Jesus has earned for you, forgiving all of your sin by His death on a cross. The Gospel is that Jesus

came to seek and to save us lost sinners (*Luke 19:10*) by bearing our sin and its punishment for us. Now we have peace in Jesus, not as the world gives (*John 14:27*), but peace that surpasses all understanding (*Philippians 4:7*).

Is God’s Law, then without purpose or benefit? By no means! It rules our lives and guides us in the way we are to love and serve God by loving and serving our neighbor. The Ten Commandments abide as the beautiful summary of the way of life for believers in Jesus, God’s Son. Because Jesus lives, risen from the dead, we too even now live in this newness of life as we wait for our heavenly inheritance gained for us by Jesus.

Rev. Schotte also serves as pastor of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Preston.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

2026 Pastors Fall Conference:
Call for Papers

Pastoral Reading Groups

Pastoral Installations

2026 Statistical Reporting

Out and About in Kansas

President Panzer's
March Travel
Schedule

March 1
Preaching at Zion
(Vassar)

March 3
Circuit 13 Winkel
at Immanuel
(Ellsworth)

March 10
Circuit 12 Winkel
at Christ the King
(Salina)

March 17
Circuit 9 Winkel
at Our Savior
(Marion)

2026 Pastors Fall Conference: Call for Papers

The 2026 Pastors Fall Conference will be held **Oct. 5-6, 2026**, at Zion Lutheran Church in Newton. Kansas District Vice-Presidents and Circuit Visitors will meet on Sunday evening, Oct. 4.

The theme of the Pastors Conference is "Truth: Abiding in the Word in Cases of Conscience" based on Psalm 86:11. The keynote speakers are **Rev. Dr. Brian German**, Assistant Professor/Chair of Theology at Concordia University Wisconsin, and Director of the Concordia Bible Institute; and **Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford**, President of the LCMS Minnesota South District, and Associate Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Farmington, Minn.

The Pastors Conference Planning Committee is requesting abstract papers from Kansas District pastors, to be presented as breakout sessions at the Pastors Conference. Six breakout sessions need to be filled. Papers are encouraged to be related to the conference theme; those papers on topic will be given preference.

Pastors: please submit your abstract paper to **Tami Lierz** at tami@kslcms.org no later than May 1, 2026.

Congregation Statistical Reports

Be sure to submit your congregation's end-of-year statistics for 2025 and update your current list of lay leaders at the following website: <https://lc.lcms.org/>.

The deadline for reporting is March 31, 2026. You may review your congregation's profile and update lay leader information throughout the year to make sure your contact information, service times, and other important data are current. If you do not have your congregation's login information, contact LCMS Rosters, Statistics and Research Services at rosters.statistics@lcms.org or 314-996-1366.

Up-to-date statistical information is essential for the Synod as it plans current and future ministry efforts. Such information is also critical for determining proper voting representation at conventions (see LCMS Bylaw 1.3.4.3). **Your timely completion of the report is appreciated!**

District Pastoral Reading Groups

There are study groups for pastors located around the Kansas District! Please email the listed contact if you are interested in joining one of these study groups.

Cross Connections

(meets the last Tuesday of the month)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
2200 3rd Ave.
Dodge City, KS 67801

Contact:

jason.toombs@gmail.com

Oratio Meditatio Tentatio

(meets every third Tuesday of the month)

Trinity Lutheran Church
611 S. Erie St.
Wichita, KS 67211

Contact:

pateraaron@gmail.com

Ora. Labora. Lege.

(meets the last Tuesday of the month)

Calvary Lutheran Church
4211 NW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66617

Contact:

pastoripkinney@gmail.com



Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church,
Kinsley

Redeemer Lutheran Mission,
Lake Wabauensee

Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Lakin

Grace Lutheran Church,
Larned

Immanuel Lutheran
Church, Lawrence

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE



Rev. Richard (Adam) Bridgman was installed as pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church in Emporia on Sunday, February 15, 2026.

