



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

SEPTEMBER 2026

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Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Spring Hill is the Kansas District's newest church planting effort. Located in one of the fastest growing cities in the state, a church plant team, below left, has been meeting together and leading the effort since March. Weekly Bible studies are held at the church on Sunday afternoons.



Spring Hill church plant is now 'Good Shepherd Lutheran Mission'

The Kansas District's church planting effort in Spring Hill now has a name – "Good Shepherd Lutheran Mission." The naming of the church is just the latest step in the District's work to establish the state's newest LCMS congregation. The church's Planting Team is asking supporters and friends to consider attending a very important meeting at 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, at the

church property at 800 S. Weber St., Spring Hill, Kansas. At this meeting, visitors will receive an update of Good Shepherd's progress through the LCMS Church Planting process, which is now in Phase 3, and a big announcement by Rev. Daniel Grams, Assistant to the President for Congregational & School Services for the Kansas District.

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MONTHLY DEVOTION



Rev. Justin Panzer
District President



Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

2 Timothy 1:13-14

Lead Children in the Christian Faith

September means that many of our children have already been back to school for a couple of weeks now. Consider that at all times God wants us to keep His words in our minds and hearts by daily reading Scripture, family and individual devotions and prayer, and through weekly worship at church. He wants us to teach His words to our children constantly and with repetition. He wants us to remember His words in everything that we do by applying those words to our lives. His Spirit will empower and direct us to do these things!

Back to school ... as I am now an "empty-nester" and as I think back to the many confirmands that I was blessed to catechize, it is more fervently on my mind and heart the need to pray for my children and for those who I catechized that they "stay in the faith." **2 Timothy 1:13-14** states, *"Follow the pattern of the sound*

words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you."

The devil shows no mercy to our children. Therefore, parents, you must be aggressive with your children. Let me explain. If they are in your home, you are the parent. God has given you oversight over your children to raise them in the Christian faith. You do not give them the option of whether or not to attend the Divine Service and Sunday School that week. It is an expectation that the family worships together every weekend. That same expectation continues for the child now in college. Why? The devil shows no mercy. Go and worship with your child at the local LCMS congregation at least the very first Sunday after you move them in. If you can attend more frequently, such as once every month, then strive to do it. Continue to show them the faithful pattern of worship away from home. Pastors and

parents—before your children ever move to college, contact the local LCMS pastor and share your child's information with them. Tell your child that the pastor will be contacting them so that they are fully informed of service times and other events. This is a healthy expectation as the student is now in the real world on their own. They are going to need Christ and His gifts of Word and Sacrament now more than ever.

God first showed His love to us by sending His Son to lay down His life and take that life back up again on the Third Day. Our response is now to love Him with our whole being—mind, heart, soul, and body. God calls us to love Him without reservation—whether at home or away from home. His mercy and His forgiveness are readily present to us. We need to hear the Gospel over and over again.

Be aggressive. Pray for your children. Continue to give them expectations. You love them, and they are loved by God as His baptized children.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Pastoral Ordinations / Installations

2026 Pastor's Conference

Out and About in Kansas

President Panzer's September Travel Schedule

September 6

*Preach/Installation of Rev. Tim
Wangerin @ Concordia, Hosington*

September 8

*Circuit 8 Winkel @ Immanuel,
Junction City*

September 12

Official Visitation @ Immanuel, Lawrence

September 12-13

*Preach/banquet speaker @ Bethany,
Overland Park 65th Anniversary*

September 15

Circuit 4/5 Winkel @ St. John, Aliceville

September 17-22

COP @ St. Louis

September 24

*Church Worker Care Team
meeting @ Topeka*

September 27

*Our Saviour, Kansas City
100th Anniversary*



Rev. Dr. Joshua Cody (SMP) was installed as pastor to Zion Lutheran Church in Concordia on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026. From left, (front row) Revs. Dennis Kootz, Luke Brown, Dr. Joshua Cody, Justin Panzer, Paul Tessaro, John Werner; (back) Revs. Mark Gaschler, Timothy Koch, Randall Jahnke, Jason Cody, Jason Toombs and Daniel Grams.



