



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

JUNE 2026

Regular Features

Monthly Devotion	2
President's Office	3-4
Calls & Vacancies / Prayer Requests	5
Missions & Stewardship	6
Education & Youth	7-10
Caring Ministry	11
Business Office	12
LCEF	13
District Meetings & Events	14
Synod & Partners	15
Around the District / Staff Directory	16



PICTURED ABOVE: Faith at Work took place at Redeemer, Lawrence, where the group built 16 beds for children in need.

PICTURED ON LEFT: Redeemer, Olathe held Faith at Work service projects throughout the 2026 Lenten season.

2026 Faith at Work

The third annual Faith at Work service projects were held around the Kansas District in April. **32** projects were registered, with around **1,100** participants, **22** congregations, and **3** Lutheran schools involved!

Faith at Work is an annual Districtwide service event where groups of all ages and skill sets find needs within their local communities to serve friends and neighbors in the name of Jesus Christ.

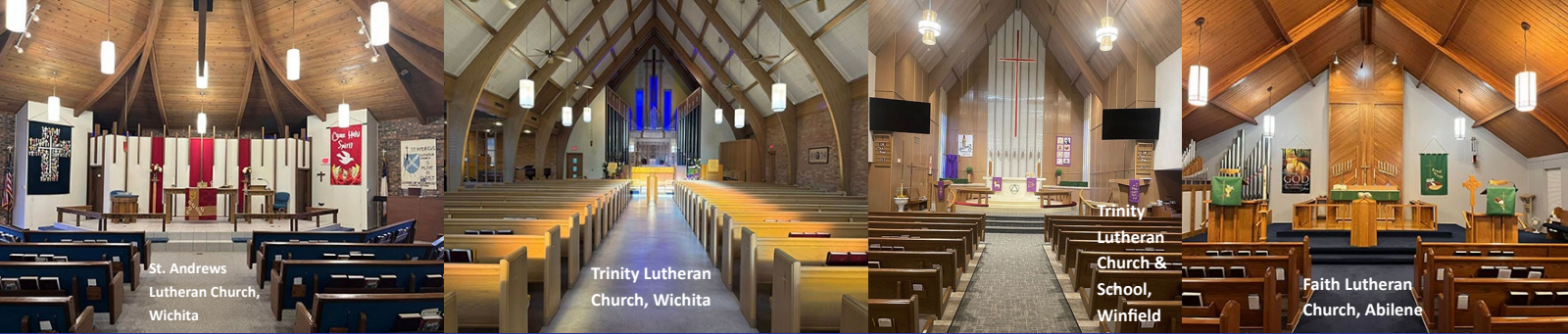
The Kansas District invites congregations, schools, and RSOs to save the date for Faith at Work in April 2027!

Please complete an online [Evaluation Form](#) pertaining to your 2026 Faith at Work projects.

You can find the evaluation at the link above, or visit <https://kslcms.org/faith-at-work> to fill out the evaluation.

IN THIS ISSUE

LCMS National Hispanic Convention	6
The National Hispanic Convention will be held July 28-31, 2026, at Concordia University Irvine.	
Kansas District Family Retreat	8
Registration is open for the Kansas District Family Retreat, Aug. 9-11 at Timber Lakes Camp & Retreat Center in Williamsburg, Kan.	
Kansas District Youth & School Ministry Coordinators	9
Learn more about the two new Kansas District Coordinators!	



MONTHLY DEVOTION



Rev. Andrew Wehling
Third Vice-President, Region 1



June Devotion

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?

Romans 10:14

Good News Delivered

In Christ, God has established salvation for all people. Jesus suffered and died for the sins of the world and rose again in victory over death and hell. This gift of salvation brings forgiveness of sins for all, new and eternal life, and identity and purpose.

So far, so good. But there's a problem, as St. Paul points out in *Romans 10:14*, "How are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?" In other words, what good is the Gospel to those who never hear about it?

Martin Luther addressed the same concern in the Large Catechism. "The work of redemption is done and accomplished. Christ has acquired and gained the treasure for us by His suffering, death, resurrection, and so on. But if the work remained

concealed so that no one knew about it, then it would be useless and lost." Again, what good is the Gospel to those who never hear about it?