From left, (front row) Revs. Timothy Booth, Adam Bridgman, Justin Panzer, Peter Bertram; (back row) Revs. Timothy Roth, Bert Tegtmeier, Alan Stahlecker and Daniel Grams.

SMP Candidate Andrew Gunzelman was ordained and installed as associate pastor of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Leawood on Sunday, February 22, 2026.

From left, (front row) Revs. Justin Panzer, Scott Holder, Andrew Gunzelman; (back row) Revs. Thomas Brewer, Thomas Krause, John Kastner, Jacob Mueller, Ryan Brons and Philip Cook.



CALLS & VACANCIES

PASTORAL CALLS

Rev. Michael Henrichs, Our Savior, WI to First, Paola – **declined**

Rev. Nathan Misch, St. Paul, Plainview, TX to T.I.G. Partnership – **pending**

Rev. Timothy Schmeisser, St. Peter's, Swanville, MN to Trinity, Medicine Lodge and St. John's, Nashville – **pending**

PENDING ORDINATIONS / INSTALLATIONS

Rev. David Weaver, Trinity, Stewardson, IL to St. John, Ellinwood – **accepted, installation Sunday, April 12, 2026, at 3 p.m.**

Rev. Robert Leiste, Intentional Interim Pastor to Faith, Derby – **accepted, installation Sunday, May 3, 2026**

Rev. Nathan Neugebauer, St. John's, Revillo and Bethlehem, Milbank, SD to Holy Cross, Dodge City – **accepted, installation Sunday, May 3, 2026**

CONGREGATIONS CALLING or PREPARING TO CALL A FULL-TIME PASTOR

Ellsworth, Immanuel (sole)	Medicine Lodge, Trinity & St. John's, Nashville (sole)
Garden City, Trinity (senior)	Paola, First (sole)
Hoisington, Concordia (sole)	Wichita, Holy Cross (associate) (seminary)
Leavenworth, St. Paul (sole)	Wichita, St. Andrews (sole) (seminary)

CONGREGATIONS CALLING A COMMISSIONED MINISTER

Leavenworth, St. Paul (Principal) (Teacher)
Shawnee, Hope (5th Grade Teacher)
Wichita, Ascension (Teacher)

MARCH PRAYER REQUESTS

Those grieving the loss of loved ones

- **Family of Josiah Robert Woelmer** (parents Rev. David and Elizabeth Woelmer; grandparents Rev. Peter and Marcia Lange and Rev. James and Rachel Woelmer). Josiah entered his heavenly rest February 27.

Those experiencing recent / ongoing health issues

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Rev. Richard Andrus | • Rev. David Gruoner | • Rev. David McCloskey |
| • Simon Begley | • Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan | • Carrie Meyers |
| • Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer | • Rev. James Kirschenmann | • Rev. Kevin Peterson |
| • Rev. Dean Christ | | |

Those celebrating the gift of new life

- **Rev. Albert and Gretyl Bader** (daughter Blair Janette, Jan. 27).
- **Rev. Joseph and Olivia Goodroad** (son Olaf Martin, Dec. 24).

Congregations / Schools Facebook Prayer List

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Trinity Lutheran Church, Holton – March 2 | • Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Erie, and Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hepler – March 23 |
| • Our Saviour Lutheran Church & Preschool, Kansas City – March 9 | • Christ Lutheran Church, Topeka – March 30 |
| • Trinity Lutheran Church & Preschool, Mission and Shaw- | |

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

Kansas District Scholarships

2026 Pentecost Offering

LCMS U Campus Ministry

Out and About in Kansas

Rev. Daniel Grams'
March Travel Schedule

March 1

Zion Lutheran Church
(Independence)

March 2

Concordia Academy-Wichita
/ Derby School visit

March 2

Kansas Lutheran Schools
Scholarship Foundation Pre-
sentation, Faith (Derby)

March 3

Wichita North Winkel
March 10

Circuit 7-8 Joint Winkel
March 10

Kansas Lutheran Schools
Scholarship Foundation
Presentation (Linn)

March 11

Linn Lutheran School visit
(Linn)

March 15

Immanuel Lutheran Church
(Lawrence)

March 30

Lutheran High School of
Kansas City Chapel

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 \$62,787.45 in scholarships to future church workers!