2026 Fall Pastor's Conference

The 2026 Fall Pastor's Conference will be held **October 5-6** at Zion Lutheran Church in Newton (225 S. Poplar St. Newton, KS 67114). There will be a Circuit Visitor/Vice-Presi-

dent meeting on Sunday, October 4, at 6 p.m.

The theme for the Pastor's Conference is "Truth: Abiding in the Word in Cases of Conscience." The keynote speaker is **Rev. Dr. Brian German**, Professor and Chair of Theology at Concordia University Wisconsin, and **Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford**, Minnesota South District President.

Visit the 2026 Pastor's Conference webpage <https://kslcms.org/presidents-office/pastors-conference> to register and find more information!



Rev. Jacob Anderson was installed as associate pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School in Wichita on Sunday, August 16, 2026. Back row, from left, Revs. Dan Myers, Michael Schotte, Tim Gordish, Keith Kohlmeier, Matthew Schultz, Chris Warneke, CJ Luttinen, Scott Snow; front, Justin Panzer, David Schmidt, Mark Boxman, Mark Lovett, Russell Anderson, Jacob Anderson, Shawn Fenske, Ryan Ankersen, Matthew Goltl, Scott Goltl.

CALLS & VACANCIES

PASTORAL CALLS

Rev. Theodore Cook, Zion, Pittsburg to St. John & Zion, Thief River Falls, MN – **declined**

PENDING ORDINATIONS / INSTALLATIONS

Rev. Timothy Wangerin, Christ the King, Salina to Concordia, Hoisington – **installation Sunday, Sept. 6, 2026, at 10 a.m.**

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

Rev. Christopher Kellogg, (Emeritus) to St. John's, Topeka, visitation pastor – **Installation Sunday, Aug. 30, 2026**

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CALLS – from the field

DCE Hannah Elsey, Fairmount Ministries to St. Paul, Columbia, IL – **pending**

Deaconess Candidate Peggy Gott (CSL) to Redeemer, Olathe – **commissioning / installation Sunday, Sept. 6, 2026**

Deaconess Candidate Nola Gray (CSL) to Redeemer, Olathe – **commissioning / installation Sunday, Sept. 6, 2026**

DCM Andrea Simianer, to Bethany, Overland Park – **pending**

CONGREGATIONS CALLING or PREPARING TO CALL A FULL-TIME PASTOR

Leavenworth, St. Paul (sole)	Overland Park, Christ
Mission & Shawnee, Trinity	(senior)
(associate)	Vassar, Zion (sole)

CONGREGATIONS CALLING A COMMISSIONED MINISTER

Leavenworth, St. Paul (Teacher)
Wichita, Holy Cross (Director of Christian Education)

SEPTEMBER PRAYER REQUESTS

Those grieving the loss of loved ones

- **Family and friends of Leland Bach**, grandfather of Heather Williams, the Business Manager for the LCMS Kansas District. Leland entered his heavenly rest on August 2.
- **Family and friends of Lola Holle**, mother of Rev. Brian Holle, who is the pastor of St. Paul, Fairview and Zion, Hiawatha. Lola entered her heavenly rest on August 2.