Thankfully, God in His mercy has provided not only the gift of salvation, but also the means by which that gift is delivered and applied. God delivers His Good News through the Word of the Gospel as it is preached, taught, heard, written, and read. *"These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."* *John 20:31*

The Large Catechism explains: "So that this treasure might not stay buried, but be received and enjoyed, God has caused the Word to go forth and be proclaimed. In the Word He has the Holy Spirit bring this treasure home and make it our own." LC 3.38-39

And how does God cause the Word to go forth and be proclaimed? He sends you and me! Parents teach their children the Christian faith. Grandparents, Sunday School teachers, Christian friends and family do the same. God also uses pastors, teachers, DCEs, and deaconesses. By these callings, the Gospel is not left concealed, but is made known so that people come to know what Jesus has done for them.

The LCMS is in dire need of more church workers. President Harrison, in his sermon at the LCMS Youth Gathering, called for a thousand young people to step forward and pursue careers in church work. Have you spoken to a young person lately about this possibility?

Check out the resources available at www.lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve.

Rev. Wehling also serves as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lawrence.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Pastoral Installations

Pastoral Reading Groups

Celebrating Future LCMS

Church Workers



Rev. Nathan Neugebauer was installed as pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Dodge City on Sunday, May 3, 2026.

From left, (front row) Revs. Gary Wolf, Richard Neugebauer, Nathan Neugebauer, Jason Toombs, Matthew Koterba; (back row) Revs. Dennis Mason, Stanley Palmer, Daniel Grams, Randy Sturzenbecher, Michael Schotte, Magdiel Fajardo and Justin Panzer.



Rev. Tom Johnson was installed as Intentional Interim pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Ellsworth on Sunday, May 10, 2026. Pictured with Rev. Johnson (left) is Rev. Justin Panzer, District President.



Rev. Robert "Bob" Allmann was installed as Intentional Interim pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Meade on Sunday, May 17, 2026. Left to Right: Rev. Matthew Koterba - Holy Cross, Scott City; Rev. Nathan Neugebauer - Holy Cross, Dodge City (and St. Paul, Jetmore); Rev. Bob Allmann - St. John, Meade; SMP Vicar Lester Tacha - St. John, Meade; Rev. Jason Toombs - Grace, Liberal and Peace, Beaver, Circuit Visitor.



St. John Lutheran Church, Aliceville

St. John Lutheran Church & School, Alma

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Alta Vista

Peace Lutheran Church, Andover

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Out and About in Kansas

President Panzer's June Travel Schedule

June 1
Synod Convention Floor Committee
(St. Louis, Mo.)

June 14
Preaching at St. John's
(Topeka)

June 20
Official Visitation at Redeemer
(Lawrence)

June 21
Preaching at Christ
(Manhattan)

June 28
Preaching at Calvary
(Topeka)



Brenden (center) is pictured with his parents.



Brenden is pictured with Rev. Nathan Harkins, pastor of Faith, Abilene.

On Sunday, May 3, high school senior **Brenden Huss** signed a letter of intent to accept a scholarship to Concordia University, Nebraska.

Brenden is a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Abilene and intends to pursue teaching at Concordia. *Congratulations!*

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

CALLS & VACANCIES

PASTORAL CALLS

Rev. Benjamin Francisco, Faith, York, NE to St. Paul, Leavenworth – **declined**

Rev. Timothy McCall, Immanuel, Junction City to Faith, Mountain Home, Idaho – **declined**

PENDING ORDINATIONS / INSTALLATIONS

Candidate Jacob Harding (CSL) to First, Paola (Pastor) – installation Sunday, July 12, 2026, at 3 p.m.

Rev. Daniel Kinley, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne, IN to T.I.G. – accepted, installation Sunday, August 2, 2026

Candidate Jacob Anderson (CSL) to Holy Cross, Wichita (Associate Pastor) – ordination / installation Sunday, Aug. 16, 2026

Candidate Euder Paul (CSL) to St. Andrews, Wichita (Pastor) – installation pending

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CALLS – from the field

Rachel Ada, Hope, Shawnee (Teacher) – commissioning / installation Sunday, Aug. 23, 2026

Dan Snyder, Concordia Academy, Wichita – commissioning / installation Sunday, Aug. 23, 2026

Deaconess Candidate Peggy Gott (CSL) to Redeemer, Olathe – commissioning / installation pending

Deaconess Candidate Nola Gray (CSL) to Redeemer, Olathe – commissioning / installation pending

DCE Brian Amey, Holy Cross, Wichita to Cornerstone, Carmel, IN – accepted

CONGREGATIONS CALLING or PREPARING TO CALL A FULL-TIME PASTOR

Hoisington, Concordia (sole)

Leavenworth, St. Paul (sole)

Overland Park, Christ (senior)

Vassar, Zion (sole)

CONGREGATIONS CALLING A COMMISSIONED MINISTER

Leavenworth, St. Paul (Teacher)

Manhattan, Christ (Teacher)

Overland Park, Christ (Part-Time Teacher)

JUNE PRAYER REQUESTS

Those grieving the loss of loved ones

- **Family and friends of Jennifer Engelbrecht**, daughter of Curt Engelbrecht, who is a member of the Kansas District Board of Directors. Jennifer entered her heavenly rest April 23.
- **Family and friends of Esther Heiden**, sister of Rev. Bob Allmann. Esther entered her heavenly rest April 20.
- **Family and friends of Timothy Schneider**, brother of Rev. Matthew Schneider. Timothy entered his heavenly rest April 20.