Scholarship amounts are based on available funds and the number of applicants received. The application deadline is June 1.



Check the Kansas District website for the scholarship application coming soon.

Other organizations offering scholarships to church work students include the Kansas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Lutheran Laymen's League, and St. John's Alumni Association.



Pastors and church workers: please help us connect your students to this ministry at this very important time in their life. We want to encourage you to visit your KSU student on a Monday, and bring them to a Bible Study.

DCE William Prann
(St. Luke's, Manhattan)

wprann@stlukesmanhattan.org
phone: 602-930-7870

Rev. Michael Schmidt
(St. Luke's, Manhattan)

srpastor@stlukesmanhattan.org
phone: 785-370-9790

Rev. Jim Woelmer
(Christ, Manhattan)

jwoelmer@verizon.net
phone: 972-704-6722



2026 Pentecost Offering

We give thanks to God for last year's completion of the two main buildings for the Centre Luthérien d'Études Théologiques (CLET) seminary in Guinea! The first year of classes was held with the seminary students using the newly constructed buildings and campus grounds.

Others news from last year included the celebration of new graduates from Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone, and a number of seminarians and deaconesses being trained at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Ghana.

Pentecost this year is May 24. Check the Guinea/West Africa page on the District website for upcoming information, <https://kslcms.org/guinea-westafrica>.

EDUCATION & YOUTH

2026 Kansas District Youth Ministry

MinistrySafe Webinar and Resources

2026 Concordia Early Childhood Conference

Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation (KLSSF)



2026 Middle School Huddle

The 2026 Middle School Huddle will be held **April 17-18, 2026, at Rock Springs Ranch!** The keynote speaker will be **Rev. Seth Meyer**, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Winfield. Cost is \$100 per person. This year's theme is "Hesed – Steadfast Love, Lovingkindness, Mercy."

Registration is open! Visit <https://kslcms.org/middle-school-huddle> to register and find more information.

The Middle School Huddle is a Kansas District youth event specifically designed for youth who are currently in grades 5-8 and aims to foster faith in Jesus Christ through time of worship, learning, and fellowship with one another. This event takes place at a retreat center, where kids gather over the course of Friday evening and into Saturday afternoon for spiritual growth.

If you have any questions, please contact **DCE Samantha Wagner** (*Christ the King, Salina*) at dcesamanthawagner@gmail.com or at phone number 785-827-7492.

It is the expectation of the Kansas District that congregations have a current background check on file for all adults attending District youth events, just as any adult serving with minors in a congregational setting should. The District recommends running background checks through **MinistrySafe**. The District has partnered with MinistrySafe to provide free child safety resources and training to all member congregations and schools. Background checks through MinistrySafe do have a cost per individual screened.

To access MinistrySafe, visit https://safetysystem.ministrysafe.com/auth/sign_up and use the coupon code **KSLCMS** (you will be asked to put in billing information, but won't be charged unless you run a background check). Contact the Kansas District with questions about MinistrySafe. For additional details, please review the [Kansas District Youth Protection Policy and Guidelines](#).



2026 Lutheran Valley Retreat

The 2026 Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR) will be held **May 31-June 5, 2026, at Woodland Park, Colorado!** This year's theme is

"Summit" which invites students to explore the mountains of the Bible: places where God reveals His greatness and meets His people. Throughout Scripture, mountains mark moments where heaven and earth come together, not because we climb up to God, but because He comes down to us. Each day highlights a biblical mountain, paired with a Psalm of Ascent, showing how God meets us in His Word and Sacraments, and ultimately reveals His love and power in Jesus Christ.