Those experiencing recent or ongoing health issues

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| • Rev. Richard Andrus | • Rev. David McCloskey |
| • Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer | • Carrie Meyers |
| • Rev. Dean Christ | • Rev. Gerald Radtke |
| • Rev. Rodney Fritz | • Rev. Dr. Mark Schulz |
| • Rev. David Gruoner | • Rev. King Crawford |
| • Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan | |

Congregations / Schools Facebook Prayer List

- | | |
|---|---|
| • St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, Leavenworth – Sept. 8 | • Faith Lutheran Church & Preschool, Ottawa – Sept. 21 |
| • Bethany Lutheran Church & School, Overland Park – Sept. 14 | • Trinity Lutheran Church, Girard – Sept. 28 |

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

Sharing the Gospel in Africa

Kansas District Mission Grants

Kansas District Reformation Offering

Jesus Door-2-Door Events

Mission Updates from the Hagemans

Out and About in Kansas

Rev. Daniel Grams'
September Travel Schedule

September 6

First-Paola and Redeemer-Olathe - Deaf Ministry
Deaconess Commissionings

September 8

Circuit 1 Winkler (First-Sabetha)

September 10

Parish Workers Cluster
Meeting (Faith-Topeka)

September 10-12

Continuing Education
(Redeemer Lawrence)

September 13

Good Shepherd-Spring Hill

September 15

Circuit 2/3 Winkler (Trinity-Mission) and Theology on
Tap (Manhattan)

September 26

PALS (Immanuel-Lawrence)

September 27

Our Saviour-Kansas City
100th Anniversary

September 27

Good Shepherd-Spring Hill



College students at Fairmount Ministries in Wichita complete a service project.

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

District Mission Grants

It's time to prepare for the 2027 mission grant cycle! The window to submit mission grant applications will be **September 1 - October 15, 2026**.

The Kansas District Board of Missions is directing some mission grant dollars to include options such as \$500 SEO Micro-grants, Expanding the Spanish Footprint immersion training, and Circuit Conventions with a focus on witness and outreach training (*limit number of eight Circuits, \$2,500 available for each Convention mission grant. This grant option will be on a first come, first served basis.*)

The 2027 Mission Grant Application and Cover Letter is available on the District website under "Missions, Mission Funding": <https://kslcms.org/missions/mission-fund>.

Left to right: Rev. Dr. Elton Fischer (missionary from partner church in Brazil), Rev. Jacob Mueller, Rev. Timothy Mueller and Rev. Bert Mueller.



Thanks to the generosity of the people at the Linn mission festival in September 2025 and the ladies of the Crossroads Zone LWML, over 70 books were delivered to

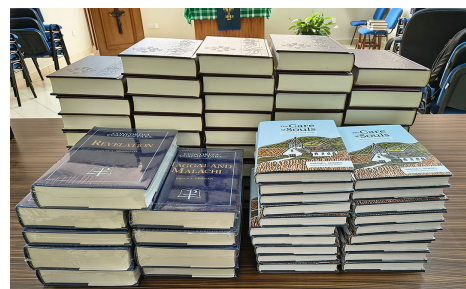
Sharing the Gospel in Africa

the LCMS Africa Regional Office in Nairobi, Kenya on August 8. These included hymnals, commentaries, and *The Cure of Souls*.

The books were carried to Kenya by Rev. Jacob Mueller (Hope, Shawnee), Rev. Timothy Mueller (St. John's and St. Luke's, New Minden and Covington, IL), and Rev. Bert

Mueller (Immanuel, Silo, MN).

The three pastors taught classes at the Neema Lutheran College in Matongo, Kenya from August 10-22.



Hymnals, commentaries, and *The Cure of Souls* books were delivered to the LCMS Africa Regional Office in Nairobi, Kenya.

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

Sharing the Gospel in Africa

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Mission Updates from the Hagemans



Kansas District

REFORMATION OFFERING

Supporting Kansas Missions

The annual Kansas District Reformation Offering supports the Rev. Eugene Schmidt Memorial Mission Fund for mission outreach right here in Kansas. This includes church planting, church revitalization, and campus ministry.

Prayerfully consider a gift in support of these ministries! You can donate online at

<https://kslcms.org/kansas-district-offerings>.

Click the red "Donate" button and select "Reformation Offering" from the dropdown menu on the payment page.

You can also send a check with "2026 Reformation Offering" in the memo line to LCMS Kansas District, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604-1104.

