



New Look!

As you can see, *The Voice* publication has a new look. The new design is part of the Missouri District's re-branding efforts to make the receiving and dissemination of information more efficient and convenient to everyone in the district.

Also coming this Summer: a new website and Facebook page!



From the President's Desk

"It is amazing, with all the evidence of Jesus living in this land, that there are few people living there who believe in Him. In Jericho, a city of 40,000, only about 200 residents are Christian."

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THE VOICE

PUBLISHED BY THE MISSOURI DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD JUNE 2014 / AUGUST 2014



AN EYE ON MISSION: PARTNERSHIPS

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Stuart Brassie

Mission work is not just about far away places like Asia, Africa or India. Our closest "world," and indeed, our Father's gifts to us, are the souls He has entrusted to us right here in Missouri.

We in the Missouri District, along with the whole Church, are on a saving mission. All of our Missouri neighbors need God's forgiveness and love in Jesus Christ. All people stand on a

level field of sin beneath the cross of Jesus.

Fulfilling the Great Commission by connecting people to the Gospel so the Holy Spirit might create in their hearts the fear and love of God has always been the work of Missouri District congregations. The vision of the Missouri District is of congregations partnering as one church, united in doctrine, ready, equipped and

acting to fulfill the Great Commission in their unique setting with their unique people.

Partnership in the Church is nothing new. St. Paul wrote to the Philippians, "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Partnerships are also important in the area of mission. In his book *Making Your Partnership Work*, Daniel Rickett makes the following statement:

"In the old pattern of missions, the rule was... make your plans, send your people, and you will make progress. In this new world, the rule will be...build alliances, coordinate your strategies, and you will progress. Focus more on working together and you will make more progress. We have come to that historical moment when, if we are to be for the Gospel of Christ, we must also be for each other. Partnerships are simply a better way to do missions."

Congregations of our Missouri District are interested in doing mission work in their localities. Many are investigating new ways to

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THE MISSOURI DISTRICT ONLINE

Regular Online Items: Installations and Ordinations, Celebrations, District News, Announcements and Resources

www.facebook.com/MissouriDistrictLCMS

mo.lcms.org



President Ray Mirly

WITNESS FOR CHRIST

In January of this year, Debbie and I had the opportunity to participate in a tour of the Holy Land. The tour has left an indelible impression upon us. The Sea of Galilee, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and the Garden of Gethsemane are now more than names of places mentioned in the Bible. Jesus lived in this land. He traveled to real places, not by bus but on foot.

Shepherds still watch over their flocks. The Dead Sea is dying. The water level continues to go down. People still live in “old” Jerusalem. The Palace of the High Priest still exists. Evidence of the Roman occupation is everywhere. Even today you can walk/

drive on roads constructed by the Romans.

The Holy Land is a museum, a land of artifacts and a place where archaeologists dig. After 2,000 thousand years researchers continue to discover objects, documents, inscriptions and whole buildings. Their work gives Christians a better understanding of the world Jesus, as true man, entered and lived.

It is amazing, with all the evidence of Jesus living in this land, that there are few people living there who believe in Him. In Jericho, a city of 40,000, only about 200 residents are Christian. While we were eating lunch in this city, sirens wailed to announce the time for Muslims to stop all they were doing to pray to Allah. At the same time, our tour group, along with a group of Orthodox Bishops, sang Christian hymns. (We ate in a restaurant owned by a Christian family.)

It is amazing, with all the evidence of Jesus living in this land, that there are few people living there who believe in Him. In Jericho, a city of 40,000, only about 200 residents are Christian.

For the Lutheran pastor in Bethlehem to conduct services in Jericho, he must travel several times the normal distance due to restrictions on where he can travel. To enter and exit Bethlehem one must pass through check points. Imagine Mary and Joseph trying to enter Bethlehem today.

The good Lutheran question is, what does this mean for the LCMS, the Missouri District and

Christianity in the United States? Will our churches become museums? Are some of them already more museums than churches? Are we more in love with buildings than Jesus? Will we remain committed Lutheran Christians, anxious to worship regularly, or will we become apathetic? Will our apathy eventually lead to our churches becoming museums for tourists to visit? Will it become more difficult for us to preach and teach the Gospel?

I was awestruck standing in the Garden of Gethsemane, looking toward the walls of Jerusalem. From this same vantage point you can see the High Priest's palace. Jesus saw what I saw. He saw Judas leading the mob to arrest Him. He could have easily escaped into the wilderness just several hundred yards behind Him. Jesus stood in the Garden waiting for Judas to kiss Him. He waited to be arrested, tried and crucified. The vicarious atonement of Jesus is real! He died for you and me. He paid for our sins.

Tourism is the number one industry in Israel. Touring groups flood the country from north to south and east to west. There are motels and hotels everywhere. Touring the Holy Land is a booming business. A Christian may go to the Holy Land as a tourist. Sitting in a boat on the Sea of Galilee, hearing the Gospel account of the feeding of the 5,000, one can see the location where this miracle most likely happened. With a bit of imagination you can hear Jesus preaching. For me, within hours, tourism became a spiritual experience as the Gospel account of Jesus' ministry was read.

PRESIDENT'S PRAYER LIST:

PLEASE JOIN ME IN PRAYER THIS MONTH

- *Pray the Holy Spirit to bless the regular preaching and teaching of the Holy Scriptures.*
- *Pray God to bless the lay leaders of Missouri District congregations with insight, wisdom and discernment for the sake of the Gospel.*
- *Pray God to provide all the resources needed by those involved in vacation Bible school ministry this summer.*
- *Pray the Holy Spirit to guide, direct and bless vacation Bible school leaders' outreach to their communities.*
- *Ask God to give insight, wisdom, discernment and a pastoral heart to LCMS President Matthew Harrison.*
- *Pray that God will assign His angels to protect the men and women of the United States military.*
- *Pray God to protect the children, youth and young adults of our congregations, state and nation.*
- *Praise and thanks to God for the congregations in the Missouri District that are in the process of starting new worshipping communities.*
- *Pray God to bless the enrollment process of the many Lutheran educational ministries within the Missouri District.*
- *Pray the Holy Spirit to guide and bless Missouri District congregations currently involved in the calling of Ordained and Commissioned Ministers of Religion.*
- *Pray God to bring about reconciliation and healing to congregations currently experiencing serious conflict.*
- *Pray God to provide the needed resources and the Holy Spirit to guide and direct the work of the District Board of Directors, the four service boards and district committees.*



Missouri District
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD

May 9, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At the April 24th Missouri District Board of Directors meeting I officially announced my retirement, effective at the end of my term, July 15th, 2015. It has been a humbling privilege serving the Missouri District as its President for three terms. As many of you know, prior to my service in this office, I served as a Vice President of the District for a total of twelve years. These years of service have given me the opportunity to personally be in many of the District's three hundred congregations. I have met many of you during these visits, at District events and in Convention. Getting to know so many of you has been one of the high points of my service.

I thank God for your strong support of the District during my years of service. Because of your support and God's blessings, the Missouri District remains committed to reaching the lost with the Gospel. At this time the Missouri District supports over forty mission initiatives scattered around the state. Through your offerings, \$770,000 is allocated to support these missions during the 2015 fiscal year. The Board of Directors has committed an additional \$520,000 to the support of the International Center of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. I invite you to thank and praise God for His blessings to enable the District to be so strongly engaged in mission work.

It is important that your congregation participates in the upcoming nomination process. Prior to December, 2014, your congregation's voters' assembly should nominate two candidates for the presidential ballot and two for the first vice-presidential ballot. From these nominations, the five pastors receiving the highest number of nominations will be asked to permit their names to be considered for election. If any nominee declines, the person with the next highest number of nominations will be eligible. Please make sure your congregation participates in this process.

Debbie and I will move to Buckeye, Arizona. We will, however, keep the Missouri District in our prayers and thoughts. We intend to return from time to time to continue our relationship with all of you. Missouri will always be part of our thoughts, lives, and prayers.

God continue to bless the Missouri District. To Him be the glory!