Visit <https://kslcms.org/lvr> for more information. LVR is for high school youth who have completed grade 8. Click on the provided link to learn more: [What to Expect at LVR](#).



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





Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lawrence



St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, Leavenworth



Trinity Lutheran Church, Leavenworth

EDUCATION & YOUTH

2026 Higher Things Dates & Locations

June 23-26, 2026

Washington University
St. Louis, MO

June 30-July 3, 2026

Washington University
St. Louis, MO

July 14-17, 2026

Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO

Visit the *Higher Things* website

<https://higherthings.org/dcrh>

Pricing

February 1 - April 30, 2026:

WashU - \$605

CSU - \$625

On or after May 1, 2026:

WashU - \$655

CSU - \$675

A nonrefundable deposit of \$150 is required to secure every attendee's spot at their desired conference, especially if said site reaches capacity and the waitlist policy is implemented.

MinistrySafe

Journey to a Safer Ministry

MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES



There is a new MinistrySafe Webinar Series offered in 2026 titled *The Journey to a Safer Ministry*. This free webinar is a monthly, one-hour series designed to help ministry leaders take meaningful steps toward stronger child protection. Through practical teaching from MinistrySafe experts, you'll learn what it means to move toward a safer ministry.

Topics include understanding risk, identifying vulnerabilities, implementing safeguards, and building a culture of protection for children and volunteers.

Journey to a Safer Ministry Webinar Schedule:

March 24, 2026 - 10:00 a.m. CT

Building the System: Creating an Effective Child Safety Framework [REGISTER HERE](#)

April 21, 2026 - 10:00 a.m. CT

Protecting Kids from Kids: Understanding and Preventing Peer Sexual Abuse [REGISTER HERE](#)

May 21, 2026 - 10:00 a.m. CT

Policies That Protect: Writing and Implementing Effective Policies & Procedures [REGISTER HERE](#)

August 27, 2026 - 10:00 a.m. CT

Reporting Abuse: Understanding Reporting Requirements and Overcoming Obstacles [REGISTER HERE](#)

September 29, 2026 - 10:00 a.m. CT

Screening That Protects: Identifying High-Risk Applicants Before They Serve [REGISTER HERE](#)

October 27, 2026 - 10:00 a.m. CT

Creating Background Check Strategy – Part 1 [REGISTER HERE](#)

November 17, 2026 - 10:00 a.m. CT

Creating Background Check Strategy – Part 2 [REGISTER HERE](#)

Visit the **MinistrySafe** page on the District website <https://kslcms.org/presidents-office/congregation-resources/ministrysafe> to learn more about how your congregation and school can protect your children and ministries.



Early Childhood Conference



SAVE THE DATE

June 7-8, 2026

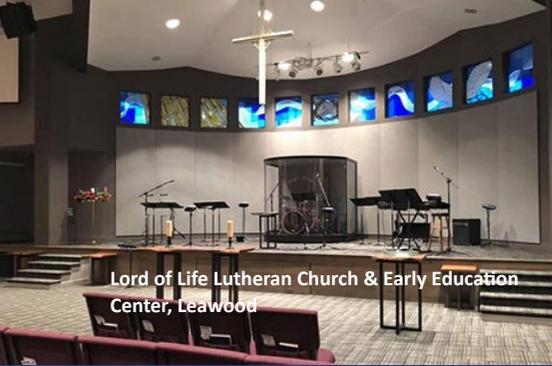


WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
DUSTIN LAPPE AND RAELENE OSTBERG

Join us as Raelene shares how to decrease stress, increase success and enhance joy in our work.

The 2026 Concordia Early Childhood Conference will be held June 7-8 on CUNE's campus in Seward, Neb. Registration information will be available in early April at www.cune.edu/ecc. The conference theme is "Unshakable!"