Thank you for your generosity as we seek to expand the Kingdom of God in Kansas!

Schedule of Events



August 22 - First Lutheran Church in Paola, KS



September 12 - Redeemer Lutheran Church in Lincoln, NE



November 14 - Immanuel Lutheran Church in Norton, KS



December 12 - Zion Lutheran Church in Linn, KS



Jan. 16 - Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Marysville, KS



**February 20 - TBD Jesus Door-2-Door Event Times
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**For all ages
6th grade and up!
RSVP
@ 785-747-7633**

"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

~2 Corinthians 9:6~



Jesus Door-2-Door



Mission Updates from the Hagemans

We give thanks to God for Rev. Michael and DCE Shanna Hageman and their mission work in Tanzania, Africa!

Pastor Hageman is the former second vice-president of the Kansas District, and former senior pastor of Trinity, Garden City. He now serves as a theological educator in Tanzania, equipping

pastors and church workers to share the Gospel in East Africa.

Director of Christian Education (DCE) Shanna Hageman serves by teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) to non-native English speakers.

The Hagemans have a website which includes the latest mission updates, a monthly newsletter, a blog, and prayer requests. Learn more at <https://www.hagemansinafrica.org>.

EDUCATION & YOUTH

2026 Educator's Conference

Youth Ministry Fall Events

MinistrySafe Webinar Series

Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation (KLSSF)

—GREAT PLAINS— LUTHERAN EDUCATORS —CONFERENCE—

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

- **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](#)

* Room blocks expire 09/16/26 at noon



2026 Fall Confirmation Retreat

The Fall Confirmation Retreat will be held **Oct. 2-3, 2026**, at Rock Springs Ranch located south of Junction City (1168 Highway K157, Junction City, KS 66441).

The Confirmation Retreat is designed for youth in grades 5-8. This year's theme is "Confession, Absolution, and the Office of the Keys." The presenters are Rev. David Kahle (*Redeemer, Olathe*), Rev. Michael Ada (*Beautiful Savior, Olathe*) and Rev. Sean Kilgo (*Redeemer, Lawrence*).

The cost is \$109, which includes Saturday breakfast and lunch, lodging, and a T-Shirt. Visit <https://kslcms.org/confirmation-retreat> to register and for more information.



2026 Kansas District Youth Gathering

The 2026 Kansas District Youth Gathering (KDYG) will be held **November 20-22, 2026**, at the Drury Plaza Hotel in Wichita!

The KDYG is designed for youth who are currently in grades 9-12. This year's theme is "AGAIN" based on Philippians 4:4. Visit <https://kslcms.org/kdyg> to register and for more information!

Hotel room reservations need to be made by Oct. 18 to receive the group rate. Click on the provided link to find more information: [Drury Plaza Hotel, Wichita](#). The Group Number for the hotel rate is **10132281**.

EDUCATION & YOUTH

2026 Educator's Conference

Youth Ministry Fall Events

MinistrySafe Webinar Series

Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation (KLSSF)



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



There is a MinistrySafe Webinar Series being offered 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.

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.

Kansas District Youth Ministry Upcoming Events

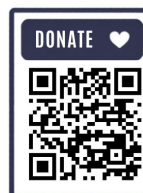
	CONFIRMATION RETREAT OCTOBER 2-3, 2026 ROCK SPRINGS 4-H CAMP (JUNCTION CITY, KS)
	KANSAS DISTRICT YOUTH GATHERING (KDYG) NOVEMBER 20-22, 2026 DRURY INN (WICHITA, KS)
	YOUTH LEAD TRAINING SPRING 2027 (ST. LOUIS, MO) -- REGISTRATION OPENS OCTOBER 2026 --
	LCMS YOUTH GATHERING 2028 JULY 3-7, 2028 (SAN ANTONIO, TX)

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



LERT Training & Event Calendar:

- **Sept. 19, 2026:** LERT Basic Chainsaw Safety & Operation at Trinity Lutheran Church in Atchison (603 N. 8th Street, Atchison, KS 66002). Attendees must have completed LERT Basic

Lutheran Early Response Team

Training before enrolling in a LERT Chainsaw class.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

- **Sept. 23-25, 2026:** Annual Disaster Response Conference, St. Louis, MO
- **Sept. 26, 2026:** LERT Basic Training at Christ Lutheran Church in Overland Park (11720 Nieman Rd., Overland Park, KS 66210).