In the Service of Jesus Christ,

Rev. Dr. Ray G. Mirly

660 Mason Ridge Center Drive, Suite 100, St. Louis, MO 63141 — (314) 590-6200 — www.mo.lcms.org

AN EYE ON MISSION: PARTNERSHIPS

Continued from Cover

partner together to do outreach. By developing partnerships, two or more congregations are intentionally working together to establish new ministries and to plant new churches.

These congregations nearest to the area of mission opportunity have a unique leadership role to play in planting and nurturing a new church plant. Research indicates the best way to reach unchurched people is by planting new churches. Research also indicates the best way to plant new churches is through existing churches. Because many congregations do not have the resources to plant a new mission or ministry themselves, partnerships are needed.

Our district is a unique blend of old and new. Missouri contains some of the most historic congregations in the Synod, and we are also involved in new and innovative church ministries. God has blessed Missouri, a broad heartland state, with different races, ethnic groups, religious backgrounds and economic levels. We have immigrants, refugees and international students. We have a diverse, unchurched population living in very different regions: rural, suburban and urban. Some have lived here for generations, others arrived today.

District congregations, each a Body of Christ, are partnering together to function as a larger Body of Christ, achieving more outreach than one congregation can do alone. They are contributing critical resources to each other to reach out with Christ's love in many ways. Our cities are becoming laboratories for innovative mission outreach. Our large urban areas are reaching new residents God has brought to our cities. Our suburbs are establishing new churches to meet the needs of families who are searching for stability in a hectic, mobile world. Rural congregations are partnering in new ways to reinvent and revive their own ministries.

Beginning new partnerships by working with other congregations creates ways to combine funds, resources, knowledge and volunteers to plant and nurture new ministries and church plants more efficiently and effectively.

Just as God's Word and Sacraments brought us together, they also sustain and nurture us, keeping our faith full of life and filled with The Life. Our prayer is that partnerships in the Gospel may grow and be strengthened by our gracious Lord and that they may be used by Him to reach people with the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ.

HOSPITALIZED in Columbia?

Register as **LUTHERAN**.

Chaplain Richard Ingmire will visit you with spiritual comfort in your physical suffering.

The congregations of Mid-Missouri Lutheran Hospital Ministry provide this ministry.

GULF SHORES, ALA.

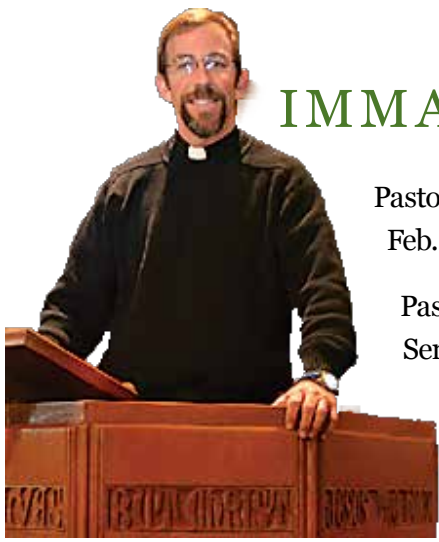
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REDUCED RATE FOR VOICE READERS!

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Call 314-843-6063.



Pastor Kyle Castens

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN INSTALLS ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Pastor Kyle Castens was installed as Associate Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Festus-Crystal City, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014.

Pastor Castens was born and raised in Chester, Ill., attended the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He served as pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Everett, Wash., from 2000 to 2003, where he also served as chaplain for the local fire department. Since 2003, he has served as Admissions Officer at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. His area of ministry will be in families, youth and community outreach.

He and his wife, Jennifer, who is a Lutheran school teacher, have two sons, Daniel and Andrew. The family enjoys hiking, bicycling and kayaking, and baseball and soccer with the boys.

Immanuel is located at Ward Terrace and Brierton Lane in Festus. Pastor Castens may be reached at 636-937-5525.

Immanuel invites everyone to help welcome Pastor Castens and his family to the community.



Participating in the installation were Dr. Ray Mirly, President of the Missouri District, LCMS; Dr. Rick Marrs, Dr. Wally Becker, Dr. Leo Sanchez, Rev. Michael Redeker and Rev. Bill Wrede from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis; Pastors Mart Thompson of Zion, Pevely Vern Lintvedt of Blessed Savior, O'Fallon, Ill., Gary Schulte of Zion, Hillsboro; Martin Hasz of Isleben, Scott City, Charles Schultz of St. Paul's, Otto-Imperial; Will Hanke of Mount Calvary, Brentwood, Mo.; Dwayne Meissner of Immanuel, Barnhart; Charles Henrickson of Bonne Terre (circuit counselor); Warren Worth of Good Shepherd, Arnold (Circuit counselor); Andy Becker, James Kirk and Jeremy Schultz of St. John's, Arnold, Mo.

PEACE LUTHERAN, KCMO INDUCTS, INSTALLS AND COMMISSIONS NEW STAFF OF LUTHERAN URBAN MISSION AGENCY



"Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim..." (LSB 837) were the words of the hymn opening the worship service in celebration of the induction, commissioning and installation of Lutheran Urban Mission Agency's (LUMA, Kansas City) new staff members at Peace Lutheran Church, Kansas City, on Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014.

During the occasion, Olga Preisz Groh (front, fourth from right) was commissioned as deaconess and installed as Care Ministry Director; Deb Hartje, DCE (front, fourth from left) was installed as Managing Director; and Elizabeth (Lisa) Molotla (front, center) was inducted as deaconess intern to serve with LUMA and Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, KCMO. Rev. Dr. Ray Mirly, president of the LCMS Missouri District (front, left) conducted the rites.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, (WEST ELY) HANNIBAL, Mo., AND OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE CITY, Mo.,

COMMISSIONED SIX STEPHEN MINISTERS IN BOTH SERVICES

Stephen leaders are Rev. Ken and Diane Schamber, who are pictured in the first row. Stephen Ministers are: (from left): Clemens Koch, Janelle Koch, Monica Ludwig, Lorrie Buckman, Mary Floyd and Mary Lehenbauer.





CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF FROHNA, MO., CELEBRATES ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2014



Concordia Lutheran Church in Frohna, Mo., (founded in 1839) is celebrating its 175th anniversary in 2014, and will host several confirmation reunions throughout the year with classes confirmed during the following:

1991-2013, Sunday, June 15

1971-1990, Sunday, Aug. 10

1950 and earlier, Sun., Oct. 12



Guest speakers will preach at each celebration, and a dinner will be served at Concordia gymnasium at noon for each reunion. Past confirmands may watch mailings to confirm the occasion. For more information, contact Donna Hecht at dmhecht@hotmail.com.



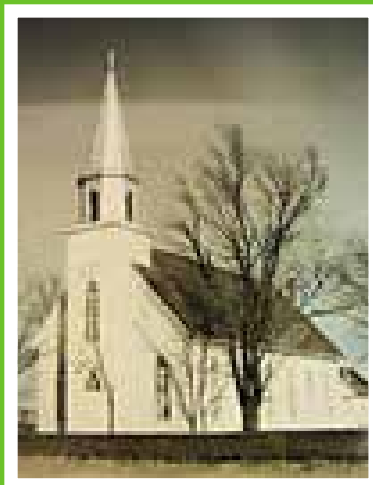
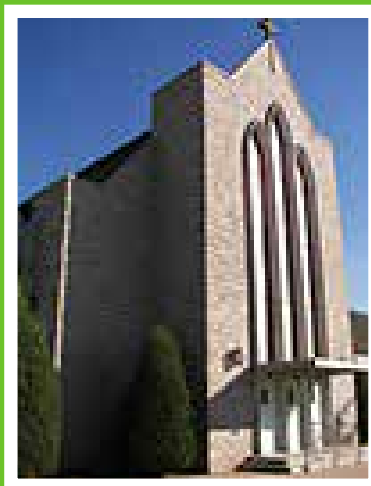
FURTHERING THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST: TRINITY LUTHERAN IN FREISTATT, MO., CELEBRATES ITS 140TH ANNIVERSARY

Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Freistatt, Mo., will celebrate its 140th anniversary this fall—Sept. 14.

The congregation invites you to make plans to join members for a day full of festivities starting with Bible study at 8:30 a.m. led by our guest speaker, Rev. George Borghardt, followed by pre-service music at 9:15 a.m. and Divine Worship with Holy Communion at 10 a.m. Fellowship will continue with a dinner at the school.

