May 2014

Each article title is listed in the Index below and linked to the location of the article in this document. After each article there is a link, “Index”, which takes you back to the Index. So, you can scroll down and read each article or pick and choose from the Index. We welcome your comments/suggestions, sent to Lori Hennessey at lori@kslcms.org.

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### District Office Contact Information

#### President’s Office
- Keith E. Kohlmeier, President: kekohl@kslcms.org, 785-357-4441 or 800-357-4421 ext. 200
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#### Business Office
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- Shannon Oldham: shannon@kslcms.org, 785-357-4441 or 800-357-4421 ext. 202

Retreat Center Reservations
- Shannon Oldham: shannon@kslcms.org, 785-357-4441 or 800-357-4421 ext. 202

Communications – Workers Together, District Email List, Website
- Lori Hennesey: lori@kslcms.org, 785-357-4441 or 800-357-4421 ext. 223

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF)
- Jeff Maltz, LCEF Vice President, Kansas/Oklahoma: jmaltz@kslcms.org, 785-357-4441 ext. 118 or 800-357-4421 ext. 118
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- Becky Elliott, Promotions Director, Kansas/Oklahoma: belliott@kslcms.org, 405-627-0049

### Call Updates

#### Calls Accepted
- Rev. Seth Meyer from Immanuel, Canton to Holy Cross, Goehner, Neb.
- Amber Fiala from Holy Cross, Wichita to St. John, Seward, Neb.
- Jane Limback to St. Paul Lutheran School, Leavenworth – Interim Principal
- David Beikmann from Deshler Lutheran School, Neb. to Linn Lutheran School Association – Principal

#### Calls Pending
- Rev. Quentin Nuttmann from NEK Partnership to St. Peter, St. John, Mich.
- Rev. Timothy Lorenz from Bethlehem, Greenleaf to St. Peter, Riceville, Iowa
- Wes Jones from Zion, Mount Pulaski, Illinois to Trinity, Atchison – Principal

#### Calls Declined
- Bo Chapman from St. Peter, Macomb, Mich. to Faith, Topeka – DCE
- Zachary Klug from Word of Life Lutheran School, St. Louis, Mo. to Hope, Shawnee – Principal
- Steven Stortz from Norfolk, Neb. to Topeka Lutheran School – Principal

### In Our Prayers
- Betty Von Stroh, wife of Rev. Dean Von Stroh, Peace, Andover – health concerns
- Marcellyn Holtorf, wife of Rev. Gene Holtorf – health concerns
- Kriss Miller-Kruzel, daughter of Rev. Don and Diane Miller – cancer
- Rev. Fred Darkow, Winfield – health concerns
- Rev. Dick Kaczor, Lawrence – health concerns

### You Have Been Eastered by President Keith E. Kohlmeier

I received an email from a family member of a revered Seminary Professor recently. They announced that the Lord had called him to himself after a long illness. What caught my eye was the heading of their announcement: “Dad was Eastered today!”

I have never heard the joyous day of resurrection used as a verb. It is commonly used to refer to either a date on the calendar, a season of the church year, or a festival of the church. But doesn’t that make sense?

Many celebrate the noun. They connect many traditions, foods, bonnets, and festive worship days with the noun. It is all of that, but so much more. Being Eastered begins at our baptism. In that sacred sacrament, our God seals us for eternity, born again into His eternal kingdom. In the action of water and Word, we are eastered.

But it only begins there. Daily and richly we begin again in the truths of our baptism that we are redeemed from sin, death, and the devil. The verb has implications for our daily living. Eastered people are free to bathe in forgiveness rather than guilt for past actions and omissions. Eastered people turn to others with care and compassion that they may know the love that God has shown to them. Eastered people anticipate an eternity with God even while they celebrate and enjoy each day here on earth. Surely that is what St. Paul meant when he wrote in Romans 6:4, “...just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might
walk in newness of life.”

Even our dear Martin Luther caught the verb sense when he wrote, “Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.”

Consider these things in the season of the Easter of our church. Then it will be more than something that you observe, but that which you live, live for, and look forward to living forever.

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### Lay Leadership Training Event

**What:** A one-day training event for participants who were in the Lay Leadership Training Institute (Deacons and Lay Assistants)

**When:** May 2-4, 2014 (7:00 p.m. Friday through 10:30 a.m. Sunday)

**Keynote Topic:** Priesthood of all Believers

**Keynote Speaker:** Rev. Howard Patten (former Kansas District President)

**Location:** Topeka – St. John’s Lutheran Church and the District Office

**Banquet Speaker:** Rev. King Crawford (former LLTI student, Deacon and now SMP Pastor)

**Banquet Emcee:** Marvin Kohlmeier

**Other Speakers:** Former LLTI Faculty and District Staff

**Cost:** $60 after April 1 – includes lunch and banquet

- Spouses – no registration, pay only for lunch and banquet
- Extra Lunch – $10
- Extra Banquet – $15

**Registration:** Contact Lori at lori@kslcms.org or 785-357-4441 ext. 223.

**Lodging:** Clubhouse Inn & Suites – Room Block is full

This event will provide lots of opportunities to mix with former classmates and other Deacons/Lay Assistants. Make plans to attend!