Those experiencing recent / ongoing health issues

- **Rev. Richard Andrus**
- **Rev. David McCloskey**
- **Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer**
- **Carrie Meyers**
- **Rev. Dean Christ**
- **Cheryl Price**
- **Rev. Rodney Fritz**
- **Rev. Dr. Mark Schulz**
- **Rev. David Gruoner**
- **Rev. Jody Walter**
- **Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan**

Congregations / Schools Facebook Prayer List

- St. John Lutheran Church, Meade – **June 1**
- Immanuel Lutheran Church, Netawaka – **June 8**
- Redeemer Lutheran Church & Preschool, Olathe – **June 15**
- Trinity Lutheran Church & Precious Lambs Preschool, Fort Scott – **June 22**
- Faith Lutheran Church, Topeka – **June 29**

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

LCMS National Hispanic Conference

Jesus Door-2-Door

Out and About in Kansas

Rev. Daniel Grams' June Travel Schedule

June 4

LCMS U Campus Ministry Conference at Redeemer (Lawrence)

June 7

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church (Topeka)

June 7

Spring Hill Church Planting Informational Meeting (Spring Hill, Kan.)

June 14

Calvary Lutheran Church (Topeka)

June 17

Holy Cross Lutheran Church (Wichita)

June 21

Calvary Lutheran Church (Topeka)

LCMS National Hispanic Convention

The National Hispanic Convention will be held **July 28-31, 2026**, at Concordia University in Irvine, Calif. This convention will be celebrating 100 years of Hispanic Ministry in the U.S.A. English-speaking congregations are invited to be part of what God is doing by serving and supporting this convention. Whether you already serve in Hispanic ministry or are looking to get involved, this is a meaningful opportunity to step in. Register at <https://hispanicoslcms.com/en/inscripcion-convencion>.

Come alongside Spanish-speaking pastors and leaders and help create a welcoming, impactful experience for all.

Also consider volunteering! Your presence truly makes a difference. Sign up [HERE](#). No Spanish is required for most roles (*only the registration team requires Spanish*).

VIII National Hispanic Convention - LCMS

July 28-31, 2026

Concordia University Irvine
1530 Concordia West, Irvine, CA

Celebrate 100 years of LCMS Hispanic Ministry in the USA

Registration is open!

100 AÑOS celebraZion

MINISTERIOS HISPANOS LCMS SALMO 145:4

www.hispanicoslcms.com

HISPANIC MISSIONARY LEAGUE



Jesus Door-2-Door On Saturday, April 25, 14 people representing four different LCMS congregations gathered at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Clay Center for a Jesus Door-2-Door (JD2D) event. Seven canvassing teams were sent out and knocked on 185 homes. Fifty-six people agreed to take the survey.

When asked, "Where do you believe you will go when you die?" 53 (94%) responded with, "Heaven." The remaining 6% replied with, "I don't know." Of the 53 people who said they were going to heaven, only 26 (49%) were certain of their salvation, on account of Christ's merit alone. Thirteen people (23%) who took the survey said they were currently unchurched. Through the group's canvassing efforts, the Lord led one person who desired a follow-up visit from the congregation. JD2D events will pause for the summer and will return in August of 2026.

EDUCATION & YOUTH

2026 Summer Education Conferences
and Retreats

Youth Ministry Events

2026 Educators Conference

District Youth Ministry Coordinator &
District School Ministry Coordinator

*Heit's Point Lutheran
2026 summer camps
at Lake of the Ozarks*



Family Camps:

June 15-19 & Aug. 2-7 

Art Camp & ALL Camp: June 7-12

Caving Week: June 21-26 

**Discovery Camp K-3rd grade
June 28-30** 

Basketball Week: July 5-10

Water Week: July 19-24 

HS/MS Servant Event: July 12-17



2026 theme:
Seek God first

heitspointlutheran.org



**KANSAS DISTRICT
YOUTH MINISTRY
EVENTS (2026-2027)**

KSLCMS.ORG/EDUCATION-YOUTH/YOUTH-MINISTRY



LUTHERAN VALLEY RETREAT (LVR)
MAY 31-JUNE 5, 2026 (WOODLAND PARK, CO)
-- REGISTRATION OPEN --



HIGHER THINGS
HIGHER THINGS 2026 DATES HIGHERTHINGS.ORG/DCRH/



CONFIRMATION RETREAT
OCTOBER 2-3, 2026
ROCK SPRINGS 4-H CAMP (JUNCTION CITY, KS)



KANSAS DISTRICT YOUTH GATHERING (KDYG)
NOVEMBER 20-22, 2026
DRURY INN (WICHITA, KS)



YOUTH LEAD TRAINING
SPRING 2027 (ST. LOUIS, MO)
-- REGISTRATION OPENS OCTOBER 2026 --



LCMS YOUTH GATHERING 2028
JULY 3-7, 2028 (SAN ANTONIO, TX)

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

2026 Principals' Conference

The Kansas District Principals' Conference will be held **July 30-31, 2026**, at Ascension Lutheran Church and School in Wichita.

The keynote speaker is **Dr. Eugene Kim** from Concordia University Irvine, who will present on "Faithful & Flourishing in the Age of AI."

The principals from the Oklahoma District have been invited to join us!

Register today at <https://kslcms.org> or click on the provided link: [2026 Principals' Conference Registration](#).



On Thursday, May 14, **Directors of Christian Education (DCEs)** gathered together for a Cluster meeting at Light of the World Lutheran Church in De Soto. *We give thanks and praise to God for DCEs, and their service to the Kansas District!*



EDUCATION & YOUTH



2026 Early Childhood Summer Conference

The Kansas District Early Childhood Summer Conference will be on **Saturday, June 27**, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Open Arms Child Development Center at Ascension Lutheran Church in Wichita (12885 W. Maple Street, Wichita, KS 67235). There will be a continental breakfast, lunch, and snacks with 5 total clock hours. Directors can receive two program administration hours during afternoon breakout sessions.

There is also an optional Director Train the Trainer event on **Friday, June 26**, 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. on Play-Based Learning with dinner and snacks included. Register for the conference at <https://kslclms.org> or click on the provided link: [2026 Early Childhood Summer Conference Registration](#). For more information, call Erica Mason at 316-721-5675.



Calling all Kansas District families! Registration is now open for the Kansas District Family Retreat, a weekend set apart for fellowship, renewal, and celebrating the incredible ways God is at work in your everyday vocations as parents, spouses, workers, and neighbors!

The Family Retreat will be held **August 9-11, 2026**, and is hosted by the Parish Education board at the beautiful Timber Lakes Camp & Retreat Center in Williamsburg, Kan. This gathering brings families across our district together for meaningful conversation, devotion, laughter around the table, and time to breathe deep in God's creation. Parents won't have to choose between connection and their kids, as engaging children's activities run during every session!

Whether you're craving rest, community, or a fresh reminder that your calling matters, this retreat is for you. Pack the family, lace up your hiking shoes, and come ready to be encouraged. Spots fill quickly, so register today! Visit the District website at <https://kslclms.org> to register, or click on the provided link: [2026 Family Retreat Registration](#).

—GREAT PLAINS— LUTHERAN EDUCATORS —CONFERENCE—

The Great Plains Lutheran Educators Conference (GPLEC) will be held October 17-19, 2026!

June 1 – Early Registration opens (includes snacks, coffee, Sunday lunch and Sunday banquet for \$175)

July 31 – Early Registration ends (Early registration is \$175. After July 31 registration is \$225)

September 30 – Registration closes

Note: There will be a registration limit to 700 attendees.

Visit the Great Plains Lutheran Educators Conference (GPLEC) webpage to register and find a tentative schedule and session proposal information: <https://www.cune.edu/events/conferences/great-plains-leadership-education-conference-gplec>

Hotel rooms for Kansas District participants have been reserved at the Holiday Inn Express Lincoln Airport and the Fairfield Inn.