At 2 p.m. the Kansas City Metro Men's Chorus (65-75 voices) will present a benefit concert in the church with a free-will offering. The theme for the celebration is "Furthering the Kingdom of Christ."

There will be more information available as the date nears. For questions, please contact Betty Sawyer (417-825-5697).



RECORD TURN-OUT FOR ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY

The line to the nachos and hot dogs was long, but the approximately 2,000 people who attended St. John's Lutheran Church and School Neighborhood Block Party on May 9 didn't seem to mind. They were grateful that the weather, which earlier had called for potentially heavy thunderstorms, continued to improve throughout the course of the day.

By a little after 6 p.m., festivities were well under-



way. Children of all ages lined up to play a myriad of games organized on the church parking lot at 3517 Jefco Blvd. Other attractions included face painting, pony rides, three large inflatables, balloon-

making clowns, a petting zoo, a fire truck from the Rock Community Fire District, a vintage car exhibit and music. The evening concluded with a spectacular fireworks display.

St. John's Block Party, its fifth annual, was free and open to the public. Senior Pastor Jeremy Schultz explained that the block party, "Is our way to do something nice for the community, and to celebrate all the rich blessings God has bestowed upon us."



*Festival photos by:
Kari Dallas, Vintage Lens Photography*



Karen Drury

PRESIDENT'S PENNING

SO LONG, FAREWELL... BLESSINGS

You often hear older people talk about how fast time flies. As I have matured in my life's journey, I've come to understand why they say this. We can all remember when we were young, how impatient we were for those big events like birthdays and Christmas to arrive. It just seemed like it would never get here! Today, I look at the calendar and say to myself, "the year's over half spent." Wasn't it just yesterday that I was snuggling beside a roaring fire in the fireplace and wondering when we were going to thaw out from all

of the snow and ice? And my sons, who were just babies yesterday, are now towering over me and speak to me with deep manly voices. My, how time flies.

Four years I ago I was elected to the office of president for the Missouri District LWML. Now today, my term of office has come to a close. Where did the time go? I vividly recall the day I was elected, I was excited and scared! What had I gotten myself into? How was I going to be able to handle all the responsibilities? These and many other questions were racing through my mind as I exited the convention hall. I may have been frightened and unsure, but God was in control. He provided me with all that I needed and more to carry out the tasks of the office. And so began the journey of board meetings, rallies, the 2012 district convention, two LWML conventions in Peoria and Pittsburgh, five regional PING workshops and finally, the 2014 district convention. Today, I say with a saddened heart, "Where

Four years I ago I was elected to the office of president for the Missouri District LWML. Now today, my term of office has come to a close.

did the time go?" I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the ladies of our district for all the great experiences we shared. I will treasure them in my heart always. Thank you for showing me what loving hearts are capable of when together, as sisters in Christ, put their talents and treasures into expanding God's kingdom. You are beautiful. God loves you and so do I.

As some of you may know, I have communicated with you through many emails. From the very beginning, I would sign my closing simply, "Blessings, Karen." Now I know that each and every one of you ARE blessings to others and to me. It's time for me to say ... So long, farewell. Blessings, Karen



Rev. David Moore

COUNSELOR'S CORNER:

WE ARE MISSIONARIES

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8

When I was a child I had a very concrete picture in my mind what a missionary and his mission field looked like. What I imagined was some skinny man with glasses in a button down white shirt with dark slacks who was sent by the church to some exotic location on the other side of the world. He would share the Gospel with people who looked nothing like anyone I knew. These people lived in lands that seemed to be cut off from the rest of the civilized world. The roads and floors of their homes were nothing but dirt, and the roofs were thatched. Clothing was minimal and the only one who wore shoes was the missionary.

These words of Jesus from Acts 1 are a wonderful reminder of just how far off my picture of missionary work was. Before Jesus ascended into heaven He issued a call to all Christians to join in His mission work. Therefore, by virtue of our baptism, we are all missionaries – it is not just the job of some skinny guy certified by the church to proclaim the Gospel. And the mission field doesn't only exist in far away lands – it is all around us every day right in our own backyards.

We who have been saved by God's grace, through faith in Christ Jesus, have been given the privilege to be witnesses of our resurrected Lord; to share His love, grace, mercy and forgiveness with the lost and dying who are around us every day. God has placed you where you are today as His missionary. And my prayer for you this day is that God would richly bless your mission work, that through your witness many more may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing they may have life in His name.



The 2014 Missouri District
Lutheran Women's Missionary
League 23rd Biennial Convention
June 20-22 is in Kansas City.

It will Illuminate Your Life and help you
"Carry His Light."

Please join us, HE has plans for YOU!

www.MissouriLWML.org
www.lwml.org



THE MISSOURI DISTRICT LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

NEW BIBLE STUDY FROM LHM MEN'S NETWORK

NOAH - THE MAN, THE ARK, THE FLOOD



A five centuries-old man building a huge boat on the startling news of coming floodwaters sounds like the makings of one remarkable story. It is. Jump in and get your feet wet with *Noah: The Man, The Ark, The Flood*, the latest Bible study from the Men's NetWork.

Hosted by Rev. Kurt Klaus and filmed on location at the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Ky., this four-part Bible study from the Men's NetWork looks at the biblical character of Noah, his life and times, and the remarkable vessel he built to escape the waters of the flood. Along the way, commentary from numerous specialists considers the issue of extreme human age, how building such a watercraft was possible, the extent of the flood's reach, how a single vessel could hold such a multitude of animals, and the phenomena of far-flung flood stories in other cultures.

The Genesis account of a cataclysmic flood in chapters six through nine is

one of the Old Testament's more timeless sagas. It chronicles Noah and his devout righteousness, contrasting his blameless fidelity to God with the wanton corruption and violence God saw at work in the world around Noah. Along with his immediate family, Noah is singled out for God's blessing and salvation from the waters of a flood let loose to wipe out every living thing except the people and creatures aboard the ark. The story is an extraordinary one to be sure and ends with God blessing Noah and his family for their obedient faithfulness, making a covenant with them to never again destroy the earth by a flood.

Interestingly, Noah makes an appearance in the New Testament too. This time it's in the words of Jesus as recorded in Matthew 23. Here the Messiah cites the flood narrative as a powerful object lesson, reminding His listeners that as in "the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man." The watchword here: "be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

DEADLINE FOR STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS IS JULY 1, 2014.

SUBMISSION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE DISTRICT LLL WEBSITE/DOWNLOADS.

VISIT US AT:

WWW.LUTHERANONLINE.COM/MISSOURIDISTRICTLLL

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? CONTACT: JACK1422@MCHSL.COM



Liz Schroeder

CROSSES TO BEAR

One of the first lessons we seem to learn in our Christian life is that there will be crosses for us to bear if we follow Christ. As a child, we literally think of dragging a cross through the streets. Since that was not a likely occurrence, our cross-bearing seemed distant and remote.

As we mature, we realize those crosses we bear occur daily in our lives. Not all are "major" crosses, but they are obstacles put in our way that we must handle. So we "gird up our loins" and get set to do battle with this enemy, mostly forgetting to first ask God to help us with this cross that has been put in our way. Or maybe we do ask Him for help but then set out to do it our way without waiting to hear what God is telling us to do. Therein can be our failure and destruction.

Remember those crosses are put in our way to strengthen our faith. Maybe you have the responsibility for caring for a loved one. That might not be a cross, but a blessing to allow us to give back the love that was shown to us by that dear one when we were younger. Maybe you yourself are in poor health. That can be a blessing, because now someone else can return that love you showered on them. It teaches us reliance on someone other than ourselves. It also takes us back to God in prayer. God alone can guide us through this life and its crosses and hold us in His hands when it is time to leave the crosses behind and experience the wonderful joy of being in heaven with Him. Until that time, bear patiently the crosses set before you so you may inherit the crown of eternal life.