[REGISTER HERE](#)

For more detailed information, including contact information and registration for LERT training events, visit the LERT website at

<https://www.lcms-lert.org>. If you wish to host a LERT Training or Community Awareness event, please reach out to us!

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." - Isaiah 6:8

Donna Williams, District Disaster Response Coordinator
ksddrc@gmail.com

Enjoying Fellowship: National Picnic Month

National Picnic Month is a wonderful time to enjoy the outdoors, share food, and spend meaningful time with family and friends. Picnics offer a simple way to slow down, appreciate nature, and build stronger relationships within our communities.

Gathering together and sharing meals reflects the importance of fellowship. Throughout the Bible, people often gathered around meals to celebrate, give thanks, and strengthen relationships. Spending time together outdoors reminds us of the

beauty of God's creation and the blessings He provides.

A picnic can be as simple as a sandwich in the park, a church potluck outside, or a family meal under the shade of a tree. These moments allow us to laugh, connect, and encourage one another.

During National Picnic Month, consider inviting a friend, neighbor, or fellow church member to share a meal outdoors. Fellowship, gratitude, and community are gifts that bring joy and reflect God's love in our lives.

Mary Hume, Kansas District Representative for Parish Nurse



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 Luttinen**, lead pastor of Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Wichita. Interest session speakers are representatives from LCMS Foundation and Good Shepherd Hospice.

Visit <https://kslcms.org> to register and find a schedule.

BUSINESS OFFICE

Kansas District Resources

Announcements and Reminders

Education Loan Repayment

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

The education loan repayment grant application is available on the District website at <https://kslcms.org/education-grants>. The application deadline is September 15, 2026.

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

Communications Announcements

Office hours changed at District office

The LCMS Kansas District office recently changed its office hours. We are open from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

You can reach us at 785-357-4441 or leave a message outside of office hours and we will get back to you.

Reach out to Kansas Lutherans

Want to spread the word of your news and activities to other Lutherans across the Kansas District? Reach out to the Kansas District communications specialist by emailing Dan at comms@kslcms.org.

2027 Kansas District Salary and Benefit Guidelines

The 2027 Kansas District Salary and Benefit Guidelines are available on the District Resources page of the website. The guidelines provide congregations with an objective approach to developing a suitable comprehension plan for church workers.

Visit <https://kslcms.org/business-office/district-resources> to access the 2027 Salary Guidelines. If you have any questions, please call the Business Office at 785-357-4441, ext. 1002 or email **Heather Williams** at heather@kslcms.org.

2027 Congregational Commitments

Every fall, congregations are given the opportunity to make a commitment to support our joint work in the Kansas District and the LCMS Synod for the upcoming year. We appreciate your prayerful consideration for your 2027 commitment!

Congregational commitment forms will be mailed to congregations in September, along with an updated "Mission and Ministry" document and a 2026 Kansas District budget summary. Please submit your 2027 form by **November 30** (January 15, 2027 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 CHURCH EXTENSION FUND (LCEF)

Kansas District Resources

Announcements and Reminders



Dear Kansas District Members,

Summer Blessings! We hope you have had a wonderful summer break, enjoying extended time with family, vacations, camps, sports, and taking in God's creation and beauty that the wonderful weather brings us. School will be back in session soon enough, with kids hitting the books, sports, and other extracurriculars.