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### Pastor’s Conference – Call for Papers

The 2014 Kansas District Pastor’s Conference is October 12-14 at the Holiday Inn in Lawrence. The theme is *A Renewal in Wellness: Body, Mind, Spirit*, based on Titus 3:5-7. In connection with this theme, the Planning Committee invites pastors of the District to lead 45-minute breakout sessions in which they may present papers and/or lead discussions on aspects related to this topic, and how the theology of health and wellness is conveyed in the Scriptures and Confessions.

While preference will be given to those papers and presentations that address the theme of the conference, ideas for papers and presentations may also be submitted that cover other areas of theological interest or study (i.e., a sermon series; Bible study; research on a particular theme or idea; etc.) that a pastor may wish to present, receive feedback, or share with fellow pastors.

The deadline for all abstracts is June 1; with a semi-final submission by September 1. Please submit abstracts and inquiries to Michael Schmidt at revschmidt@yahoo.com.

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### District Calendar

- May 2-4 – Lay Leadership Training Event – Topeka
- June 4 – Kansas Information Data System (KIDS) Training – District Office, Topeka
- July 3-6 – Lutheran Singles Association Conference – Spiritual Life Center, Wichita
- July 13-15 – Saints Alive After 55 Gathering – Spiritual Life Center, Wichita
- July 26 – Early Childhood Workshop – Holy Cross, Wichita
- Aug. 1-2 – District Board of Directors – Topeka
- Aug. 8-9 – Teen Leadership Retreat – Risen Savior, Wichita
- Sept. 18-19 – Principal’s Conference – District Office & Clubhouse Inn, Topeka
- Sept. 28-30 – District Educator’s Conference – Lawrence
- Oct. 12-14 – District Pastor’s Conference – Lawrence
- Oct. 31-Nov. 1 – District Board of Directors – Topeka
- Nov. 8 – Adult Education Live Web Conference
2014 Lutheran Singles Association Conference

**When:** July 3-6, 2014  
**Where:** Spiritual Life Center in Wichita  
**Theme:** Life Together With Christ  
**Keynote Speaker:** Rev. Paul Rosburg  
**Workshop Leaders:** Rev. Mark Frith, Lutheran Hour Ministries; Mary Hume, Parish Nurse; Steve Bremer, LCEF

**Cost:**  
$345 double occupancy – includes room, meals, entertainment, registration fee  
$400 single occupancy – includes room, meals, entertainment, registration fee  
$250 commuter – includes meals, entertainment, registration fee

[Registration Form]  
**Registration Deadline:** May 31, 2014  
[Website]

Children's Ministry Workshop at Trinity, Mission

**What:** Children's Ministry Workshop, sponsored by Group Publishing  
**When:** Saturday, May 3, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Trinity Lutheran Church, 5601 W 62nd St, Mission, 66202

Group will share surprisingly simple things you can do to create a dynamic children’s ministry. From potential volunteers to veteran children's ministers, your entire team will walk away with ideas, skills, and the passion to teach like never before! Workshop topics include:

- Identify the secret ingredients in every lesson that'll capture kids’ attention and grow their faith – every time!
- Discover how to design creative experiences on your own – or with a team.
- Learn how to effectively discipline kids by getting to the heart of the matter.
- Get dozens of practical ideas to minister to and equip parents.

and much more...

Cost is $29 per person. Register 10 or more for $25 per person. Registration is online through Group Publishing.

Please contact Rhonda Synovec at Rhonda@tlcms.org if you have questions.

Educator’s Conference

**When:** September 28-30, 2014  
**Where:** Holiday Inn, Lawrence  
**Theme:** *Walk Like a Christian* based on Romans 6:3-11  
**Keynote Speaker:** Dr. Steven Arnold  
**Keynote Sessions:**  
- Walking Wet and Walking Well  
- Walking Wet: You cannot lead where you have not been  
- Walking Wet: Lutheran Congregations and Schools as Centers of Wellness

**Registration:** Opens August 1

More details coming in June!