Rev. Dustin Lappe will be the Sunday Dinner Keynote Speaker, and Raelene Ostberg from Thriving Together will lead the Monday Keynote sessions. Learn more about Raelene via her website, www.thriving-together.com.



Lord of Life Lutheran Church & Early Education Center, Leawood



Grace Lutheran Church, Liberal



St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lincoln

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!

KLSSF, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 993778196. All donations are tax deductible.

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

Download the PR Kit

Spread the KLSSF's mission through the downloadable PR Kit, which includes a bulletin insert, social media graphics, email template, and more!

CARING MINISTRY

LERT / Disaster Response

2026 Faith at Work

Parish Nurse Ministry



Here are some important things to know as we enter Storm Season in Kansas:

There are several National Weather Service offices located in Kansas. It is helpful to know which office serves your area so that you can monitor current severe weather threats, watches and

Lutheran Early Response Team

warnings in your community. These stations are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Note these important dates:

- **March 2-6, 2026:** Severe Weather Awareness Week
- **March 4, 2026:** Statewide Tornado Drill, 10 a.m. (CST)

Are you prepared for a severe weather event at church? Do your members know where to go in case of a storm warning while in the church building?

You can contact your local Emergency Management office and ask for a walk-through and

recommendations so that you are better prepared to keep your church family and loved ones safe. I also recommend attending a Storm spotter class being offered statewide. A lot of useful and interesting information is shared at these meetings.

Here are other important dates coming up:

- **April 2026 Faith at Work, LCMS Kansas District.** Create or attend an event that engages you and your congregation with your community in service to

those who need a helping hand.

- **April 19-25, 2026: Volunteer Appreciation Week.** The month of April is recognized as National Volunteer Month. Thank a volunteer!

What is Mercy? "Mercy is an act of love that enters into misery and brings consolation, relief and help. Mercy is love responding to need."

- Wilhelm Loehe

Blessings,

Donna Williams

ksddrc@gmail.com

March is National Nutrition Month

March is a perfect time to renew our commitment to caring for the bodies God has entrusted to us. The choices we make each day about food and movement can truly "power our day" and help both individuals and communities flourish. Learning to make informed, mindful food choices and building healthy eating and physical activity habits are faithful acts of stewardship.

Good nutrition begins with awareness. Reading food labels helps us choose options lower in sodium and richer in vitamins and minerals. Preparing meals at home is often more affordable and more nutritious, allowing us

to nourish our bodies with intention. Thoughtfully planned snacks, especially fresh, in-season fruits can be both refreshing and satisfying between meals.

Portion size matters, too. A helpful guide is to fill half your plate with vegetables or salad and the other half with protein foods. Start with smaller portions; you can always have a bit more if needed. Being food-wise becomes increasingly important as we age, since extra pounds can add up more quickly than is good for us. With gratitude, balance, and care, nutrition becomes a daily way to honor God and support lifelong health.

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



Next month kicks off the third annual **Faith at Work** service projects!

Faith at Work

is a district-wide service event in which groups of all ages and skill sets from our congregations, schools and RSOs find needs within their communities to serve throughout the month.

Please order your 2026 *Faith at Work* T-shirts by **March 10**. The deadline to register *Faith at Work* projects is **March 31**. Register your *Faith at Work* project at <https://kslcms.org/faith-at-work>.

BUSINESS OFFICE

Kansas District Resources

Announcements and Reminders

Automatically Created GoFundMe Non-Profit Accounts

Recently, GoFundMe has begun automatically creating donation pages for nonprofits 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 Go-FundMe, 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 nonprofits 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 non-profit terms: <https://www.gofundme.com/gofundme-pro-terms>

2026 IRS Mileage Rate

Effective January 1, 2026: The IRS new mileage rates are 72.5¢ per mile for business and 20.5¢ per mile for medical. The Kansas District mileage rate, set by the Board of Directors, is 15 cents below the IRS rate, or 57.5¢ per mile. These new rates apply to mileage reimbursements paid to an employee on or after January 1, 2026, with respect to transportation expenses paid or incurred by the employee on or after January 1, 2026.