LCEF's goal is to make the most of God's blessings to serve the needs of the LCMS, both in Kansas and throughout the Synod. Families can do this through the opening of a Young Investors (Y.I.) StewardAccount. As you invest in the future for your children, you help LCEF in our ministry to serve the needs of our congregations, schools, organizations, and church workers throughout the LCMS.

Please reach out to us if you have questions and would like to learn more about this opportunity. Also visit <https://lcef.org/personal/lcef-church-members/young-investors> for more information.

All Access Account

Everyday Access to Your Funds with Competitive Rates

At Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), we align your investments with your faith, empowering LCMS ministries to grow and serve for the glory of His kingdom. With the All Access Account, you'll enjoy competitive rates and full access to your funds, designed for your daily needs.



Easy access with the
LCEF mobile app



No monthly
fees



Online bill pay
through MyAccount



Interest accrued
daily, paid monthly

Open your investment online in about 5 minutes.
Learn more at lcef.org/FullAccess.



LUTHERAN CHURCH
EXTENSION FUND

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Blessings,

Jeffrey Maltz

District Vice President, Kansas & Oklahoma

Jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org

785-230-4112

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.

DISTRICT MEETINGS & EVENTS

District Calendar

Events in Kansas

DISTRICT CALENDAR

<https://kslcms.org/calendar>

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

Sept. 7 Labor Day (District office closed)

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

Sept. 17-21 Council of Presidents (St. Louis, Mo.)

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

Sept. 24 Church Worker Care Team, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. (District office, Topeka)

Oct. 2-3 Fall Confirmation Retreat (Rock Springs Ranch, Junction City)

Oct. 4 Circuit Visitors / Vice-Presidents meeting, 6-8 p.m. (Zion Lutheran Church, Newton)

Oct. 5-6 Pastor's Conference (Zion Lutheran Church, Newton)

Oct. 14 Board of Caring Ministry, 1-2 p.m. (Zoom)

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

Oct. 17-19 Great Plains Lutheran Educators Conference (Concordia University, Seward, Neb.)

Oct. 25-29 District President Administrative Assistant Conference

Oct. 31 Reformation Day

Nov. 2 Board of Admin. and Stewardship, 10 a.m. -noon (Zoom)

Nov. 5 Presidents Council, 1-5 p.m.

Nov. 5 Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation Board, 4-5 p.m.

Nov. 6 KSLCMS Board of Directors, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. (District office, Topeka)

Nov. 6-7 LCEF Annual Meeting (St. Louis, Mo.)

Nov. 8-12 Council of Presidents (St. Louis, Mo.)

Nov. 20-22 Kansas District Youth Gathering (Wichita)

Nov. 25-29 Thanksgiving (District office closed from 2 p.m. Nov. 25 through Nov. 29.)

Learn about medical work in Ethiopia

Come and hear the story of Ethiopia through the eyes of Rev. Tiliahun Mendedo, who will visit Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Topeka on Sept. 5-6.

During his visit, Rev. Mendedo will introduce us to Master Builder Center, an organization dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus while providing compassionate healthcare and practical assistance to communities in Ethiopia, including challenges facing his homeland and how Christians can respond with faith, compassion, and action.

Many Ethiopians face violence, displacement, limited healthcare, shortages of medical supplies, and inadequate access to clean water and other basic necessities. These challenges remind us of Christ's call to care for our neighbors and serve those in need.

Please join us at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 3625 SW Wanamaker Rd., Topeka.

Rev. Mendedo will lead worship services at 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday, along with Bible study at 9 a.m. Sunday.

For more information about Master Builder Center, visit MBC-now.org.

LLL at the Kansas State Fair!

The Kansas District Lutheran Laymen's League/ Lutheran Hour Ministries will be presented with a 40-Year Longevity Award at the 2026 Kansas State Fair!

