

Workers Together

Kansas District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Volume 9, Issue 10
December 2003

Building Relationships with One Another

by President Keith E. Kohlmeier

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There is an old adage which says, "They won't care how much you know until they know how much you care." It hits the heart of the fourth of the targets of our work and walk together as a Kansas District, which were identified for the newly elected Board of Directors of our Kansas District. To review them once more, they are:

1. Pursuing Kansas as a Mission Field
2. Equipping the Church
3. Networking Congregations to One Another and the Church at Large
4. Building Relationships with One Another
5. Connecting with Congregations

Building Relationships with One Another is really one of the foundations of all that we target as our keys to the ministry that we share as those commissioned to be "church" together. Our Lord was constant in His conversation about the relationship that we share with Him and with one another, as were His apostles. They talked about vine and branches (John 15), parts of one body (1 Corinthians 12) and living in harmony with one another (1 Peter 3).

This should not be news to any of us. Our very beginnings with God are founded in the theme of relationship. Not that you sought him out, but that He sought you out! God desired from before your beginnings to know you as His own dear child. He sacrificed His only Son so that you might be able to know Him as your God and family. He enacted that relationship at the moment of your baptism, calling and naming you as His own for this time and into eternity. This saving Gospel truth brings us into a relationship with one another. St. John said, "This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." (1 John 5) To say that we should be about "relationships" seems like a no-brainer.

Yet, it is a stark reality that as foundational as this is in our walk with God and with one another, so it is also the ultimate target of the devil and his work to set aside all that God has done in your life and mine. It is a constant struggle for us to do battle against the me and mine and the you and yours philosophies by which the devil divides and pollutes God's holy church and His people. It is ultimately important that we live and proclaim the we and ours nature of the hope that fills us - for our sake, for the sake of one another, and for the sake of the Gospel witness which our words and actions give to those who are watching us and examining God through the behavior of His people. I used to "jokingly" tell my children, "I can't make you love each other, but I can try to keep you from permanently injuring each other." Of course I desired much more for them, and for us, in our relationships. The leadership of our District desires much more for our church into the years ahead. For that reason, we covenant with you that our deliberations and our actions, our words and deeds, shall be considerate of the relationship that we share with our Lord, and through Him, with one another. We shall seek for ways which continue to build and strengthen this great gift that God has given us through His Son.

Toward that end, God bless us.

A monthly publication of
The Kansas District of The Lutheran
Church - Missouri Synod for
congregations, schools, professional
church workers and lay leaders.
If you have any news items to
share with congregations in our
district, please direct them to:
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Fax: 785-357-5071
Email: lori@kslcms.org
Deadline: 15th of each month

Calls Declined

- David Gruoner from Zion, Linn to Zion, Poplar Bluff, Mo.
- John Einem from Christ, Augusta to Our Savior, Chatham, Ontario

Calls Pending

- Richard Andrus to Peace, Greensburg/Our Savior, Pratt
- David Gruoner from Zion, Linn to Zion, Newton
- Steve Schulz from Storm Lake, Iowa to Hope, Shawnee, Senior Pastor

Calling Congregations

- *Zion, Argonia
- *St. John, Easton
Peace, Greensburg/Our Savior, Pratt
St. Paul, Haven
Zion, Hillsboro/Our Savior, Marion
Trinity, Leavenworth (Sr Pastor)
Zion, Newton
St. John, Oberlin
- *First, Plainville
Holy Cross, Scott City
Hope, Shawnee (Sr Pastor)
Bethlehem, Sylvan Grove
Prince of Peace, Topeka (Sr Pastor)
- *Christ, Wathena
St. Luke, Wheaton
Ascension, Wichita (Sr Pastor)
Bethany, Wichita (Sr Pastor)
Holy Cross, Wichita (DCE)

Vicar Assignments

This coming year there will be more than 100 vicars available for placement. Congregations interested in receiving information related to the assignment of a vicar should contact Prof. Glenn Nielsen, Concordia Seminary's director of vicarage, at 314-505-7211.