MISSOURI DISTRICT PASTORAL CALLS, VICARAGE ASSIGNMENTS, AND DEACONESS INTERNSHIPS

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, held their 175th Call Day on Tuesday, April 29. Of the 58 students who received calls to be pastors across the country, 6 were called to the Missouri District. Of the 86 seminarians and deaconess students who received vicarage and internship assignments, 20 were assigned to churches and organizations across the Missouri District. Please welcome the following people to your churches and Lutheran organizations.



Vicarages & Internships: Missouri District

- | | |
|---|---|
| Bolling, Gerard
Bethlehem Lutheran Church,
St. Louis, Missouri | Luckemeyer, Joel
Salem Lutheran Church,
Affton, Missouri |
| Burdette, Paul
Lutheran Senior Services,
Webster Groves, Missouri | Maconachy, Samuel
Resurrection Lutheran Church,
St. Louis, Missouri |
| Carnehl, Adam
Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Saint Charles, Missouri | Neugebauer, Kirk
Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Wentzville, Missouri |
| Cave, Andrew
Hanover Lutheran Church,
Cape Girardeau, Missouri | Nietubicz, Christopher
St. Paul Lutheran Church,
Saint Joseph, Missouri |
| Chandler, Christopher
Immanuel Lutheran Church,
St. Louis, Missouri | Ray, Kevin
St. Paul Lutheran Church,
Concordia, Missouri |
| Douglas, Matthew
Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Washington, Missouri | Roth, David
Zion/Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church,
Owensville/Belle, Missouri |
| Gulseth, Matthew
St. John's Lutheran Church,
Arnold, Missouri | Sommer, Christopher
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church,
St. Louis, Missouri |
| Hokana, Katherine
Lutheran Senior Services,
Webster Groves, Missouri | Trempala, Daniel
Our Savior Lutheran Church,
Saint Charles, Missouri |
| Howell, Christopher
St. Stephen Lutheran Church,
Liberty, Missouri | Viggers, David
Blessed Savior Lutheran Church,
Florissant, Missouri |
| Hunsaker, Mark
Praise & Worship Lutheran Church,
Branson, Missouri | Walston, Robert
Christ Memorial Lutheran Church,
St. Louis, Missouri |

Calls: Missouri District

- | | |
|---|---|
| Conrad, James
Faith Lutheran Church,
Richmond, Missouri | Jonas, Scott
Alive in Christ Lutheran Church,
Columbia, Missouri |
| Cox, James
Zion Lutheran Church,
Valley Park, Missouri | Kurka, Gerald
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran
Church, Stover, Missouri |
| Dehne, John
St. Andrew Lutheran Church,
Cape Girardeau, Missouri | Wildauer, Weston
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,
Cape Girardeau, Missouri |

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|---|---|
| ALUMNI REUNION
June 10-12 | ORIENTATION
September 2-5 |
| VOCATIO
June 21-26 | FIRST DAY OF CLASSES
September 8 |
| NEXT STEPS
July 11-12 | THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM
September 23-24 |
| FAITH & WRITING WORKSHOP
July 29-31 | 175th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
October 10-11 |
| SUMMER LAY BIBLE INSTITUTE
August 9 | |

FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT...

-  www.csl.edu
-  www.facebook.com/ConcordiaSem
-  www.twitter.com/ConcordiaSem





**MISSION TASK FORCE:
UNITED LOCAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS**



Have you heard what our Lutheran school kids in Southeast Missouri are doing? From the famous words of Henry Ford, coming together is a beginning, keeping together is a process and working together is a success. That is just what the kids of the Mission Task Force are doing!

Last spring, St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Cape Girardeau challenged members by giving them each \$10 and asking them to go out and multiply their money in order to purchase a truck to carry supplies for a Lutheran pastor's congregation in Guatemala. At that time, Brock Murphy, an eighth grader and his sister Maddox Murphy, a fourth grader, both at St. Paul Lutheran School in Jackson, decided that they wanted to use the \$10 and get their school involved. They spoke to their principal, Tim Mirly, about doing a casual day fundraiser. Their proposal was that

Mission Task Force Members:

Emily Cates, Sophie Bollinger, Faith Cates, Jonah Cook and Noah Nortin from Immanuel Lutheran School. Maddox Murphy, Claire Hadler, Shane Mockler and Brayden Williams from St. Paul Lutheran School, Jackson; Brock Murphy and Madison Arbuckle from Saxony Lutheran High School; Maggie Grimm and Luke Mayes from Trinity Lutheran School; Emma Roth, Whitney Unterreiner and Ross Hadler from UCLS; Rebekah King and Joe Samples from St. Paul Lutheran School, Farmington.

for \$1, students could wear a hat of their choice; for \$3, students could wear a shirt of their choice; and for \$5 students could have a total casual day! Mirly gave his approval, and much to their surprise, they turned their \$10 (used to make posters and flyers for the event) into \$1,200!

Over this past summer, Brock and Maddox thought about the fact that if one school could raise that much money for people in need...what could happen if several schools

joined to work together on mission projects? This was the beginning of a dream idea for Maddox Murphy. At the end of 2013, Maddox suggested her idea to St. Paul principal Tim Mirly, who fully embraced it. He went on to share the idea with the principals of the other area Lutheran schools. Each principal fully supported the concept and each expressed a desire to have their schools participate in the newly formed "Mission Task Force."

Continued on page 10

LOVE IS THE WORD:

JUNIOR HIGH SPRING RETREAT AT CAMP WINDERMERE RE-CAP



Emily and Alyssa Engelhardt, Elizabeth Trempala and Paige Vanek on their way to and at the front entrance of Camp Windermere.

More than 500 youth from the Missouri District attended the 2014 Junior High Spring Retreat at Camp Windermere, Roach, Mo., themed "Love Is The Word."

The purpose of this yearly event is to engage the youth in God's Word and the catechism through a study of the Ten Commandments, led by Pastor Greg Bears of LakePointe Church in Hot Springs, Ark.

Youth participated in large group Bible study, worship, service projects for Camp Windermere, Minute to Win It style games, Saturday night Fun Fest and Talent Show, a concert by the Relentless Project, hayrides, a bonfire, karaoke, games and many more fun activities.



MISSION TASK FORCE: UNITED LOCAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

Continued from page 9

So the Mission Task Force was created. Currently, St. Paul Lutheran School in Jackson, Saxony Lutheran High School in Jackson, Immanuel Lutheran School in Perryville, Trinity Lutheran School in Cape Girardeau, UCLS in Frohna, and St. Paul Lutheran School in Farmington have joined forces. Each school picked two to five students to represent it on the Mission Task Force. These students act as liaisons with their respective school.

The group held its first meeting in early January. The students picked a Hope Seeds Adoption Farm in Bugono, Uganda, as their first mission project. The group invited Mike Mueller from Hope Seeds to come to a meeting and speak to the group about the mission work that Hope Seeds is doing around the world.

The task force members all share a passion for helping others. Within a month of the formation of the group, the Mission Task Force had planned its first fundraiser from start to finish, set individual school goals, set an overall goal, designed and made posters and flyers, made presentations to their schools during chapel services, and members spoke about the events over announcements. Each school then held an initial event on Feb. 13 or 14.

On Feb. 17, the Mission Task Force met to review the initial fundraiser results and to share their respective success stories. Despite inclement weather, each of the schools met or exceeded its goal! The fundraiser's overall goal was to raise \$3,900 and the final total came to \$3,957! During National Lutheran Schools Week, Saxony Lutheran High School raised additional money for Hope Seeds through its chapel donations. And St. Paul Lutheran School in Jackson held an event where students brought in change for Bugono, with the classroom that collected the most money getting to cut the hair of sixth grade teacher, Deanna Leible, who then donated her hair to Locks of Love! On Thursday, March 20, the Mission Task Force presented a check to Mike Mueller with Hope Seeds for \$6,314.28 to help the people of Bugono, Uganda!

Maddox Murphy says that "the group doesn't want to stop here. What if we could expand the Mission Task Force to include kids from other schools, regardless of their denomination? Or, we could reach out to other Lutheran schools outside our geographic area. How about a nationwide network of Lutheran schools raising money and helping others? Wouldn't that be great? Even as kids, we can do our part to

make the world a better place."

So, this is only the beginning. The Mission Task Force plans to have guest speakers at its next meeting to give the group additional ideas for future projects, both locally and globally, that the Mission Task Force can potentially undertake.