The Kansas District LLL/LHM will have a booth during the fair, to be held **Sept. 11-20** in Hutchinson. It will be located in the northwest part of the Meadowlark Building. **Rev. Shawn Fenske**, senior pastor of Holy Cross, Wichita, will lead the worship service on **Sunday, Sept. 13, at 10 a.m.** at the Peoples Bank and Trust Arena. The choir from Holy Cross, Wichita will provide music. Volunteers are needed to work at the booth to greet visitors and hand out Christian materials. Donations of *Portals of Prayer*, *My Devotions*, and other materials are appreciated.

Contact Mike Tonn at 316-640-3918 or tonn.mike@yahoo.com if you and your congregation can provide Christian materials and/or volunteer at the booth.

SYNOD & PARTNERS

National Offering

Continuing Education



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.

Prayerfully consider giving towards the LCMS National Offering! Gifts to the National Offering will directly benefit ongoing domestic work carried out by LCMS congregations, districts and RSOs. Visit the National Offering webpage <https://www.lcms.org/convention/national/offering> to learn more and find resources!



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 in Wichita. **The Encore will be held Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2026; The Grand Reunion will be held July 30-Aug. 1, 2027.**

Registration is open for the Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2026 Encore conference. Visit <https://www.doxology.us/event/2026-ks-classic-encore> to register and for more details.

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>

CTSFW Continuing Education in Kansas

There will be a Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. (CTSFW) Continuing Education course **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.



AROUND THE DISTRICT



Rachel Ada was commissioned and installed as a teacher at Hope Lutheran School in Shawnee on Sunday, Aug. 23, 2026.



Dan Snyder was commissioned and installed as headmaster of Concordia Academy in Wichita on Sunday, Aug. 23, 2026.

- Spring Hill -

Continued from page 1

Phase 3 is the planning phase for Phase 4: Ministry Action, and the launching of public worship. As organizers focus on the launch of Sunday worship, there will be many opportunities for supporters and friends to become involved to get ready to welcome worshippers. Lutherans across the Kansas District can also support the new church plant with prayers and if moved to do so, donations to help the Good Shepherd Lutheran Mission can be made at <https://kslcms.org/donate>, click on the red "Donate" button and choose "Spring Hill Church Plant Support" in the dropdown fund menu. Spring Hill is one of the fastest growing communities in Kansas and there is a growing need for a church that will faithfully care for souls and proclaim Christ. Good Shepherd Lutheran will pronounce the Gospel of free forgiveness and mercy through Jesus

You are invited to attend the weekly Bible study on Sundays at 3:00 p.m. at 800 S. Webster St., Spring Hill, KS 66083.

Christ, delivered through God's Word and Sacraments. Weekly Bible studies have been held in Spring Hill since March, and the existing church and six-acre property was purchased in June. A core team of lay leaders at Good Shepherd has started participating in community activities and will have an entry in Spring Hill's annual Fall Festival parade on Sept. 26 and a booth in the city park during the event. The Kansas District has been involved in several church plants recently. Spring Hill is the newest, but other efforts over the last few years include Light of the World-DeSoto, Zion-Concordia, and Christ-Manhattan. Along with the Kansas District, neighboring congregations have been instrumental in planting these churches. For Spring Hill, congregations in Louisburg, Olathe, Paola and other Lutheran families throughout

the area have been supporting the effort and praying for this new seed to grow in Spring Hill.

"Throughout Scripture, God's people are called to recognize and respond when He opens doors for His mission," said Rev. Daniel Grams, Assistant to the President for Congregational & School Services. "Opportunities to plant new congregations in growing communities with an established facility are uncommon in Kansas, making this a remarkable gift. We are grateful to invest in a mission that will proclaim Christ, make disciples, and extend the reach of the Gospel to the people of Spring Hill and beyond." Once the congregation is formally organized and chartered, the Kansas District intends to deed the property to the congregation, establishing a permanent LCMS congregation that can continue serving the region for generations.