District Phone

Phone 1-785-357-4441
Toll Free 1-800-357-4421
FAX 1-785-357-5071

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Brenda Barton (200)

LCEF press 3

Larry Crume (205)

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Gary Rueter (222)

Lori Hennessey (223)

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Beth Eubanks (100)

Planned Giving press 6

Garry Niehoff (101)

Doris Wilson (101)

Directory press 8

Extension by name press 9

Operator press 0

District Calendar

December

12-14 Lay Ministry Training, District Office

24-25 Christmas, District Office closed

31 New Year's Eve, District Office closed at noon

January

1 New Year's Day, District Office closed

10 Lay Ministry Mentor Pastor Training, Salina

16-18 Lay Ministry Training, District Office

23-25 Family Life Academy, District Office

30-31 Board of Directors, District Office

Prayers

- The family of Marvin Kohlmeier at the death of his mother, Leona. Services were held Nov. 3 at Immanuel, Linn.
- Rev. Eldor Meyer, retired pastor, Girard, recovery from a broken hip.
- Rev. Jerome Deister, Trinity, Holton/Immanuel, Netawaka, health concerns.
- Michelle Brown, daughter of Milt Brueggemann, Principal at Hope, Shawnee, recovery from a severe stroke.
- Joyce Pool, wife of Rev. John Pool, Wichita, health concerns
- Donna Mease, wife of Chaplain Rocky Mease, Wichita, health concerns.

Area Chaplains

Wichita - Contact Reverend Rocky Mease. Home: 316-788-9627 Cell: 316-993-0746 Email: chaprm@aol.com.

Topeka - For hospital visits in Topeka, contact Reverend George Bruening at 785-273-5769.

Buffalo River Retreat Cabin

There are still dates available for the Buffalo River Retreat Cabin in Arkansas for the fall and winter. This can be one of the best times of the year! The rates are \$30 per night with a minimum of 4 nights. The facility may accommodate a family, 2-3 couples, a church staff, or leadership group. Eureka Springs and Branson are both within 1¼ hours. If you haven't been to the Buffalo River Cabin, you're missing out! Call Doris at 785-357-4441 ext. 101 to make your reservations.

Tuttle Creek Cabin

The cabin located on Tuttle Creek Reservoir is now ready to be reserved. The cost is \$15 per night with a minimum of \$30. This is a one bedroom furnished cabin. It has heating and AC, but no phone. If you need more information or are interested in booking the cabin, please contact Doris Wilson at the District office at 785-357-4441 ext. 101.

Educational Services

Al Gunderman, Executive

Family Life Academy

Does your congregation desire to develop a leadership plan that includes family ministry in its mission and vision? Then perhaps you will want to consider the Family Life Academy (FLA) in your plans. FLA is conducted over a two-year period, meeting four weekends from September through March.

Read what some of our participants' experiences were after the Year One Academy.

- ♦ Pastor Ken Kaufmann, St. Paul-Cheney: "The Family Life Academy has proved to be a major focus for current and future ministry for us. It has provided the input and education needed to ignite present ministry and plan future ministry while also being a source of great inspiration for us. If you are searching for input, direction and focus as a congregation, check out the Family Life Academy."

- ♦ Gary Niernberger, Member of Holy Cross, Wichita: "For my family, FLA has reaffirmed the emphasis of living out and passing on the faith. The speakers we heard were truly outstanding, providing significant examples of developing the family. Martinson's 'Faith Factors,' and Freudenberg's 'Faith Growing Family Practices' are specific family building exercises that are changing my family's faith growth. For my congregation, we have begun the "process" of placing an emphasis on the family concepts and encouraging others via the milestone events like Bible Buddies and Graduation mentors - relationships are forming that will provide lifelong blessings. I am anxiously awaiting year two, and more importantly, the impact it will have in future years for my family and congregation."

The next class will begin in the fall of 2004 at the District Office. For more information and applications, visit our website at http://www.kslcms.org/ks_flm/index.html or call Educational Services at 1-800-357-4421 ext. 206.

Colloquy Opportunities

The Colloquy program at Concordia University, St. Paul is designed to prepare lay practitioners for the public ministry of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod as Lutheran Classroom Teachers or Directors of Christian Education. Colloquy applicants may take their religion and theology courses through on-site summer school classes, via one of Concordia's off-site colloquy programs or via CUENET. Director of Christian Education colloquy students may use the Master of Arts in Education: Parish Education and Administration as partial fulfillment of colloquy preparation. For further information on the Colloquy program, visit <http://wwtest.csp.edu/cvm/colloquy/index.html>.