The amazing part of this project is how quickly the students from different schools, who really did not know one another, have bonded and come together with a common goal. St. Paul Principal Tim Mirly says, "The Holy Spirit is at work through the Mission Task Force. They come together and develop a plan to engage everyone from their individual schools. Suddenly it is not just a task force, not just a school, but rather a whole community of schools coming together to accomplish a common goal. This has potential for impacting lives on so many levels. It is truly amazing!" Team members from the different schools are already working together and building friendships. Each member feels that God definitely nudged them to come together as a group and run with this idea. With this amazing group of students that God placed on this Mission Task Force, each feels that they will be able to accomplish amazing things!



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

RAISES FUNDS FOR THE RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

The National Junior Honor Society at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Des Peres has been cooking meals for the Ronald McDonald House for the last three years.

Their partnership first began when a student temporarily enrolled at St. Paul's while residing at the house, because his sibling was in the hospital. Fellow students instantly became interested in the Ronald McDonald House and began volunteering there cooking meals. This school year, the National Junior Honor Society prepared meals for the West County Ronald McDonald House eight times over the course of the school year.

Since the beginning, the students noticed that the stoves at the Ronald McDonald House were worn and did not work very well. They decided to host a three-mile walk-a-thon fundraiser in April to raise money to replace the three stoves. The initial fundraising goal was \$1,800 for two new stoves.

On a weather perfect day in April, 29 National Junior Honor Society members, 20 students, two alumni, 14 parents, and seven teachers participated in the walk-a-thon; walking a total of 204 miles.

Through the WeRaise crowdfunding platform from Wheat Ridge Ministries, the group not only raised enough for two stoves, but raised over \$3,500 which will then be matched by the Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis. Therefore, St. Paul's will be able to replace all three stoves at the Ronald McDonald House, which will benefit each group that prepares meals for 40-50 people at the House on a nightly basis. The St. Paul's National Junior Honor Society presented the check to the Ronald McDonald House during May.



OPEN THE DOORS AND SEE ALL THE PEOPLE

Contributed by Amy Gerdts

Project Coordinator, LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission

We all know this little children’s rhyme: “Here is the church, here is the steeple, open the doors and see all the people!” Our home congregations are where we are enriched by the Word of God and enjoy the fellowship of believers, but we still need to open the doors of our churches and step out into our communities to engage those around us with the love of Christ. We want those who don’t know about Him to have the opportunity to see His love through our actions. With that in mind, here are some community engagement examples that rural and small-town congregations are using across the country:

- In Columbus, Ind., the small rural church at Bean Blossom partnered with two larger churches to hold its first summer Bible camp in more than 20 years.

LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission supports and encourages rural and small town congregations in engaging their communities and growing together in Christ through Word and Sacrament.

If you have a good idea for outreach or a story you’d like to share so that we can share it with others, please email Amy Gerdts at amy.gerdts@lcms.org.

Learn more about us at www.lcms.org/rstm or by calling our office at 888-463-5127, by email at rstm@lcms.org or “like” us on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/lcmsrstm.



- Rev. Dean Hanson and Grace-Faith Partnership Ministry of Hazard, Neb., have an old-fashioned float in the local parade. They make sure to use it for outreach, and every year the theme is linked to the upcoming vacation Bible school. The children ride on the float, singing songs about Jesus and inviting others to join them. They are also excited to open a new day care and after-school program to meet community needs this year.
- In Burt and LuVern, Iowa, the congregation helps Pastor Jason Peterson maintain a race track ministry, and in Rockville, Mo., congregational members collect packages of new diapers, attach information about the church and its ministry, and take them to the local diaper bank.
- For the last several years, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Concordia, Mo., has hosted “Grace Day” for the community, where everything is free, just like God’s grace. The congregation puts on a lunch; has health screenings; gives haircuts, hand massages and car washes; and offers free musical entertainment.

- In Sylvan Grove, Kan., the congregation is using its midweek program for outreach, as well as to partner with the local school district to get buses to drop kids off after school.
- Pastor Heinecke makes sure to eat lunch at the public school with his own children frequently and then uses the time before and after to reach out to teachers and students.
- St. John’s, Reinbeck, Iowa, sponsors a fall hayride with a pumpkin hunt and bonfire that includes lots of family fun.
- The members of Trinity, Creston, Iowa, use their outreach fund to adopt a family.
- Other ideas that have been tried include hanging door hangers at Easter; getting people involved in Lutherans For Life teams or Laborers For Christ; and holding harvest, hunter or tractor blessings to ask for God’s blessing and protection, usually including a wonderful fellowship meal!

Don’t forget that many of the things we already do can be tweaked for outreach simply by looking at our events with a visitor’s eyes. How do we make people feel welcome and included? Be sure to have good signage on your property, and never forget to include dates, times and places. This means on your signs, in the bulletin and in any other place people might find information, such as on flyers, websites or Facebook. Never assume that they will “just know.” The important thing to remember is to make people feel welcome, have fun, use your imagination and reach out for Christ!

MUSIC ACROSS MISSOURI

The St. Louis Lutheran High School South (LHSS) choirs sang across Missouri on a recent weekend tour. Short concerts were presented at Good Shepherd School in Columbia and Messiah School in Independence. At Columbia, the Good Shepherd middle school choir also shared its music with the high school students.

The LHSS choirs continued their tour to Nebraska, enjoying a Broadway show in Omaha, and a clinic with Professor David Von Kampen at Concordia University-Nebraska. The choirs were welcomed by St. John’s Lutheran Church in rural Crete, Neb., where they provided music for worship on Sunday morning before returning to St. Louis.

The LHSS choirs are directed by Greg Gastler.





LESA HONORS JACK GERBER; RAISES \$470,000 FOR LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



John W. (Jack) Gerber

The St. Louis-based Lutheran Elementary School Association (LESA) honored founding board member John W. (Jack) Gerber and raised more than \$470,000 for Lutheran elementary schools during its 10 Year Anniversary Celebration of “A Night for Kids,” held Saturday, April 5, at the Marriott St. Louis West in Chesterfield.

CW 11 anchor Dan Gray co-hosted the evening, which included the presentation of LESA’s “Student Christian Leadership Award” to Grace Frisella, an eighth-grader at Christ Community Lutheran School in Kirkwood, who started a recycling program at CCLS’s middle school campus earlier this year.

Donations to the event were matched dollar-for-dollar by the Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis. The Clara & Spencer Werner Fund of the Lutheran Legacy Foundation matched 20 percent of the gross proceeds.

Since 2004, LESA has awarded 10,399 scholarships totaling nearly \$7 million to children of all faiths in the St. Louis area.

More than 8,000 children attend LESA member schools in the St. Louis metro area. A Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, LESA represents 30 elementary schools, early childhood centers, four high schools and six related agencies.



Grace Frisella

ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL TEACHER RECEIVES THE 2014 JEREMIAH AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE



From Left: Zion Principal Marc Debrick, Jeremiah winner Sue Riemenschneider, LASE Educational Consultant at Zion Chris Tomlinson.

Sue Riemenschneider, sixth grade teacher at Zion Lutheran School, St. Charles, was awarded the Lutheran Association for Special Education 2014 Jeremiah Award for Teaching Excellence in February during a surprise ceremony after chapel.

Sue was nominated by Principal Marc Debrick because of her collaborative skills in working with parents and teachers for the good of children who learn differently.

Sue is known for using many interactive techniques and projects that encourage students to think “beyond the assignment.” Whether she is collaborating

with the LASE special educator to help her students learn, or trying out a new strategy in her sixth grade classroom, Sue is always focused on what is best for all of her students, including those with learning challenges. Sue is empathetic when working with students and recognizes the difficulties that struggling students have. However, she challenges them to use their God-given gifts to overcome their difficulties and shine in their areas of strength. She celebrates successes along the way and perseveres with them during difficult times.

OASIS

INTERGENERATIONAL TUTORING PROGRAM



Tutor Janet Westbrook working with student Brandon Misuraca.