Early Childhood Summer Workshop

**When:** July 26, 8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.  
**Where:** Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wichita  
**Theme:** *Living in a Fish Bowl*  
**Presenter:** Kim Marxhausen  
**Sessions:** Life in the Fish Bowl – Building Up Church Workers; Nurturing the Dandelions and Orchids in Your Garden; Paper, Paint and the Print

**Cost:** $40 before June 30, $50 thereafter
### Teen Leadership Retreat

**When:** August 8-9, 6:00 p.m. Friday through 6:00 p.m. Saturday  
**Where:** Risen Savior, Wichita  
**Cost:** $35/person, includes Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner  
Be sure to eat before arriving Friday evening.  
**Registration Form** – deadline to register is August 1  
**What to Bring:** Bible, sleeping bag, pillow, towel, wash cloth, toiletries, closed toe shoes, flashlight, board games, cards, and a snack to share Friday evening  
**You should attend if:**  
- You are a youth who is a leader in your youth group and/or your congregation  
- You are an adult who works with youth  
- You are interested in learning how teens can help build new and strong community in a congregational setting  
- You are interested in meeting other youth and adults who have a love for youth ministry.  
**Questions:** Contact Karen Thurnau at 316-796-0152 or kthurnau@goddardusd.com.

### Marriage Enrichment Retreat

**When:** September 13-14, 1:00 p.m. Saturday through noon on Sunday  
**Where:** Country Inn & Suites in Salina – 2760 S 9th St  
**Theme:** Renewing our Relationship in Christ  
**Facilitators:** Rev. Dr. Neil Buono – Prince of Peace, Topeka  
Rev. Charlie Adams – Faith, Ottawa  
**Cost:** $50 per couple plus lodging – includes dinner Saturday night, breakfast Sunday morning, materials  
**Lodging:** $99 plus tax for king or two queens beds  
$10 upgrade for suite  
To make your reservation, call 785-827-1271 and ask for Lutheran Marriage Retreat room block.  
**Registration Form** – Space is limited to 12 couples, so register early!  
**Website** 
For more information about the retreat program, contact Rev. Charlie Adams at 785-242-1906.

### Kansas District Youth Gathering

The theme of our 2014 Kansas District Youth Gathering is *We Because He*. The gathering is always the weekend before Thanksgiving, which makes it November 21-23 this year. We’ll be gathering at the Capital Plaza in Topeka. We have a fantastic gathering band in Bread of Stone and an awesome speaker in Travis Hartjen. This year, there will be large gatherings that will inspire and teach the truths of God’s Word, servant events that will show the city of Topeka God’s love, and worship that will draw all participants around God’s good gifts. Mark your calendars for September 1st so that you can register your youth group at the lowest rate.

### Rural & Small Town Advocates

The Rural Small Town Ministry Task Force is hosting 30-minute online meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. and the third Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. to discuss and pray over ministry concerns for Rural Small Town Kansas. These meetings are recorded and broadcast on our Rural Small Town web page, so you can watch them at a time more convenient for you.  
We are always looking for people to participate in these online meetings. Please email lori@kslcms.org if you are interested in joining the discussion.  
Here are the upcoming topics and presenters:  
- May 6, 10:00 a.m. – Bible Storying – Rev. Jason Boetcher  
- May 21, 1:00 p.m. – TCN’s Seasons of Discovery – Rev. Rick Twenhafel
National Rural and Small Town Ministry Conference

When: November 6-8, 2014
Where: Marriott Kansas City Airport
Theme: Small Places, Big Mission – Standing in the Gap
Keynote Speakers: Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer, Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast Jr., Rev. Richard Boring, Rev. Todd Kollbaum
Conference Website / Conference Schedule
Conference Registration Form / Online Registration

The National RSTM Conference is geared for congregational leaders from all rural and small-town settings, and it will provide training and resources aimed at helping rural and small-town congregations assess community needs and search for opportunities to engage their communities through acts of witness and mercy.

Choose from breakout topics including witness and outreach strategies, reaching inactive members, stewardship, new member assimilation, health and life issues, Lutheran schools and early childhood care mission opportunities, pastoral strategies for serving in rural and small towns, and many other topics affecting our rural and small-town congregations.

Questions? Contact Amy Gerdts at amy.gerdts@lcms.org or 888-463-5127.

Where Church and Community Kiss, Part 2 by Rev. Dr. Peter Meier, Executive Director, Center for U.S. Missions

In her new book, 7 Creative Models for Community Ministry (Judson Press, 2013), author Joy Skjegstad suggests that for effective ministry with their community, church leaders need to discover “the place where the church and community can kiss each other – where real needs are being met, relationships are being formed, and people’s gifts are being used in ministry.”

I appreciate the emphasis on listening to and learning from neighbors and community leaders. Unfortunately, many people want to jump in to provide ministry solutions for their community or they try to offer help to their community without first listening and learning from the community. Listening is the starting point for doing ministry with the community. Doing ministry with the community shows genuine care and appreciation for what God is already doing there, and a desire to use the assets or gifts He has already put in place.