Upcoming Events

- ✓ December 5, PDC meeting, District Office
- ✓ January 23-25, Family Life Academy, District Office

Newer Schools: Christ, Overland Park

After study and prayer in 1995, opening a K-8 school became a part of Christ's long-range plan. The year 2000-2001 saw their vision for the future take a concrete step forward with the relocation of their church and the opening of Kindergarten and First Grade. The year 2003-2004 now marks their third year, with a student body of fifty and a staff of twelve, including the Senior Pastor who serves as Principal.

Christ Lutheran chose a vigorous and demanding "back to basics" or "classical" approach to education. Early years, K-4, are spent absorbing facts (grammar stage). Grades 5-8 are spent assisting students to answer the "Why?" by helping them fit facts into a logical framework (logic stage). In the high school years, students learn to express themselves in clear, forceful and elegant language (rhetoric stage).

Christ Lutheran School is looking for teachers with a love for the Lord and for children. If you are a teacher who wants a special place to serve your Lord and "grow" others, then Christ Lutheran is the place for you! To learn more about their ministry, visit www.together-in-christ.org.

National Youth Gathering Update

Youth Ministry reports that the NYG registration will remain open through March 2004 "due to the outstanding hotel and convention space available for the Gathering in the City of Orlando" and will be accepted on a space available basis to accommodate as many as possible at the event. Registrations received during the priority window pushed a record level mark of 30,000 and Gathering planners report that space is available for as many as 36,000 participants. The 2001 NYG closed at 32,000 registered participants. To learn more, visit the NYG web site at www.nyg.lcms.org or contact LCMS Youth Ministry at 1-800-248-1930.



*Have a joyous Christmas
and a blessed New Year!*

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Larry Crume, Vice President

Demographics

Demographics is a service provided to congregations and schools by LCEF throughout our church body. Do you want to know the population trends projected around your church or school in the next five years? Would you also like to know how many children between the ages of 5-14 live in your area? What is the ethnic background of your neighborhood and how will that impact your ministry planning?

Demographics help to paint a backdrop, to provide a snapshot of what a church and/or school is working with in its area of ministry. For instance, if you're looking into providing a new Christian childcare, then it would be in your best interest to know the supply of kids. Perhaps you are located near a concentration of a specific ethnic population where English as a second language may be an outreach ministry opportunity. For more information, call Larry Crume at the District Office (ext. 205) or visit www.lcef.org.

LCEF Loans

LCEF provides loans for LCMS congregations, schools and professional church workers. The loan rates for December, 2003 are:

- ◆ Monthly, quarterly or annual adjustable 5.250%
- ◆ 5 Year fixed 5.500%
- ◆ 10 Year fixed 6.000%

LCEF also provides loan assistance and advice for:

- ◆ LCMS architects and liturgical advisors
- ◆ Laborers for Christ
- ◆ Strategic Ministry Planning
- ◆ Demographic Services
- ◆ Capital Funding Services
- ◆ Joyful Response electronic tithing

If we can assist you with your loan needs or any of LCEF's services, please contact Larry Crume at 800-357-4421 ext. 205 or lcrume@kslcms.org.



Lutheran Church Extension Fund Interest Rates - December 2003

Steward Account Rates: Congregational Certificates

Demand	1.750%
Steward Account	2.250%

Individual Accounts

Less than \$1,000	1.125%
\$1,000 - less than \$5,000	1.375%
\$5,000 - less than \$10,000	1.500%
\$10,000 and over	2.000%

The mission of LCEF is to provide opportunity to make funds and services available in support of the Great Commission through The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Planned Giving Garry Niehoff, Counselor

Planned Giving Services

The Planned Giving Office is here to serve Kansas LCMS Churches and their members.

We serve congregations by:

- Offering Wills Awareness Seminars
- Offering assistance with their Endowment Funds
- Suggesting guidelines for setting up a congregational Endowment Fund
- Helping endowment fund committees publicize their funds
- Guidance in the design of an endowment fund brochure
- Providing ideas for funding the endowment fund with various planned giving tools
- Financial Planning Seminars

We serve individual members by:

- The use of a Christian Preamble to witness their faith in Jesus Christ
- Finding options to help them remember the Lord's work

- Charitable Remainder Unitrusts
- Gift Annuities
- Helping them to save the family farm or business from shrinkage due to taxes
- Preserving the estate assets for the next generation by minimizing taxes and avoiding probate
- Helping them to properly distribute items of sentimental value
- Providing information on Trusts, Durable Powers of Attorney, and Living Wills
- Reviewing their present documents at their request

The Planned Giving Office will serve you and your congregation on a confidential, no-cost basis. To arrange any of the above services for you or your congregation, call Garry Niehoff at the Kansas District Office at 1-800-357-4421 ext. 101.