Holiday Inn Express – Lincoln Airport (1101 W. Commerce Way, Lincoln, NE 68521) \$129 / night – includes breakfast
Reserve by phone: 402-464-0588, group code is **LKD**
Reserve online: [Kansas District Holiday Inn Reservation Link](#)

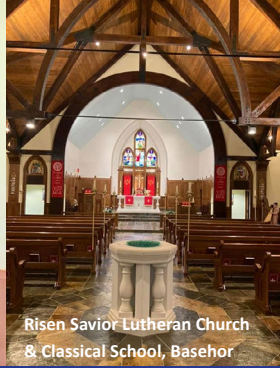
Fairfield Inn – Lincoln Airport (1000 W. Bond, Lincoln, NE 68521) \$129 / night – includes breakfast
Reserve by phone: 402-413-9003, group code is **LKD**
Reserve online: [Kansas District Fairfield Inn Hotel Reservation Link](#)



Christ Lutheran Church,
Augusta



St. Peter's Lutheran
Church, Barnes



Risen Savior Lutheran Church
& Classical School, Basehor



Trinity Family of Faith Lu-
theran Church & Learning
Center Preschool, Basehor

EDUCATION & YOUTH

DCE Amanda Adams

Kansas District Youth Ministry Coordinator



Amanda is a native to Kansas and is excited to be serving as Kansas District Youth Ministry Coordinator. Amanda has served at Christ Lutheran in Topeka for 10 years and assisted with District youth events for the same amount of time. Several of the events she attended as a youth (a few years ago.) She is married with two children and loves spending time with her family. She also enjoys time outside in her flower gardens and enjoying God's creation. Fun fact: Amanda met her husband Jason at the 2004 LCMS Youth Gathering in Orlando.

Amanda looks forward to assisting your congregation as you support and encourage your youth. If you have questions about youth ministry, or would like resources or prayer, please feel free to reach out to Amanda by email at dceadams@christlcms.org or by phone at 785-266-6263.

Jane Limback

Kansas District School Ministry Coordinator

42 years ago I accepted my first teaching position at a two room country school west of Haven, Kansas. Little did I know then that the various ministry opportunities I experienced throughout the District these past four decades would equip me for the School Coordinator position. Besides serving as a teacher, principal, intentional interim principal, and early childhood teacher and director. I have been able to assist the District with PDC, KAIRS, conference planning, Guinea Task Force, NLSA Commissioner, KESA Leadership Team, and Commissioned Minister representative for the District Nomination Committee and the synodical convention.

I'm looking forward to using the skills I've learned to further the ministry opportunities throughout the District and assisting Rev. Daniel Grams with early childhood and school ministry. Outside of school ministry, I enjoy gardening, quilting, and researching the branches of my family tree.





EDUCATION & YOUTH

Empowering Futures
Formed by Faith



Give the gift of Christ-centered education and help us reach our goal for the 2026/27 school year: **\$500,000 to fund scholarships for 125 children!**

Why Donate Now?



- 63 scholarships were awarded in 2025-26 and the need is growing.
- Give by June 30th to fund scholarships for the 2026-27 school year.
- Give now and ensure you are able to claim a 75% state tax credit. (In 2025, available credits were exhausted by December 15th.)



REV. DANIEL GRAMS
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(785) 357-4441

www.klssf.org

dgrams@klssf.org

CARING MINISTRY

LERT / Disaster Response
Parish Nurse Ministry

2026 Saints Alive After
55 Conference



What is a Disaster?

Generally, a **disaster** is an event beyond the control of the affected individuals, resulting in great harm, suffering, destruction and damage. Disasters disrupt personal and community life, involve many people and results in physical, emotional, economic, social and/or spiritual

Lutheran Early Response Team

crises. A disaster damages a community's ability to sustain life without outside assistance.

Each disaster is different in magnitude and impact of the affected area, and people react differently. Local authorities are often hard-pressed to manage the impact of the disaster on the community. Early on, disaster survivors may seek temporary relief and assistance through agencies such as the American Red Cross and Salvation Army. These agencies do good work, but they aren't a long-term

solution and they aren't the Church.

Lutheran Early Response Teams do not emulate other social organizations but rather focuses on the unique work and call of the Church. The local congregation draws on its distinctive assets and strengths to join the community in a response to disaster that is truly Christ-centered.

Our Lutheran presence is a clear testimony of the Gospel, not just in deed, but also in Word – the Word of Christ's forgiveness and eternal love. This is why we work

through the local congregation ... so that we can point survivors to find love and consolation in the love and mercy of Christ after the storm.

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

National Sunglasses Day

Each year on June 27, people recognize **National Sunglasses Day**, a reminder of the importance of protecting our eyes from the sun's harmful rays. Caring for our health is one way we honor the gift of life that God has given us. Our eyes allow us to see the beauty of God's creation—the bright summer skies, fields in bloom, and the faces of those we love.

Wearing sunglasses that block harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays is a simple but

meaningful way to care for the bodies God has entrusted to us. Just as Scripture reminds us that our bodies are gifts from God, we are called to be good stewards of our health and well-being.