Lutheran Family and Children’s Services continues to support the OASIS Intergenerational Tutoring Program in Lutheran grade schools in St. Louis and the surrounding areas. Our program includes three schools in the Cape Girardeau area, bringing the total number of participating schools to 19. We also hope to add some additional schools for the 2014-15 school year. Within elementary schools, OASIS pairs older adults with young children who have underdeveloped reading and language skills. These caring adults work one-on-one with students for about an hour each week as their tutors, mentors and friends.

During this past school year, about 115 tutors worked with more than 120 students in kindergarten through fourth grade to build their reading and language skills. This spring 16 tutors were recognized by OASIS and LFCS for five and 10 years of service. We give praise to God for the valuable time and experience that all our tutors give to our schools to help them meet the needs of their students. Principals and teachers continue to positively respond to the energy, dedication and ability of these tutors.

If you would like to share your knowledge and experience to enrich the life of a student, please consider participating in our fall tutor training classes. You will learn activities, techniques and strategies that complement and support the reading programs used in our schools today. You also will receive ongoing training through newsletters and continuing education meetings that will help build your teaching self-esteem. A two-day training class will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 27 and Thursday, Aug. 28, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Concordia Lutheran Church, located at 505 S. Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122. A one-day training class will be held in early September in the Cape Girardeau area (exact date and location still to be determined). Completing a training class will allow you to volunteer at one of our schools, beginning in October and tutoring until the end of the school year. For additional information and to register for a class, please contact Luanne Beumer at 314-842-4826 or blbeumer@gmail.com.



LESA STUDENTS CELEBRATE SPRING



Early childhood students made crosses using the colors of the salvation story during a “Wee Worship” event at St. Mark’s, Eureka.

Students also staged “The Fairy Tale Network,” featuring three “cool” mice, hosted a Rock and Roll Easter event, and participated in this year’s GO! St. Louis Read, Right and Run Marathon at Forest Park.



St. John’s, Arnold, students posed as famous artists and museum guards for a “Night at the Art Museum,” organized by art teacher Barbara Obermeyer. The night included a display of award-winning student artwork, demonstrations by actual local artists and “animatronic” historical presentations by the students.



The Junior Safety Patrol at Salem Lutheran in Affton celebrated its first year of service by cheering on the Cardinals at Busch Stadium. The volunteer group, made up of 11 eighth-graders, helps out at student crossing areas and other parts of campus. Teacher Lisa Rivers and Principal Rob Kellar chaperoned the trip.



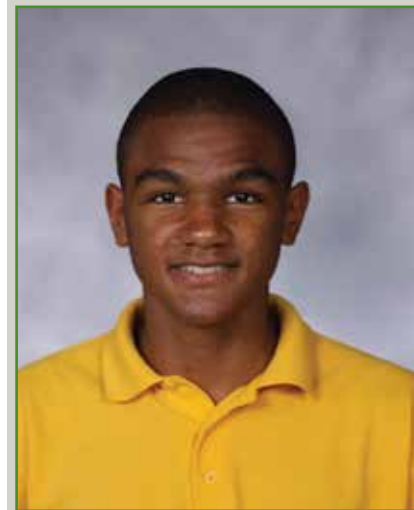
GRACE CHAPEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL IN BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS VISITED

BY RONALD McDONALD CARE MOBILE®

In April, free eye care services were provided to Grace Chapel Lutheran School students. Services included a thorough eye exam by an optometrist, and eyeglasses for the students who needed them on the same day. Students were able to choose from a wide selection of frames, which allowed them to find just the right fit and personal style.

Pictured are Nurse Charlotte with some of the students who received screenings as well as a student who also received eyeglasses.

Nurse Charlotte works with the nurses of the School Health Services of the Lutheran Association for Special Education, providing health care services for various schools in the area. This program screens the students in kindergarten through eighth grade annually, and those in need are then helped to find services such as this wonderful care van.



Darius Dorsey

DARIUS DORSEY: NAMED MVP OF NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Eighth grader Darius Dorsey of Grace Chapel Lutheran School in Bellefontaine Neighbors was named the Most Valuable Player at the Lutheran Basketball Association of America National Tournament of Champions at Valparaiso University in Indiana.

Dorsey led the Grace Chapel Chargers to a fifth place finish in the tournament, averaging 23.2 points per game. The team defeated Salem Lutheran of Orange, Cali., 44-37 in the opening round and then South Unity Lutheran of Fort Wayne, Ind., 41-39 in the second round to advance to the tournament quarterfinals. The Chargers suffered their only loss of the tournament to Garden Home Lutheran of Milwaukee in the quarterfinals and moved to the fifth place bracket.

Dorsey scored 34 points in a 47-45 overtime win against St. Peter’s of Columbus, Ind., to advance to the fifth place game. In the battle for a trophy, Dorsey poured in 27 points as Grace Chapel defeated St. Michael Lutheran of Fort Myers, Fla., 51-43.

Along with their fifth place finish at the nationals and a 23-4 record, Grace Chapel was the St. Louis Lutheran Athletic League Small School Champion and the Lutheran Sports Association of Missouri State Runner-up. The team was coached by Rev. John Greene and Keith Ware.





WHO ARE WE?

The Missouri District consists of 300 congregations.

The Vision: Congregations of the Missouri District—LCMS partnering as one church, united in doctrine, ready, equipped and acting to fulfill the Great Commission in their unique setting with their unique people.

The Mission: The Missouri District—LCMS is to serve and encourage congregations to fulfill the Great Commission and promote unity of the true faith.



From (From left): Martha Schellin, Ruth Ann Grebe, Donna Seipp, Sue Thompson, Peter Krege
Back (From left: Karen Siegel, Gene Wyssmann, Dennis Klussman, Stuart Brassie, Ray Mirly, Dennis Gehrke (not pictured, Indira Murray)

THE VOICE OF MISSOURI

A quarterly publication produced under the guidelines of the Board of Directors of The Missouri District—LCMS, 660 Mason Ridge Center Drive, Suite 100, St. Louis, MO 63141-8557

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Submissions: When submitting an article to The Voice, emails sent to movoice@mo.lcms.org are strongly preferred. Please furnish sharply focused original photographs. JPEGs, GIFs or TIFFs may be emailed at 300 dpi at 5x3.5" size.

Submission deadline: First day of month preceding publication. Upcoming deadlines and themes:

Sept. 1 Pastoral Formation: Where Do Pastors Come From?
Dec. 1 To Be Determined

Photos will not be returned. Identify all photo subjects (left to right, front to back); what they are doing; name and date of event depicted; why subject is there; include suggested caption. Please do not write on the back of a photo—write on a label and then affix it to back of photo. Get permission from the people in your picture(s) before submitting. Submission of pictures implies approval.

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A FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND



Kirk Mueller

Research shows that upon your death, it will take 13 years or more years to replace you as a giving unit at your congregation.

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For more information, please contact...

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CALLING CONGREGATIONS

For Sole Pastors:

Belle/Owensville, Mount Calvary/Zion
 Bourbon, Concordia
 Branson, Praise and Worship – called Rev. Darwin Karsten of Branson, MO (Accepted)
 Cape Girardeau, Good Shepherd – Candidate Weston Wildauer assigned
 Cape Girardeau (Egypt Mills), Trinity
 Overland, Our Redeemer – called Rev. Matthew Marks of Perryville, MO (Declined)
 Republic, Hope
 Richmond, Faith – Candidate James Conrad assigned
 Rockville, Zion – called Rev. Joel Meyer of Holtville, CA (Accepted)
 St. Louis, Christ in the City
 Springfield, Faith
 Stover, St. Paul – Deferred Vicar Gerald Kurka assigned
 Valley Park, Zion – Deferred Vicar James Cox assigned

Served by Intentional Interim Pastor or Interim Pastor:

Clinton, Trinity (Rev. Roger Mackie)
 Grandview, Holy Trinity (Rev. Dr. Rick Foss)
 Overland, Our Redeemer (Rev. Steven Albers)
 St. Louis, Epiphany (Rev. Dr. Martin Haeger)
 St. Louis County, Immanuel Chapel (Rev. Ron Jansen)
 Slater, Peace & St. Paul (Rev. Douglas Dubisar)
 Springfield, Faith (Rev. David Benson)
 Ste. Genevieve, Holy Cross (Rev. James Kirk)
 St. Joseph, St. Peter (Rev. Thomas Schoech)