The rate used for charitable deduction purposes remains at 14¢ per mile.

2026 Kansas 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](mailto:heather@kslcms.org) at heather@kslcms.org.

A Note from Communications: Microsoft Publisher

The desktop publishing software Microsoft Publisher will be discontinued in October 2026. Microsoft suggests a few different alternatives to transition Publisher documents before October, including saving documents as PDFs and converting documents that need to be edited into Microsoft Word and PowerPoint.

Click on this link to learn more: <https://support.microsoft.com/>

There are also other publishing and design program options, including Canva, Adobe products, and Affinity. If you have any questions, email [Jackie Schaefer](mailto:jackie@kslcms.org) at jackie@kslcms.org.

LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND (LCEF)

Kansas District Resources

Announcements and Reminders

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR

Scholarship Opportunity

High school seniors who have a Young Investors StewardAccount® with Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) are eligible to apply for the Take Heart Scholarship. Answer this question, and you could receive up to \$3,000:

Other than Jesus, which person in the Bible would you love to talk with?



- Recipients awarded up to \$3,000
- Apply by May 1, 2026
- Visit lcef.org/scholarship



LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF Investments are not FDIC insured, are not a federally insured savings or deposit account or insured by any state or federal agency. 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. The recipients of this scholarship award will be notified by LCEF. Funds are awarded to be used to defray expenses for tuition, books, laboratory expenses and/or related educated expenditures. The award amount will be deposited into the student's LCEF investment. Any amount awarded will be taxable as ordinary income to the recipient to the extent it is not used for "qualified tuition and related expenses" under Section 117 of the Internal Revenue Code. Some expenses, such as room and board, will not qualify. The recipient should consult with his or her tax advisor regarding what expenses are "qualified tuition and related expenses" and to determine whether any part of the award will be taxable. If the recipient misrepresents any information, LCEF reserves the right to revoke the scholarship.



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 a 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.

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. 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.

LCEF offers fixed rate term notes for 1 year and 18 months 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.

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



St. John Lutheran Church, Lincoln



St. John's Lutheran Church, Lincolnville



Linn Lutheran School Association, Linn

DISTRICT MEETINGS & EVENTS

DISTRICT CALENDAR

<https://kslcms.org/calendar>

APRIL / MAY / JUNE / JULY

MARCH - APRIL

March 2 KDYG planning meeting (*Wichita*)

March 5 Middle School Huddle meeting, 1 p.m. (Zoom)

March 19-22 YouthLead training (*St. Louis, Mo.*)

March 29 Palm Sunday

April 2 Maundy Thursday (District office closes at 2 p.m.)

April 3 Good Friday (District office closed)

April 5 Easter

April 6 Easter Monday (District office closed)

April 10-11 Pastors Wives' Retreat (*Christ Lutheran Church, Manhattan*)

April 12-14 DCE Retreat

April 15 Confirmation Retreat planning meeting, 10 a.m. (Zoom)

April 16 Board of Caring Ministry, 1-3 p.m. (Zoom)

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

April 17-19 Kansas District LWML Convention (*Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan*)

April 20 Board of Education and Youth, 4:30-6:30 p.m. (Zoom)

April 21 Older Adult Committee, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (Zoom)

April 21 Board of Missions, 4-6 p.m. (Zoom)

April 22 Administrative Professionals Day

April 24-30 Council of Presidents (*St. Louis, Mo.; Fort Wayne, Ind.*)

April 28 Call Day (*Concordia Seminary, St. Louis*)

April 29 Call Day (*Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.*)

May 4 Board of Administration and Stewardship, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (Zoom)