Business Office
Debbie Crites, Business Manager

Year End Checklist

For the end of one calendar year and the start of a new one, congregational treasurers need to plan for the following activities:

✓ Housing Allowance

Housing allowance for Pastors and Commissioned Ministers should be approved by December 31 in order to obtain the full annual benefit of housing allowance exclusion for 2003. The designation should be adopted during a regular or special meeting of the church board and should be contained in the minutes of the meeting. A worksheet for calculating the housing allowance is included in the Congregational Treasurer's Manual.

✓ W-4

Have all full-time and part-time employees complete a new W-4 for 2004. This will ensure that your withholding for the year will be accurate. If the employee does not provide a completed W-4, the employer must withhold federal income tax as if the worker were single with no withholding allowance.

✓ Charitable Contributions

Charitable contributions for 2003 must be received before the first worship service in 2004 in order to claim the deduction. Contributions received after that date are counted as contributions for 2004 for income tax purposes even if the check was written in 2003. However, checks that are written, mailed and postmarked 2003 will still be deductible. A reminder in your weekly bulletin would be appropriate.

✓ Gifts to Church Workers

Christmas gifts to Church Workers from the congregation in most cases represent taxable income and not a tax-free gift. Be sure to report correctly on the recipient's W-2 or 1099 the amount of these gifts. It is also important to note that donations made by members for these gifts are not included as tax deductible contributions recorded by the church office.

Fiscal Year to Close

The District will close its 2003 fiscal year on Thursday, January 15, 2004. Any receipts received after that date will be credited to the fiscal year 2004. Please work to meet this deadline. In order to meet the standards for a not-for-profit corporation audit, we cannot credit any 2003 mission gift received after the close of our fiscal year. If you are sending any 2004 gift prior to January 15th, please indicate that the gift is for 2004 so that we may credit it correctly for your congregation.

2004 Congregational Commitments

Letters were sent to your congregations requesting the amount of your commitment to Synod and District for 2004. The District staff would appreciate receiving your commitment as soon as it has been decided by your Voters, Council, or other governing body, but surely no later than December 31.

If you would like to know the current status of your 2003 commitment or need another form to complete for 2004, please contact Lori at 785-357-4441 ext. 223 or lori@kslcms.org.

Treasurer's Manual Available Now

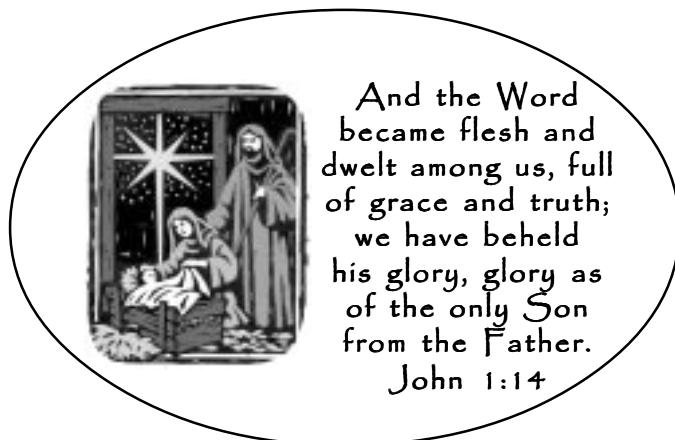
The updated 2003 Congregational Treasurer's Manual is now available. In order to keep the cost of the manual down, you will not automatically receive a copy. The 2003 manual will soon be available on the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod website by going to www.lcms.org and clicking under the link "Resources." You are able to view or print the manual from this site. If you would like us to send you a copy, call the business office at 785-357-4441 ext. 200 or email to brenda@kslcms.org. Cost of this year's manual is only \$6.75.

IRS 2004 Mileage Rate

The Internal Revenue Service has released the new standard mileage rates that go into effect January 1, 2004: business mileage - 37.5 cents per mile (up from 36 cents per mile in 2003); charitable mileage - 14 cents per mile (no change); moving/medical mileage - 14 cents per mile (up from 12 cents in 2003).

Salary Guidelines Available

Salary Guidelines for 2004 are available on the Kansas District website, www.kslcms.org. Just click on the "Departments" tab and select "Business Office." If you are unable to download and view this on-line, call or email Debbie Crites at 800-357-4421 ext. 204 or debbie@kslcms.org.