Remember to wear your sunglasses every day when you go outdoors and encouraging others to do the same. By protecting our vision, we can continue to see and appreciate the many blessings God places before us each day.

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



Saints Alive After 55 Conference!

The 2026 Saints Alive After 55 (SAA55) Conference will be held **September 20-21, 2026**, at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Salina (111 W. Magnolia Rd. Salina, KS 67401).

The theme for this year's conference is "Fruit Bearing Christians." The keynote speakers are **Rev. David Beauchamp** from Church Ambassador Network of Kansas (CAN-KS) and **Brittany Jones**, President of Kansas Family Voice. The SAA55 Conference Bible Study leader is **Rev. CJ Luttimen**, lead pastor of Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Wichita. Interest session speakers are representatives from LCMS Foundation and Good Shepherd Hospice. *Registration for the 2026 SAA55 Conference is coming soon!*

BUSINESS OFFICE

Kansas District Resources

Announcements and Reminders

Shawnee County Lutheran Education Foundation

The mission of the **Shawnee County Lutheran Education Foundation (SCLEF)** is to provide financial assistance for adults preparing to become ordained or commissioned LCMS church workers, for current called workers, and for Lutheran education programs for children and families within Shawnee County LCMS congregations.

SCLEF is offering scholarships for students enrolled in one of

the LCMS universities or seminaries, with the intent to become ordained or commissioned LCMS church workers. Per SCLEF Eligibility Guidelines, scholarship applicants must be a member of good standing within an LCMS congregation of Shawnee County, Kansas.

SCLEF is also offering partial loan repayment grants for active called church workers serving in a Shawnee County LCMS congregation.

Visit <https://sclef.org> to access application forms and the eligibility guidelines.

Automatically Created GoFundMe Non-Profit Accounts

GoFundMe began automatically creating donation pages for nonprofits using publicly available IRS data—without the organizations' direct consent. This 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?non-profits=1>.

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/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.

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** at jackie@kslcms.org.

LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND (LCEF)

Kansas District Resources

Announcements and Reminders



The mission of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund is to support the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by ensuring that financial resources and related services are available now and in the future. Strong investors and faithful borrowers bless LCEF. It is a partnership that is working, and through the continued blessings of our Lord, **LCEF is pleased to make available up to \$32,000 in LCEF Outreach Ministry Grants to congregations, schools, and other LCMS organizations within the Kansas and Oklahoma Districts.**

Grants will be awarded in amounts up to \$500.00. Matching funds and cooperative efforts with other groups are highly desirable in this effort. *NOTE* Final awards will be based on the number of applications received.

LCEF is making funds available to help make your local outreach event a reality. There will be a limit of one (1) application per congregation, school, or Recognized Service Organization. If you want to use the grant for multiple events, be sure to include details on each event in your one (1) application.

We ask that you pass copies of this material on to:

- Church Pastor/Church Leadership (President/Head Elder)
- Day School Principal/Director/Headmaster/Preschool Director

We would prefer that you complete this application online at this link:

[2026 LCEF Grant Application](#)

Invest Together in Faith

Now is the time to make the most of the blessings God has entrusted to you. With Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), you gain a trusted partner who shares your Lutheran values, helping you achieve financial growth while making a meaningful difference in the LCMS community.

View rates and terms at lcef.org/OurRates



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.

If you prefer a printed copy of the application to complete by hand, please get in touch with Tami Lierz at tami@kslcms.org.

Apply today, before time runs out—the deadline to submit an application is **Friday, June 30, 2026**. Grants will be awarded by Monday, July 6, 2026.

Questions can be directed to Jeffrey Maltz at 785-230-4112, Tami Lierz at 785-357-4441 ext. 5003, or by email at jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org or tami@kslcms.org. We look forward to reviewing your submission and pray God's blessings upon your ministry.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Maltz
Vice President of LCEF, Kansas/Oklahoma Districts



Immanuel Lutheran Church, Canton

Zion Lutheran Church & SONshine Preschool, Chanute

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School, Cheney

St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool, Clay Center

DISTRICT MEETINGS & EVENTS

DISTRICT CALENDAR

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

<https://kslcms.org/calendar>

JUNE / JULY

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

June 27 District Early Childhood Conference (Ascension Lutheran Church, Wichita)

July 3 Independence Day observed (District office closed)

July 15 Board of Caring Ministry, 1-2:30 p.m. (Zoom)

July 18-23 69th LCMS Synod Convention (Phoenix, Ariz.)