Another consideration before engaging in community ministry is to work for clarity on the why of your church’s engagement. Why should we engage with the community? Why should we want to get outside of our churches to build new ministries, to engage new people? Why should we take time to meet the neighbors and listen to their stories and commit to loving and serving my community? Christian leaders need to begin with clarity of the why which then leads to the whats and the hows of it all.

The compelling why must focus on more than meeting real human needs and addressing critical social issues. Why do we care? Why do we want to meet those needs and address those important issues? The “sweet spot” of community ministry is where human needs and relationships meet and into which the Gospel proclamation (God’s story of reconciliation through Jesus Christ) enters. The why we do all this is so that we can authentically and humbly share God’s story with our neighbors. The why must address our vocation as Christians, which is to witness to what God has done in our lives and to what is His deepest desire for our neighbors and communities, namely that they may know the true God and Jesus Christ as the One He has sent to seek and to save, to reclaim and reconcile lost and hurting people to Himself. The result is transformation through wholistic community ministry which brings healing to body, mind, and spirit.

God-sized ministry dreams recognize the strengths and assets of the community and seek to build on what God is doing there. The dream takes off from your churches history and takes into account the personality of your church and community. It may come from a visionary pastor or from a formal group process – both of which seek God’s direction in His Word and prayer. Your vision should address key issues and needs of the community, other groups who may be working to address those needs, and partners who could work with you. Take an inventory of the spiritual and material assets available, and fuel the entire process with prayer and a culture of “yes,” a culture which encourages dreaming and innovation.

This article was in the December 2, 2013 Mission Moments newsletter from the Center for United States Missions. For more Mission Moments newsletters, visit www.c4usm.org. Tune in next month for Part 3 to learn field-tested and documented models for community ministry from Joy Skjegstad’s book.
### Upcoming Webinars

**LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission (RSTM)**

- **May 15, 1:00 p.m.** - *New and Invigorating Approaches to Witness and Outreach* – presented by Lee Larsen, Ministry Coordinator, Acts 1:8 Ministry – To participate, go to: [http://www.anymeeting.com/lcmsrstm1](http://www.anymeeting.com/lcmsrstm1).

- **June 12, 1:00 p.m.** - *Rural Schools – Effective and Functional?* – presented by Mark L’Heureux – To participate, go to: [http://www.anymeeting.com/lcmsrstm1](http://www.anymeeting.com/lcmsrstm1).

### Archived Webinars

**Lutheran Hour Ministries**

- **May 17, 10:00 a.m.** – *Going Beyond the 3 R's in Lutheran Schools* – presented by Laura Montgomery, Director of Educational Resources of the Lutheran Elementary School Association in St. Louis – The students who fill the seats of our Lutheran schools today aren’t necessarily church members. While parents often choose a Lutheran school for its religious focus, there are many unchurched parents who choose them for the academic quality and nurturing environment. The opportunity to share the love of Christ with these students and their families can reach from inside the school walls out in the community.

- **June 7, 10:00 a.m.** – *Serving as Christ in Your Community* – presented by Greg Arnett, DCE – “People don’t care what you know until they know that you care.” One way to show the communities around your church how much you care is by reaching out in love through community service. Arnett will share the insights he has gleaned from leading over 40 Servant Events and 25 years of equipping God’s people to become servant-leaders in their communities. You will be empowered to make your congregation an essential part of the community and open doors to share the love of Christ. To participate simply go to [http://connectpro31217790.adobeconnect.com/servingaschrist/](http://connectpro31217790.adobeconnect.com/servingaschrist/), click “enter as guest” and create a user name.

### Groundbreaking Ceremony for Haskell LIGHT Campus Ministry Center

Rev. Will and Patricia Main are co-directors at Haskell LIGHT Campus Ministry at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence. Nearly 1,000 students from 145 tribes attend the university. Will and Patricia develop meaningful relationships with these young adults at a time in life when they are searching and forming their core values and beliefs.

By God’s grace, Lutheran Indian Ministries (LIM) has been blessed with special gifts toward a $1.7 million building campaign for the new Haskell LIGHT Campus Ministry Center and Leadership Institute. You are invited to the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new facility on Saturday, May 3, at 11:00 a.m. at 137 Pawnee Avenue in Lawrence. Lunch will be served afterward. Please RSVP for the meal by Wednesday, April 30, by contacting Haskell LIGHT House at [haskelllight120@gmail.com](mailto:haskelllight120@gmail.com) or 785-841-4809.

### Scholarship Grant Applications

Students pursuing a degree at one of our LCMS colleges or seminaries in professional church work may apply for Financial Assistance from the following Kansas organizations. Click on the title of the organization to download the application.