For Senior Pastor:

Cape Girardeau, St. Andrew – Deferred Vicar John Dehne assigned
 Kansas City, Holy Cross – called Rev. Frank Frye of Fort Morgan, CO (Accepted)
 St. Louis, Historic Trinity
 Union, St. Paul – called Rev. Matthew Hayter of same (Accepted)

For Associate or Assistant Pastor:

Columbia, Alive in Christ – Candidate Scott Jonas assigned
 Des Peres, St. Paul – (calling two Associates)
 Oakville, Faith
 St. Charles, Immanuel

Webster Groves, Webster Groves – called Rev. William Geis of LaGrange, IL (Accepted)

Vacant on Hold – But Being Served:

Ashland, Family of Christ
 Bethany, Hope
 Center, Trinity
 Elk Prairie (Rolla), Peace
 Isabella, Faith
 Knob Noster, Faith
 Memphis, St. Paul
 Milan, Peace
 Oak Grove, Shepherd of the Valley
 Princeton, Immanuel
 St. James, St. John
 St. Louis, Holy Sacrament
 St. Louis, St. Paul
 Sarcoxie, Trinity
 Shelbyville, Mount Hope
 Sweet Springs, Christ
 Vandalia, St. John
 Washington, Faith

Pastors Considering Calls:

Auringer, Jason (Immanuel, Wentzville) to St. Paul's – Peachtree City, GA (Declined)
 Bereuter, Bryce (Calvary, Kansas City) to St. Paul's – Cheney, KS (Declined)
 Borcharding, Alan (Dir. of University Education CUS) to Concordia Seminary as Dir. of Research, Assessment & Academic Programming (Accepted)
 Canaday, Matthew (River of Life, Rogersville) to Trinity – Spencerport, NY
 Hellwege, John (Emmaus, St. Louis) to LCMS Office of International Mission, Dominican Republic (Declined)
 Jameson, John (St. Mark's, Eureka) to Christ, Anderson, IN
 Mehl, John (OIM, LCMS, St. Louis) to Concordia University Nebraska (Accepted)
 Palmer, Jon (Faith, Oakville) to Cross Road – Horn Lake, MS (Declined)
 Rosebrock, Stephen (Hope, St. Louis) to St. Martin's – Winona, MN (Declined)
 Rosebrock, Stephen (Hope, St. Louis) to Mount Olive – Milwaukee, WI (Accepted)
 Stark, Paul (Zion, Diggins) to St. Paul – Peachtree City, GA

PERSONNEL CHANGES — COMMISSIONED MINISTERS OF RELIGION

Graduates Installed

Goehmann, Heidi (RF '02) to Grace Place Lutheran Wellness Ministries – St. Louis 4/23/14 by D. Meyer
 Ludvigson, Gail (FW '12) to LCMS Board for International Mission – St. Louis 3/30/14 by E. Lassman

Transferred from Other Districts

Boehlke, Christian (TX) to LCMS Board for International Mission – St. Louis 4/28/14 by R. Mirly

Reinstated

Kaber, Jennifer (Reinstated by COP 4/14) to Candidate Kalbas, Pamela (Reinstated by COP 4/14) to Candidate

Changes Within District

Schmidt, Rebecca (Immanuel – St. Charles) to LCMS Office of National Mission – St. Louis 3/28/14 by R. Mirly

Candidate Status

Hodgson, Carol (Calvary – Kansas City) 8/1/13
 Maas, John (Bethlehem – Raymore) 9/1/13
 Yosten, Meghann (St. Paul – Farmington) 6/1/13

Non-Candidate Status

Diener, Beth (Immanuel – Jefferson City) 7/1/13
 Elfe, Jenna (Candidate) 3/10/14
 Hartwig, Carrie (Salem – Affton) 7/1/13
 Hulshof, Valarie (Grace Chapel – Bellefontaine Neighbors) 6/1/13
 Kurka, Margie (Hope – St. Ann) 5/23/13

Ommen, Sharon (Trinity – Jefferson City) 8/1/13
 Walker, Audrey (Messiah – St. Charles) 6/1/10
 Westbrook, Karen (Christ in the City – St. Louis) 7/1/09

Retired

Richardt, Myra (Lutheran High School South – St. Louis) 1/1/13

Deceased

Stoos, Reuben (Emeritus) 2/10/14

Resigned/Removed from Roster

Becerra, Kim (Non-Candidate) 3/30/14
 Dorgan, Jill (Non-Candidate) 3/30/14
 Fiala, Michelle (Our Savior – Fenton) 3/6/14
 Ohlde, Rebekah (Martin Luther Academy) 4/3/14
 Phelps, Molly (Non-Candidate) 3/30/14
 Ryman, Justin (Candidate) 3/30/14
 Schroeder, Stephen (St. John's – Ellisville) 2/28/14

Transferred to Other Districts

Hartwig, Carrie (Non-Candidate) to MNN 3/10/14
 Johnson, Susan (Non-Candidate) to MNS 3/6/14
 Ludvigson, Gail (LCMS Board for International Mission – St. Louis) to NOW 4/9/14
 Ommen, Sharon (Non-Candidate) to IW 4/23/14
 Schulz, Marlo (Non-Candidate) to KS 4/15/14

PERSONNEL CHANGES — ORDAINED

Transferred to our District:

Frye, Frank (RM) installed Senior Pastor at Holy Cross – Kansas City, MO 5/4/2014 by T. Arnold
 Kuddes, Jeffrey (MNS) installed sole pastor at Trinity – Cole Camp, MO 4/6/2014 by R. Mirly
 Wenthe, Dean (Emeritus Status) installed President of Concordia University System – St. Louis, MO 3/31/2014 by R. Mirly

Transferred to other Districts:

Burge, David (Emeritus Status) to NI 3/22/2014
 Hilgert, David (Non-Candidate Status) to FG 4/21/2014
 Jameson, Leon (SMP Pastor Immanuel – St. Charles) to EN 3/7/2014
 Moreno, Jason (Non-Candidate Status) to TX 5/4/2014

Seban, Timothy (St. Paul – Des Peres) to SW 3/23/2014
 Wiesner, David (Emeritus Status) to SI 3/19/2014
 Wippich, Fred (Emeritus Status) to MNN 4/3/2014

Changes within District:

Mackie, Roger (Candidate Status) installed as Intentional Interim Pastor at Trinity – Clinton, MO 3/23/2014 by R. Mirly
 Wesemann, Kenneth (St. Paul's Lutheran H.S. – Concordia, MO) installed sole pastor at Trinity – Alma, MO 5/4/2014 by B. Mueller

Deceased:

Schubkegel, Theodore (Timothy – Blue Springs) 3/16/2014

Resigned/Removed from Roster:

Baker, Robert (Candidate Status) 4/30/2014
 Tessaro, Eric (Candidate Status) 3/19/2014

Register now for the National Rural & Small Town Mission Conference



Join us for the RSTM National Conference, Small Places, Big Mission – Standing in the Gap! in Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 6-8, 2014. Includes speakers Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer, Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast, Rev. Richard Boring and Rev. Todd Kollbaum.

View details here: www.lcms.org/rstm/conference



ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITIONS

The Missouri District recognizes full-time professional church workers who are presently serving in Missouri District congregations and schools for total years of service in LCMS entities. Congregations and administrators were asked to submit the names of workers who reached anniversary years between Sept. 1, 2013, and Aug. 31, 2014.

Thank you to the churches and schools that provided the names on the list below.