July 23-25 CSL Prof Insights Workshop (Trinity Lutheran Church, Salina)

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

July 27 Board of Education & Youth, 4:30 p.m. (Zoom)

July 28 Board of Missions, 4 p.m. (Zoom)

July 30-31 Principal's Conference (Ascension Lutheran Church, Wichita)

Aug. 3 Board of Administration & Stewardship, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (Zoom)

Aug. 3 Executive Committee, 1-2 p.m. (Zoom)

Aug. 3-5 CTSFW Continuing Education (Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wichita)

Aug. 6 President's Council, 1-5 p.m. (District office, Topeka)

Aug. 7 Board of Directors, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (District office, Topeka)

Aug. 9-11 Kansas District Family Retreat (Timber Lakes Camp & Retreat Center, Williamsburg, Kan.)

Aug. 10-12 CSL Prof Insights Workshop (Messiah Lutheran Church, Hays)

Aug. 29 District Youth Ministry Committee, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sept. 10-12 CTSFW Continuing Education (Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lawrence)

Sept. 20-21 Saints Alive After 55 Conference (Christ the King Lutheran Church, Salina)

CSL Prof Insights Workshops in Kansas

There will be two Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL) Prof Insights workshops held in Kansas. The first workshop will be **July 23-25** at Trinity, Salina (702 S. 9th Street, Salina, KS 67401). The title of the workshop is "The Book of Psalms and the Christ," presented by **Rev. Dr. Adam Hensley**, Associate Professor of Exegetical Theology.

The cost is \$160, and the registration deadline is July 9. Visit <https://www.csl.edu/event/professor-hensley-in-salina-kansas> to register.

The second Prof Insights workshop will be held **Aug. 10-12** at Messiah, Hays (2000 Main Street, Hays, KS 67601). The title is "Reading and Preaching the Gospel of Mark," presented by **Rev. Dr. David Lewis**, Associate Professor of Exegetical Theology and Director of the Master of Divinity and Residential Alternate Route Programs.

The cost is \$160, and the registration deadline is July 27. Visit <https://www.csl.edu/event/professor-lewis-in-hays-ks> to register.

CTSFW Continuing Education in Kansas

There will be two Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. (CTSFW) Continuing Education courses held in Kansas. The first continuing ed course will be **Aug. 3-5** at Immanuel, Wichita (909 S. Market St. Wichita, KS 67211). The title of the course is "Fathers and Heretics: The Apostolic Fathers," presented by **Rev. Dr. James Bushur**, The Carl and Erna Weinrich professor of New Testament and Early Church Studies.

The cost is \$175 for pastors and professional church workers and \$125 for retired pastors and laypersons. There is no cost for CTSFW students and vicars. Visit <https://www.ctsfw.edu/CE/Wichita-Kansas> to register.

The second continuing ed course will be **Sept. 10-12** at Redeemer, Lawrence (2700 Lawrence Ave. Lawrence, KS 66047). The title is "Ministry and Discipline in the Midst of the Digital Age," presented by **Rev. Dr. David Petersen**, Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, Ind.

The cost is \$175 for pastors and professional church workers and \$125 for retired pastors and laypersons. There is no cost for CTSFW students and vicars. Visit <https://www.ctsfw.edu/CE/Lawrence-Kansas> to register.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Coffeyville



Trinity Lutheran Church, Colby



Zion Lutheran Church, Concordia

SYNOD & PARTNERS



Concordia Center for the Family (CCF) is offering foundational training events, follow-up cohorts and coaching options to train Family Discipleship Facilitators. This training opportunity is for called and commissioned leaders of LCMS congregations and schools, along with lay family ministry leaders.

- **June 15-19: Family Camp Training at Heit's Point Lutheran Camp in Lincoln, Mo.**

Members of LCMS Kansas District congregations will receive **\$250 off the registration fee** through a grant from the Kansas District! Enter the code "KS26" when registering at <https://www.concordiafamilystore.org/ccf-facilitator-training/p/foundations>. Grants are given on a first-come, first-served basis up to \$5,000; be sure to sign up today!

Other training options include Aug. 6-8 in Irvine, Calif. and Nov. 12-14 in Rockledge, Fla. Register for these trainings at <https://www.concordiafamilystore.org/ccf-facilitator-training/p/foundations>.

Congregations should also consider the **Faith & Life Survey** tool to assess how effectively members are being served in their daily faith growth. LCMS Kansas District members will receive a district-supported **\$250 discount** off the regular survey fee. Find out more by visiting <https://concordiafamily.org/Faith-Life-Survey>. For questions, email office@concordiafamily.org or call 1-888-553-5133.