- **Kansas District LCMS**
  
  Attn: Lori Hennessey
  
  1000 SW 10th Ave
  
  Topeka, KS 66604-1104
  
  [lori@kslcms.org](mailto:lori@kslcms.org)

  **Deadline: June 1, 2014**

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**Index**
**Guinea Prayer Requests**

**General Prayers:**
- Please pray for the Maninka and for God to break all strongholds in this area so that the Gospel can flow over millions of people with open eyes and ears.
- Rev. Tim and Beth Heiney will be returning to Siguiri and the Guinea Mission field under the service of Global Lutheran Outreach (GLO). GLO was founded by two former LCMS missionaries. To learn more about GLO, visit globallutheranoutreach.com.
- Please pray for our Board of Directors as they gather information and explore options to continue to spread the Gospel in Guinea. The Board intends to keep congregations informed throughout this process of discernment.

**Renewal in Wellness: Financial Well Being** by Rocky Mease

*Please feel free to use the following Bible study for a time of personal reflection, as a group devotion in your congregation, as a short bible study to begin a meeting or in any way you think it might be helpful. Each month, some aspect of Renewal in Wellness will be explored in this fashion. Each bible study will be posted on the Renewal in Wellness website in pdf format.*

**Please read the following.**
- Psalm 24:1 (ESV) “The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,”
- Proverbs 3:9-10 (ESV) Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.
- Matthew 25:14-30 Parable of the Talents
- “Economy is half the battle of life; it is not so hard to earn money as to spend it well.” (Charles Spurgeon)
- “The idea that the earth and everything in it belongs to God has a lot to say about our finances. Understanding our role as the steward of what already belongs to God helps us act in ways that encourage financial health [wellbeing]. Fiscal health can make a huge difference in the way we feel and think every day, because employing biblical principles for money management means we enjoy the abundant life God intended. When Christ-like servant leaders give, save, invest and spend wisely, God is honored, they are enriched and others are blessed.” (from Kindling the Heart of the Christ-like Servant Leader by Susan Steege, 2013)

**Discussion Questions**
1) Which is more difficult for you to do in a healthy way: giving, saving, investing or spending? Why?
2) What does God’s word teach us about giving, saving, investing and spending?
3) What can you do to improve your giving, saving, investing and spending?
4) How will such improvements impact your wellbeing?

**Prayer**

Lord, you give us each day our daily bread which includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body. Teach us each day in our giving, saving, investing and spending to honor and serve you well. In Jesus’ name. Amen.
Grace Place Wellness Retreat for Professional Church Workers

What: 5-day, 4-night retreat for professional church workers and their spouses
When: July 21-25, 2014
Where: Spiritual Life Center in Wichita
Cost: $250 for couples and $150 for individuals
      This includes room, meals, retreat program and materials.

ONLY 33 SPOTS ARE AVAILABLE!
Registration is online at www.graceplacewellness.org. Click the 2014 Retreats blue tab and scroll down to Kansas District Retreat.

Please note: If you (and your spouse, if applicable) are enrolled in Concordia Plan Service’s Be Well, Serve Well program, you will each receive 50 points (1 point = $1) for attending a Grace Place Retreat, as will your congregation or school.

Caring for Church Workers by Chaplain Rocky Mease

The stresses and challenges of church workers can be overwhelming. Many church workers are the sole worker of a congregation or there is only a small staff. We need to find ways to take better care of ourselves. We also need to encourage and accept the care that other people can offer.

Holding Up The Prophet’s Hand, by Bruce Hartung (Concordia Publishing House, 2011), is a great resource for congregations looking for ways to support their church workers. I think it also serves well as a resource to workers in helping them ask for and receive the care we all need.

Another great resource comes from our Concordia Plan Services and is available to anyone who receives an LCMS paycheck from any LCMS entity. Our Employ Assistance Program (EAP), provided by Cigna Behavioral Health, offers a wealth of resources available on their website. This can be accessed by phone at 1-866-726-5267, or at www.cignabehavior.com (when asked for Login #, type LCMS). This is also the way you find a counselor and make that initial contact. You receive six free (face-to-face or phone) visits, per issue, per year.

This year, Concordia Plan Services has an enhanced EAP program for Pastors called the Pastoral Support Network. You can access this resource at 888-712-1805 or visit www.concordiaplans.org and click the Pastoral Support Network to see the resource guide. Services include counseling, consultation, assessment, crisis intervention, management/leadership consultation, legal services, financial services, identity theft recovery, parenting support, adoption assistance, assistance in finding child, senior and pet care. Counselors at this number have been trained to work with LCMS clergy.