May 4 Executive Committee, 1-3 p.m. (Zoom)

May 7 President's Council, 1-5 p.m. (District office, Topeka)

May 8 Board of Directors, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (District office, Topeka)

May 14 Ascension Day

May 19 Pastors' Conference meeting, 1:30-2:30 p.m. (Zoom)

May 24 Pentecost

May 25 Memorial Day (District office closed)

May 26 KSD Synod Convention Delegate Orientation, 6-7:30 p.m. (Zoom)

May 28 Lutheran Schools of Kansas DLT meeting, 10 a.m. (Zoom)

May 31-June 5 Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR) (*Woodland Park, Colo.*)

July 3 Independence Day observed (District office closed)

July 27 New Worker Orientation, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (District office, Topeka)

2026 Lutherans for Life Essay Contest

The Council of Federation Presidents of the National Lutherans for Life and Lutherans for Life of Kansas (LFL of KS) are sponsoring an essay contest using the theme "That They May Have Life" based on John 10:10. This essay contest is open to all students of Lutheran schools or members of Lutheran churches in Kansas in grades 6-12.

Visit the Lutherans for Life website <https://lflfokansas.org/essay-contest> for more information.

Submit your essay to secretary@lflfokansas.org on or before **March 15, 2026**.



The Pastors Wives' Retreat will be held **April 10-11, 2026**, at Christ Lutheran Church in Manhattan (4592 Green Valley Road, Manhattan, KS 66502).

This year's keynote presenter is **Deaconess Dr. Jennie J. Asher**, Director of Deaconess Studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Registration is open! Visit the Kansas District website <https://kslcms.org> to register and find a schedule.

Note: the lodging deadline is March 12.



Immanuel Lutheran Church, Linn



Zion Lutheran Church, Linn



Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Louisburg



Grace Lutheran Church, Lyons



Christ Lutheran Church, Manhattan

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.

There are two nearby training sessions scheduled this coming 2026 summer (**June 1-3 at St. Matthew in Lee's Summit, Mo., and June 15-19, a family camp at Heit's Point in Lincoln, Mo.**) Find out more at <https://www.concordiafamily.org/FD-Facilitator-Information>.

There are discounted training rates now available to members of LCMS Kansas District congregations! These discounted rates are provided through mission grant funds. Email the Concordia Center for the Family office to receive the discounted training rate at office.ccfamily@gmail.com.

Nominate music students for LSM 2026



LSMacademy.org/nominate

Last call for Lutheran Summer Music 2026! Enrollment for this summer is over 80% full, but there's still time for young musicians to apply, and for you to nominate students. Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) is the nation's premier faith-based music

academy for high school musicians. Students come together from around the country for a joyful summer of music-making through large ensembles (band, choir, orchestra), chamber music, private lessons, elective classes (conducting, composition, jazz, musical theatre, handbells, pipe organ) and use their musical gifts in performance, and in worship. The LSM 2026 session will be held **June 21-July 19**, at St. Olaf College in Minnesota, for grades 8-12: <https://www.lsmacademy.org/program>.

Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Media Kits Available

Media kits are available on the LCMS website for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. These free kits offer a variety of resources for congregations to use in reaching out to local communities to invite and provide details about their worship services.

The kits include a newspaper opinion editorial and advertisement, social media shareable and reels, a Facebook advertisement, and post/note cards. Visit <https://resources.lcms.org/media-kits> to access the Easter media kits!

Media kits are available on the LCMS website for Lent, Holy

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Vocatio: Retreat

April 12–15, 2026

Vocatio: Retreat, an annual visit event held on campus at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, is set for April 12–15, 2026. The three-day retreat offers college students and second-career adults an introduction to life as a seminarian.

The retreat provides opportunities for participants to explore preparation for service as a pastor, deaconess, missionary or chaplain through time spent at worship services, in conversation and at sessions focused on ministerial formation, with an optional fourth day to extend the visit.