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 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 Encore will take place Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2026; The Grand Reunion will be held July 30-Aug. 1, 2027 (location TBD).**

Visit <https://www.doxology.us/events/2026-kansas-classic/> for more information.

Kansas LWML: Web Manager

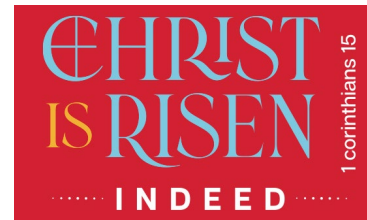
The LWML Kansas District is looking for a Web Manager to manage www.kansaslwml.org, including creating, updating and monitoring the established website.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact communication@kansaslwml.org.

Concordia University Chicago Newsletter

Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall, Associate Vice President for Church Relations and Mission at Concordia University Chicago, is starting a newsletter for the university through the Office of Church Relations called **Quodlibet**. Quodlibet is Latin that means, "A scholastic argumentation almost chosen at will but almost always theological."

The newsletter will have one article of substance and reflective thought that intersects academics, theology, and society. Visit the following link to sign up for the newsletter: <http://bit.ly/4uJ4NZ9>



LCMS National Convention

The 69th LCMS National Convention will be held July 18-23, 2026, in Phoenix, Arizona. The theme for the Convention is "Christ is Risen Indeed," based on 1 Corinthians 15:20-22.

The 2026-2029 National Offering theme is "Christ is Risen! Tell the Next Generation." The National Offering theme is taken from Psalm 78:4 and is an extension of the 2026 Synod Convention theme.

Gifts to the National Offering will directly benefit ongoing domestic work carried out by LCMS congregations, districts and RSOs.

Visit the LCMS Convention webpage <https://www.lcms.org/convention/national> to find more information about the 2026 National Convention Offering.



Calvary Lutheran Church, Council Grove



Light of the World Lutheran Church, De Soto



Faith Lutheran Church, Derby



Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Dodge City

AROUND THE DISTRICT



The 2025-2026 theme of "Make a Joyful Noise" was perfect for **Trinity Lutheran School in Atchison** to start a Band program! Over the summer, director Karen Schmidt rounded up donations of instruments and with the help of her husband Roger, cleaned and repaired them for use.

"Band is really fun," commented a 5th grade trumpet player, "we even have a mascot" (a small stuffed bug that hangs in the room and has an unforgettable story to go with it)! **The band had a very successful inaugural year!** They played for chapel, church services, VIP day, nursing homes, and a special end-of-the year concert!

2026 Worship Conference: St. John's, Topeka

The St. John's Worship Conference will be held **Saturday, Aug. 29, 2026**, from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church in Topeka (901 SW Fillmore, Topeka, KS 66606). The cost is \$40 (lunch included).

The conference will include Matins, a keynote presentation, breakaway sessions, a speaker panel Q&A, Vespers, and an organ recital around the theme of Luther's Deutsche Messe (celebrating 500 years). The keynote speaker is **Rev. Timothy Frank**, the Associate Pastor and Kantor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Council Bluff, IA. Rev. Frank will be presenting on "Confessing the Faith through Music."

Musicians, pastors, and lay members are welcome to attend! Visit the St. John's Worship Conference webpage for more information, <https://stjohnlcmstopeka.org/worship/worship-conference/>. To register for the conference, please fill out the [Registration Form](#).

Our Saviour Centennial Celebration!

You are invited to attend the 100th Anniversary of Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Kansas City, Kan.! The Centennial Celebration will be held the weekend of **Sept. 25-27, 2026**. It will begin on Friday, Sept. 25, with a reunion meet-and-greet and stained-glass window lighting from 6-9 p.m. at Our Saviour (4153 Rainbow Blvd. Kansas City, KS 66103).

On Saturday, Sept. 26, Our Saviour will host an open house and a prayer/hymn

service from 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. On Saturday evening there will be a banquet and program from 5-8 p.m. at the Vox Theater (1405 Southwest Blvd. Kansas City, KS 66103).

The Centennial Celebration will continue Sunday, Sept. 27, with a worship service at Our Saviour from 10-11:30 a.m. After worship there will be a dedication of the new church cornerstone, followed by a cake reception. Visit <https://www.oskc.org> to RSVP for these events!

DISTRICT STAFF & COORDINATORS

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- Rev. Daniel Grams**
Executive Assistant to the President for Congregational & School Services
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- Shannon Fender**
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- Rev. Caleb Stoever**
Life Coordinator
- Donna Williams**
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 **LCMS Kansas District Office**
1000 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66604-1104

 <https://kslcm.org>

 785-357-4441

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