Prepare to Care in a Disaster

Every year from April to June, we see the largest number of tornadoes in Kansas. In order to prepare to care for congregational and community members, designate one board to think through some strategic issues:

• Make sure vital papers and data are backed up in a secure location away from the church.
• Identify and mark storm shelters in church.
• Consider a tornado drill one Sunday morning. This is a good way to see if there are problems getting people to safety and if you have enough space. If you don’t know the safest location, ask the local emergency manager or fire department.
• Buy a weather radio, keep it on and have someone listening for it when the building is occupied.
• Maintain a Phone Tree and an alternate way to check on members. Know who won’t have local family checking on them, and make sure they are contacted. Know who has health issues and who might be more vulnerable in your congregation.
• Discuss where you would worship if your building is not usable.
• Discuss who you would call upon to help if your Pastor is a storm victim and needs to focus on his own family’s needs.
• Discuss ways your building might be used after a disaster. Invite Red Cross and/or emergency manager to give you some ideas.
• Know who and how to cut off utilities.

Time spent preparing when all is calm is quite valuable when a disaster strikes. Being prepared will help your church workers and members to be able to respond more quickly to the needs of your community.
Visit our Disaster Response webpage for a checklist with the above ideas plus suggestions for individual/household disaster kits.

### Retreat Center in Herington

The Kansas District Retreat Center is a marvelous building in central Kansas near Lake Herington. The primary purpose of the Retreat Center is to provide a relaxing and peaceful atmosphere where professional church workers can rest and reconnect with God and their family. However, any congregational group or member of a Kansas District LCMS congregation may use the facility.

This 3,000 square foot center is very versatile, with enough private space for rest and enough open space for family. Whether you are looking for a place to get away by yourself or you are planning a family reunion or church staff/youth retreat, the Retreat Center can accommodate your needs.

Have you made your summer reservations yet? There are still many great dates available. For availability, rates and reservation information, call or email Shannon Oldham at 800-357-4421 ext. 202 or shannon@kslcms.org.

### Sabbatical Leave by Debbie Crites

The Board of Directors has approved my request for a three month sabbatical beginning on Thursday, May 1, 2014. The Kansas District policy allows a sabbatical for the executive team after seven years of continuous service to the District. I have served the District for twelve years as Business Manager and was eligible for this opportunity. My sabbatical proposal includes goals addressing personal spiritual renewal, physical renewal, and continuing education in the accounting and human resource fields.

All matters related to the ministry of the Business Office under my administration should be addressed to my Administrative Assistant, Shannon Oldham, at Shannon@kslcms.org or 800-357-4421 ext. 202. Shannon will be able to assist you or direct you to the appropriate individual(s). I will be returning to the office on Friday, August 1, 2014.

### Pre-Retirement Workshop

Concordia Plan Services and the Kansas District are hosting a new, one-day workshop for Professional Church Workers and their spouses to help them understand the process of planning for retirement.

**When:** Saturday, August 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Kansas District Office, 1000 SW 10th Ave, Topeka  
**Presenter:** Paul Snyder, Retirement & Benefit Educator for Concordia Plans  
**Cost:** $10 – includes lunch, snacks and materials  
**Lodging:** Clubhouse Inn & Suites – Call 785-273-8888 and ask for the Kansas District LCMS rate of $69  
**Registration Form** – deadline to register is July 25  
**Questions:** Contact Shannon Oldham at 785-357-4441 ext. 202.

Shortly before the workshop, you will be sent some financial worksheets to begin completing, along with a list of pre-retirement questions to consider as you plan for your future.

### Paychex Payroll Services Available Through Concordia Plan Services

Concordia Plan Services is pleased to offer LCMS employers an affordable payroll processing solution through their new partnership with Paychex, Inc. Their services include the handling of withholdings and payroll taxes, direct deposit, customized reports, employee online access, and more.

Paychex is a national company with over 40 years of payroll experience and was chosen for their outstanding customer service, expertise with the unique needs of church payroll, commitment to business continuity and backup systems, and willingness to provide a dedicated payroll specialist for LCMS employers.

Concordia Plan Services has negotiated with Paychex to process these payroll services for LCMS organizations at a discounted rate. Click here to view more information and package pricing, or go to ConcordiaPlans.org > Who Am I > Treasurer/Benefit Administrator > Paychex. If you have any questions or would like to request a proposal for your organization, call Robin Richert at Paychex: 636-519-0340 ext. 48721 and reference code #6105.
LCEF Interest Rates

**LCEF Interest Rates, May 2014**

**Steward Account Rates:**

- **Congregational Certificates**
  - Demand: 0.125%
  - Steward Account: 0.375%

- **Individual Accounts**
  - Less than $1,000: 0.125%
  - $1,000 - less than $5,000: 0.250%
  - $5,000 - less than $10,000: 0.375%
  - $10,000 and over: 0.625%

- **Family Emergency Account:** 0.750%

- **Young Investors Account**
  - Less than $1,000: 3.500%
  - $1,000 or more: 0.750%

**Congregation Endowment (60-Month Fixed or Floating)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Min. Investment</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>APY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>1.115%</td>
<td>1.120%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>1.240%</td>
<td>1.246%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>1.365%</td>
<td>1.372%</td>
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**Congregation Loan Rates**

- Monthly, quarterly or annual adjustable: 4.125%
- 5 Year fixed: Call Curt Loupe at 1-800-357-4421 ext. 100

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**Apply for an LCEF Outreach Ministry Grant**

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund is a nonprofit ministry of the church. LCEF is blessed by strong investors and faithful borrowers. It's a partnership that is working and that has been blessed by our Lord. Part of that blessing is to be able to use fiscal year end operating results to offer $20,000 in Outreach Ministry Grants to congregations, schools and other LCMS organizations within the Kansas District.