Participants will worship in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, spend time in God's Word, engage in conversations with Seminary faculty and students, and explore the Seminary campus. The retreat also provides opportunities to connect with others who are discerning a similar call.

Visit <https://www.csl.edu/admissions/admissions-visit/vocatio-retreat> to register and for more information. Registration is free and low-cost lodging options are available, but space is limited. The registration deadline is Sunday, March 22.

2026 Call Day Information

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW)

Tuesday, April 28, 7 p.m. (EST) - Assignment of Vicarages & Deaconess Internships

Wednesday, April 29, 7 p.m. (EST) - Assignment of Candidate Calls

Services will be livestreamed in Kramer Chapel. Visit <https://www.ctsfw.edu> and choose the "Academics" section to find the Vicarage and Internship and Placement pages.

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL)

Tuesday, April 28, 3 p.m. (CDT) - Assignment of Vicarages & Deaconess Internships

Tuesday, April 28, 7 p.m. (CDT) - Assignment of Calls

Services will be livestreamed in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus. Visit <https://www.csl.edu/academics/call-day-services> for more information.



St. Luke's Lutheran Church & Preschool, Manhattan



Our Savior Lutheran Church, Marion



Good Shepherd Lutheran School Association, Marysville



Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Marysville

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Two Kingdoms & the Champions Network

There will be a Liberty Weekend held on **Saturday, March 21, 2026, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.** at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Duluth (21185 Duluth Rd., Duluth, KS 66521).

The keynote presenter is **Rev. Mark Frith**, Network Director of Champions for Religious Liberty. Rev. Frith will lead three sessions:

Session 1 - Two Kingdoms: One Mission & Foundations

Session 2 - God at Work: A Two Kingdom Exercise in the American Context

Session 3 - Set Free to Live Freely for Others: A Two Kingdom Engagement of the Culture for the Sake of the Mission of the Church

Click on the provided link to register: [Two Kingdoms & the Champions Network Registration](#). Please register by March 17. For questions, contact championsnetworkoffice@gmail.com or call 913-732-1090.



The **DOXOLOGY Classic Series** is a continuing education program for pastors, their wives, and congregational lay leaders to experience a time of study, renewal, worship, and growth. The DOXOLOGY Classic Program offers advanced training designed to strengthen pastors for the holy calling of shepherding souls, ground learning in the cura animarum—the classic care of souls, integrate insights from contemporary Christian psychology, and provide time for meaningful conversation, encouragement, and worship. The DOXOLOGY Classic consists of three retreats: the Gathering (for pastors), the Encore (for pastors and congregational lay leaders), and the Grand Reunion (for pastors and their wives).

There are upcoming DOXOLOGY conferences at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita (7100 45th Street North, Wichita, KS 67226). **The Gathering will be held June 1-4, 2026; The Encore will take place Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2026; The Grand Reunion will be held July 30-Aug. 1, 2027 (location TBD).**

Registration is open through **May 17, 2026**. Visit <https://www.doxology.us/events/2026-kansas-classic/> for more information about registration, fees, and available grants.



KFUO The Coffee Hour: Guest Mark Wolters, Kansas District Board Member!

On January 16, 2026, **Mark Wolters**, who serves as a member of the Kansas District Board of Directors as laity for Region 4, was a guest on The Coffee Hour for KFUE Radio. The Coffee Hour

episode is titled *"Set Apart to Serve: Lessons from the Tractor"* and focuses on the role of church workers in the lives of laity and lay leaders. In the episode, Mark and another lay member Debbie Larson discuss their service in the church, use the analogy of farming and harvest to church worker recruitment, and discuss how laypeople can encourage others to consider church work vocations.

Listen to The Coffee Hour episode with Mark Wolters at <https://www.kfuo.org/coffee-hour-011626-set-apart-to-serve-lessons-from-the-tractor/>.

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