Visit the church plant website at <https://lutheranspringhill.church> or call 913-408-7489.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Lutherans for Life

Centennial Celebration in KC

Lutherans for Life of Kansas Annual Meeting

The 2026 Annual Lutherans for Life of Kansas (LFL-KS) Conference is scheduled for **Saturday, September 26, 2026**, from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Lawrence (2700 Lawrence Ave., Lawrence, KS 66047). The speakers will be **Dr. Ryan MacPherson** and his daughter, **Grace MacPherson**. Dr. MacPherson will speak on Biblical Principles for Christian Bioethics and Teaching Chastity

to Your Children. Grace will speak about Pro-Life Project Management: Moving from Ideas to Implementation.

The conference will also feature a service project and in gathering for Sleep in Heavenly Peace, an organization that provides beds for children in need.

The business meeting will take place during the conference and is open to all Lutherans For Life members. All members-at-large of the national Lutherans For Life organization who (1) reside in Kansas and (2) are members in good

standing of a Lutheran congregation are considered members of Lutherans For Life of Kansas. Visit <https://lflfokansas.org> for further details.

To become a member of LFL, visit the LFL Donate page at <https://form-renderer-app.donorperfect.io/give/lutherans-for-life/donate>. A membership donation is required (*you choose the amount*). Make sure to check the box "Select if Membership Gift" before submitting the donation. For more information, please email info@lflfokansas.org.

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. Rev. Travis Ferguson, son of the congregation and senior pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, La Mesa, Calif., will preach. Following worship will be a dedication of the new church cornerstone and a cake reception.

Visit <https://www.oskc.org> to RSVP for these events!

DISTRICT STAFF & COORDINATORS

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Coordinator

 **LCMS Kansas District Office**
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 <https://kslcms.org>

 785-357-4441

 facebook.com/kslcms



2026 Congregational Treasurers Workshop

Saturday, October 24, 2026 • 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Christ Lutheran Church, 4592 Green Valley Road, Manhattan, KS 66502

Why Attend?

Practical help! This workshop provides simple, straightforward help relating to clergy tax and church treasurer issues, plus resources to help you serve your congregation and avoid costly mistakes.

Make connections! Connect with presenter and District Business Manager Heather Williams, LCEF Vice President Jeff Maltz, Concordia Plan Services, and fellow church servants.

Free lunch! Lunch will be sponsored by the Lutheran Church Extension Fund.

Who Should Attend?

New and returning treasurers, bookkeepers, financial secretaries, office managers, stewardship leaders, pastors, church members and/or staff who have financial or administrative responsibilities.

Topics Covered

- Reviewing the Congregational Treasurers Manual and learning about LCEF borrowing and investment opportunities.
- Exploring district dollars at work, narrative budgets, salary guidelines, board governance, internal control, and planned giving.
- Discussing clergy taxes, document retention, employer resources, and employees vs. contractors, with dedicated time for your most frequent questions.

Registration & Contact Info

To Register: Sign up online at <https://forms.gle/Tuohm278eZeyieUW8>

Questions? Contact Heather Williams at 785-357-4441 or heather@kslcms.org



LCMS Kansas District





2026 Pre-Retirement Lunch & Learn

Friday, October 23, 2026 • 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Christ Lutheran Church, 4592 Green Valley Road, Manhattan, KS 66502

Join us for a free Lunch & Learn! Workers enrolled in the Concordia Retirement Plan pension—especially those age 50 or older who are thinking about retirement—are invited to attend this in-person or virtual workshop provided by Concordia Plans.

What will we cover?

- The social and emotional aspects of retirement
- Sources of retirement income
- Health care in retirement
- How to initiate your CRP pension benefit

*Spouses are welcome
to attend as well!*

Registration & Contact Info

To Register: Sign up online at <https://forms.gle/YyS5UFigZdDSfu5U9>

Questions? Contact Heather Williams at 785-357-4441 or heather@kslcms.org

Join us for this valuable opportunity to learn more about preparing for retirement!



LCMS Kansas District