**Qualifications**

- Congregations wanting to participate must identify a LCEF Advocate (lay person) for their church
- Conduct a specific local outreach/evangelism program, activity, or event designed to reach lost people for Christ within one calendar year of receipt of this grant.
- Reflect the goals of the LCEF Mission Statement: *To support the Church in fulfilling its mission of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ by being a Christ-centered servant partner of the LCMS, ensuring that funds and services are available now and in the future.*
- Provide photos and a written summary of the LCEF grant funded outreach ministry to this office within one calendar year of receipt of this grant. A report form will be sent to those receiving a grant. This will be used for LCEF promotional purposes.

Applications that do not fit these criteria will not be considered.

**Entry Information**

Each application must be accompanied by a one page or less typed description of the specific outreach ministry. The narrative should describe the outreach ministry, how your members will be involved, the anticipated outreach results or impact and how that will be measured, plans for follow-up, as well as reasons why your outreach ministry should be selected as an LCEF Outreach Ministry Grant recipient.

**Deadlines**

Completed applications must be postmarked by June 1, 2014. Grant recipients will be selected by June 27, 2014. All applicants will be notified as to whether or not they receive a grant.
Application Form
Submit applications to:
LCEF – Kansas District LCMS
Attn: Curt Loupe – Admin/Promo Assistant
1000 SW 10th Ave
Topeka, KS 66604

Selection
Entries will be evaluated by Kansas District staff and LCEF Committee members, with the LCEF Committee making the final decision.

LCEF’s Family Emergency StewardAccount
Often life throws us curve balls and we never know when the need will arise for additional funds that were not allocated in our monthly budget. Investing in a Family Emergency StewardAccount can help with some of life’s curve balls.

This investment builds over time with your systematic deposits through electronic fund transfer (EFT) and interest earned. Features of the account:

- Minimum $25 investment to open account.
- Minimum $25 monthly electronic investment required until account reaches and maintains a balance of $10,000 or more.
- Limit 12 checks per calendar year, with per-check minimum of $250.
- Initial quantity of checks FREE; check reorders competitively priced.
- Interest compounded and paid monthly.
- No monthly maintenance or membership fees.
- Free MyAccount online services, including e-statements.

A key to a successful investment plan is to prepare for life’s financial emergencies. Lutheran Church Extension Fund’s (LCEF) Family Emergency StewardAccount can help your family reach your emergency fund goal and avoid reaching for a credit card. Having adequate emergency savings can make unforeseen unemployment, auto repairs, medical emergencies, property damage and even legal issues more manageable. With adequate emergency savings, you can focus on how to best meet your family’s needs, rather than worrying about finding the money to handle these difficult situations. By starting with just $25 and increasing its monthly, you will accumulate fund dollars effortlessly, conveniently and steadily.

Is your family ready for life’s “curve” balls? For more information, contact Curt Loupe (800-357-4421 ext. 100 or cloupe@kslcms.org) or Jeff Maltz (800-357-4421 ext. 118 or jmaltz@kslcms.org).

Lutheran Lecture Series at Grace, Wichita
The 19th Annual Lutheran Lecture Series will be held at Grace Lutheran Church in Wichita on the weekend of May 3-4. Grace will be hosting the Rev. Dr. William Weinrich, professor of Early Church History and Patristic Studies at Concordia Theological Seminary. Dr. Weinrich will talk about the Early Church’s influence on Luther’s Lord’s Supper theology.

As in the previous 18 lectures, the Series will open with a Saturday noon-time Divine Service. Then Dr. Weinrich will speak for two to three hours, giving time for questions. Vespers will be sung at the conclusion of Dr. Weinrich’s lectures and then all will move to the gymnasium for a beer and bratwurst supper.

On Sunday morning, Dr. Weinrich will preach at 8:00 and lead the Bible Class following the Mass. No reservations are needed and all events are free of charge.

Upcoming Servant Events
Mark your calendars for these Servant Events! More details are on our website.