TEN YEARS

Lauren Bates – St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Eureka
 Sandy Bilyeu – Resurrection Early Childhood Center, Sunset Hills
 Kimberly Brandt – Saint Paul Lutheran High School, Concordia
 Rev. Brian Chisamore – Holy Cross and Peace Lutheran Churches, Cassville and Shell Knob
 Scott DeNoyer – Lutheran High School South, St. Louis
 Sarah Donnelly – Abiding Savior Lutheran School, St. Louis County
 Tim Dwyer – Messiah Lutheran School, Weldon Springs
 Dion Garrett – St. John Lutheran School, Ellisville
 Katie Gulley – St. Mark's Lutheran School, Eureka
 Lorily Haase – Martin Luther Academy, Kansas City
 Thea Hemple – Lutheran High School South, St. Louis
 Terri Hopson – Lutheran High School of St. Charles County, St. Peters
 Brooke Jones – Resurrection Early Childhood Center, Sunset Hills
 Carolanne Kneznekoff – Lutheran High School North, St. Louis
 Holly Knight – Trinity Lutheran School, Freistatt
 Rev. Todd Kollbaum – LCMS Director of Rural & Small Town Ministry, St. Louis
 Lisa Krueger – Resurrection Early Childhood Center, Sunset Hills
 Sara Kuhlmann – Zion Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Pamela Lobosky – King's Academy, Lake Ozark
 Brandon Marolf – Zion Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Rachel Martens – St. Paul's Lutheran School, Concordia
 Matt Marty – Lutheran High School of St. Charles County, St. Peters
 Karen Mecker – Immanuel Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Rev. Timothy Ostermeyer – Hope Lutheran Church, St. Ann
 Rev. Scott Patschke – Messiah Lutheran Church, Independence
 Rachel Pfotenhauer – St. John Lutheran School, Ellisville
 Kelly Poole – Resurrection Early Childhood Center, Sunset Hills
 Kim Pybas – Resurrection Early Childhood Center, Sunset Hills
 Rev. Thomas Rhodes – Zion Lutheran Church, Bolivar
 Cindy Sonnevile – Resurrection Early Childhood Center, Sunset Hills
 Michele Stock – Grace Chapel Lutheran School, Bellefontaine Neighbors
 Vicki Streb – Resurrection Early Childhood Center, Sunset Hills
 Sheri Zinke – Springfield Lutheran School, Springfield

TWENTY YEARS

Clint Adler – Christ Community Lutheran School, Kirkwood
 Kirsten Adler – Christ Community Lutheran School, Kirkwood
 Rhonda Andersen – Lutheran School Association, Cole Camp
 Jon Bernhardt – Lutheran High School of St. Charles County, St. Peters
 Debbie Davis – Lutheran High School South, St. Louis
 Fawn Hansen – Trinity Lutheran School, Freistatt
 Judith Hillmann – Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Sunset Hills
 Sherry Langford – Our Savior Lutheran School, Fenton
 Martin Liebmann – Lutheran High School South, St. Louis
 Christine Nixon – Immanuel Lutheran School, St. Charles
 LaDonna Ozark – Immanuel Lutheran School, Perryville
 Susan Riemenschneider – Zion Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Ann Roth – Lutheran High School North, St. Louis
 Chris Rowan – St. Mark's Lutheran School, Eureka
 Jennifer Schneider – St. Paul Lutheran School, Jackson
 Leah Shaw – St. Paul Lutheran School, Jackson
 Martha Swearingen – Springfield Lutheran School, Springfield
 Dick Trah – Lutheran High School South, St. Louis

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Rev. Richard Anderegg – Faith Lutheran Church, St. Robert
 Tim Brackman – Lutheran High School North, St. Louis
 Rev. Douglas Chinberg – King of Kings Lutheran Church, Chesterfield
 Rev. Steven Dressler – Trinity Lutheran Church, Altenburg
 Robert Dubberke – St. John Lutheran School, Ellisville
 Laurie Dunnette – Salem Lutheran School, Affton
 Troy Fehrs – Lutheran High School North, St. Louis
 Jon Fiala – Christ Community Lutheran School, Kirkwood
 Bernie Fortmeyer – St. Paul Lutheran Church, St. Joseph
 Christina Golchert – Immanuel, Rosebud
 Rev. David Kettner – Salem and Holy Cross Lutheran Churches, Salem and Houston
 Sue Krauss – Lutheran High School of St. Charles County, St. Peters
 Carrie Reck-Meyer – Christ Community Lutheran School, Kirkwood
 Rick Schneider – Martin Luther Academy, Kansas City
 Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb – Zion Lutheran Church, Moberly
 Donna Smith – Our Redeemer Lutheran School, Overland
 Mark Thaelke – Zion Lutheran Church, St. Charles

THIRTY YEARS

Alvina Becker – Christ Community Lutheran School, Kirkwood
 Marc Debrick – Zion Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Cherie Dittmer – Christ Community Lutheran School, Kirkwood
 Rev. James Dunn – Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kansas City
 Rachael Gonzales – Trinity Lutheran School, Jefferson City
 Joseph Graefe – St. Paul Lutheran School, Jackson
 Marilyn Hoffstetter – St. Paul Lutheran School, Jackson
 Rev. Marcus Jauss – Immanuel Lutheran Church, Higginsville
 Ruth Kunkel – Calvary Lutheran School, Kansas City
 Cheryl Lail – Zion Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Mary Magnus – Springfield Lutheran School, Springfield
 Rev. Jon Nicolaus – Messiah Lutheran Church, Independence
 Rev. Rick Patzwitz – Immanuel Lutheran Church, New Wells
 Steven Resner – Trinity Lutheran School, Jefferson City
 Brian Ryherd – Lutheran High School South, St. Louis
 Ann Schmidt – Christ Community Lutheran School, Kirkwood
 Rev. Paul Schult – King of Kings Lutheran Church, Kansas City
 Kathy Schulz – Our Savior Lutheran School, Fenton
 Karen Shafer – Resurrection Early Childhood Center, Sunset Hills
 Jane Stouder – Springfield Lutheran School, Springfield
 Susan Von Ahsen – Immanuel Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Rev. Paul Winningham – Zion and Grace Lutheran Churches, Uniontown

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS

Larry Andersen – Lutheran School Association, Cole Camp
 Lynn Bayer – Immanuel Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Rev. David Benson – Faith Lutheran Church, Springfield
 Rev. Michael Bronner – Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Sunset Hills
 Jim Ebers – St. Paul's Lutheran School, Concordia
 Steven Greimann – Trinity Lutheran School, Freistatt
 Sandy Hinck – St. Paul's Lutheran School, Concordia
 Rev. Stephen Hower – St. John Lutheran Church, Ellisville
 Carole Kleiboeker – Trinity Lutheran School, Freistatt
 Rev. Dr. Daniel Kriefall – Zion Lutheran Church, Valley Park
 Rev. Dr. Peter Kurowski – St. Paul's Lutheran Church, California
 Rev. Gary Lampe – Mount Olive Lutheran Church, St. Louis
 Paula Meier – Lutheran High School of Kansas City, Kansas City
 Rev. Keith Ratcliffe – Peace Lutheran Church, Kansas City
 Rev. William Schroeder – Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, Pleasant Hill
 Cynthia Schulz – Salem Lutheran School, Florissant
 Rev. Bill Simmons – Christ Memorial Lutheran Church, St. Louis
 Rev. Warren Woerth – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Arnold
 Rev. Alan Wollenburg – Concordia Lutheran Church, Sikeston

FORTY YEARS

Karen Beaty – Zion Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Mark Behling – Lutheran High School South, St. Louis
 Mark Bender – St. Paul's Lutheran School, Des Peres
 Donna Goeglein – Calvary Lutheran School, Kansas City
 Kent Golchert – Immanuel, Rosebud
 Chris Lail – Lutheran High School of St. Charles County, St. Peters
 Richard Langefeld – Lutheran High School North, St. Louis
 Nina Lavigne – Hope Lutheran School, St. Ann
 Janet Leet – Christ Community Lutheran School, Kirkwood
 Jacqueline Loontjer – Calvary Lutheran School, Kansas City
 Gail Marsh – St. Mark's Lutheran School, Eureka
 Rev. Barry Pfanstiel – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cape Girardeau
 Renee Ravanelli – St. Paul's Lutheran School, Concordia
 Lee Rudzinski – Lutheran High School of Kansas City, Kansas City
 Rev. Ken Schamber – Immanuel and Our Savior Lutheran Churches, Hannibal and Monroe City
 Rev. Paul Short – St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Cape Girardeau
 Doug Wagner – Immanuel Lutheran School, St. Charles
 Cathy Wietfeldt – Lutheran High School South, St. Louis

FORTY-FIVE YEARS

Rev. Darwin Karsten – Praise and Worship Lutheran Church, Branson