- **LVR – May 22-26, 2014**
  - **Wanted:** College students and young adults to do a variety of work projects at Lutheran Valley Retreat in Colorado
  - **Cost:** $125 through May 15, $150 after May 15 – includes transportation, meals on site, materials, housing and program
  - **Contact:** Leland Jackson at 620-276-3110 or dceleland@tlcgck.kscoxmail.com
Fix’n and Paint’n – July 6-12, 2014
Wanted: Youth who have finished 7th grade through adults
Cost: $125, includes meals, materials, t-shirt, recreation, river rafting and two nights camping in Colorado.
Contact: Leland Jackson at 620-276-3110 or dceleland@tlcgck.kscoxmail.com

O-Town Turn Around – July 14-20, 2014
Wanted: Youth groups (middle school, high school, college) to do light home repairs and make connections within the Oswego community
Cost: $200, includes food, lodging, t-shirt, canoe trip
Contact: St. Paul’s Lutheran Church at 620-795-4887

Saints Alive After 55 Gathering
The 2014 Saints Alive After 55 gathering will once again be held at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita. The dates are July 13-15. This year’s theme is “Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” based on Matthew 28:19. The keynote speaker is Rev. John Nunes, past President of Lutheran World Relief and now a faculty member of Valparaiso. The Bible study leader is Rev. Tom Harmon of Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Wichita. Small group sessions include Roland Mueller talking about Luther and music as well as two other sessions on topics of interest to everyone. If you have never attended before, give it a try this year. In addition to the excellent presenters, you will enjoy the peaceful setting and accommodations, the fellowship with folks from all over Kansas, the food, the singing, the games, the devotions, and many other benefits.

Registration Form / Schedule / Congregation Flyer / Website

Concordia Seminary Summer Workshops
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, is pleased to announce its summer 2014 series of workshops for pastors, professional church workers, and interested laypersons. Twenty workshops covering a wide variety of subjects, and led by seminary professors, are offered at many locations across the country.

The cost for each summer workshop is $135 (Center for Hispanic Studies workshops are $75) which includes Continuing Education (CEU) credits. Payment is due 21 days prior to the beginning of each workshop, and workshops have a minimum required enrollment. Housing and meal information may be obtained from the host pastor.

Register online at www.csl.edu/resources/continuinged. For more information, contact Erika Bennett, bennette@csl.edu, Concordia Seminary, 801 Seminary Pl., St. Louis, MO 63105; 314-505-7286.


Lutherans for Life of Kansas Annual Meeting
Please join us for the 10th Anniversary of Lutherans for Life of Kansas!
When: Sunday, June 22, 2014 / 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Where: Christ Lutheran Church, 3509 SW Burlingame, Topeka
Theme: From 2004 to 2014 ... an update on various life issues from then until now
Presenter: Mr. Fran Szarejko, a founding member of LFL of Kansas / M.A. Christian Apologetics, Biola; Master of Public Administration, Pennsylvania State; B.A. Political Science, Villanova. Has published one book and numerous articles on Christian living. Chartered Financial Consultant, Life Underwriter and Advisor for Senior Living 1990, 1992, and 2006 respectively. Speaks and teaches regularly on apologetic, bioethical and Christian living topics. Involved with Northland Lutherans For Life chapter, Kansas City, MO. Married to Marsha for 45 years. They have three adult children and four grandchildren.
Reservations: Email imac14430@gmail.com with your name, phone number, and names of others coming with you.
| Sponsored by: Lutherans for Life of Kansas, Inc. / PO Box 19302, Lenexa, KS 66285 / (913) 991-3350 / www.lflofkansas.org |

2014 Institute on Liturgy, Preaching and Church Music

Looking for an opportunity to revitalize and strengthen worship in your congregation? Check out the 2014 Institute on Liturgy, Preaching and Church Music at Concordia University, Nebraska, Seward, Neb., July 28-31. The Institute’s theme is *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People: Preaching, singing and praying the comfort of Christ to the troubled conscience and the broken heart*. Pastors, musicians, deaconesses, teachers and interested laity will find great benefit in attending the workshops, seminars, keynote addresses, worship and fellowship opportunities. More information and online registration can be accessed at [www.lcms.org/events/worshipinstitute](http://www.lcms.org/events/worshipinstitute).

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<tr>
<th>Lutheranism Retreat</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>When:</strong> August 1-3, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Where:</strong> Webster Conference Center in Salina</td>
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<td><strong>Who can attend:</strong> Families, Couples, Singles</td>
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<td><strong>Cost:</strong> $80/person ages 4 and older; $15/child age 3 and under; First-timers save 10%!</td>
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<td><strong>Registration:</strong> Online at <a href="http://www.lutheranfamilyretreat.org">www.lutheranfamilyretreat.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Sponsors:</strong> Kansas District LWML and Kansas District LLL</td>
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The Lutheran Family Retreat is an opportunity to slow down, have fun, and grow closer to the Lord through worship and Bible study with other Lutheran families. Camp Webster has air-conditioned facilities and lots of scenic outdoor areas and activities for all members of the family. For more information about Camp Webster, go to [www.webstercc.org](http://www.webstercc.org).