Mission & Stewardship

Reverend Gary D. Rueter, Executive

African-American Call Issued

The Kansas District Board of Directors has issued a call to the Rev. Gregory Manning (Grace, Kansas City) to be Missionary at Large with African-Americans in Kansas City, Kansas. The action followed the advice of the Board of Mission and was taken on Nov. 1 at the quarterly BOD meeting.

The Mission Board recommended this action because Wyandotte County, Kansas is estimated to have 44,360 persons of African-American-alone race, and 3,154 of Two or More races. When the racial make-up of the six LCMS congregations in Wyandotte County is examined, few African-American members are found.

Rev. Manning has been reaching out to the African-American neighbors of Grace on Wood Avenue and has several young men and children who attend education activities on Wednesday evenings, but there has been little interaction between the members of Grace and these neighbors.

LCMS efforts of the last twenty years have shown few results in reaching into the African-American population of Kansas City, Kansas. A new approach is needed. In addition, The Board of Black Ministry of the LCMS has a goal of increasing the number of black Lutherans from 70,000 to 100,000 by 2010, and the Kansas District could contribute to this goal by establishing mission outposts for African-Americans in Wyandotte County.

The goals set for the Missionary at Large are:

- a) Identify leaders among the African-American men and women in Wyandotte County and recruit them for mission outreach and leadership and Lay Ministry training.
- b) Be a resource in African-American ministries to LCMS congregations, especially Bethel, Grace, and Faith.
- c) Study the African-American communities in Wyandotte County and identify at least one new mission outpost.
- d) Add three hundred (300) LCMS African-American members in KCK by 2010.
- e) Establish or make use of ministries that will care for physical needs in the African-American population as an opening for providing for spiritual needs as well.
- f) Coordinate activities and ministries with the KCK Coalition.
- g) Seek financial and personnel assistance for this outreach from other LCMS congregations in the region.
- h) Provide leadership for establishing a 501c3 organization that can garner resources through the faith-based initiative program of the U.S. government.
- i) Identify African immigrants in Kansas City, Kansas and seek to provide ministries for them or to incorporate them into African-American ministries.

The Boards of Directors and Mission invite your prayers for Rev. Manning and for this outreach. For more information contact Rev. Gary Rueter at 800-357-4421 ext. 222 or garyr@kslcms.org.

Executive Director for CCCS

Children's Christian Concern Society has appointed a search committee to hire an Executive Director. Committee members include Eugene Schmidt, Richard Hahn, Marlene Ernsting, Edie Jorns, Alfred Aufdemberge, and Arthur Vogel, chairman. If you are interested and need more information, please contact Arthur Vogel by phone at 816-810-8942 or by mail through CCCS, 1000 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66604.

Lay Ministry Mentor Pastor Training

Saturday, January 10, 2004

Trinity Lutheran Church, Salina

Updating Kansas District Email List

The Kansas District Email list is used to send out timely information such as missionary newsletters, changes or additions to scheduled events and new postings to the website (such as new editions of Workers Together). If your current email address has changed or you would like to be added to the list, please contact Lori Hennessey at lori@kslcms.org.

Crossways Workshop

Crossways International *Living Word* workshop is scheduled for the greater Lincoln area, February 2-6, 2003 at Holy Savior Lutheran Church, 4710 N 10th, Lincoln Nebraska. Representatives from all denominations are welcome to attend the 2½ day Introduction or 4½ day Complete session. Witness firsthand the impact of Crossways International's (CI's) highly visual approach to biblical teaching that helps students at any level of sophistication to learn, retain, share, and live essential scriptural truths. This workshop is designed to equip you with the tools and techniques necessary to help you transform ordinary church members into impassioned disciples of the Living Word, Jesus. Each year over 100,000 people undertake a Bible study using CI courses and materials.

Crossways International is a nonprofit, transdenominational ministry providing training, resources, and support to churches, seminaries, colleges, and special ministries around the world. For more information about Crossways International or to access a registration form, visit www.crossways.org. To register for this event call 1-800-257-7308.

Making Disciples Workshops

King of Kings Lutheran Church, Gardner, is offering Making Disciples, a series of six professional development workshops for anyone interested in Christian education. You can attend all six workshops or only the ones that most interest you. Cost is \$20 per person/per workshop. Lunch is on your own. Pre-registration is necessary to assure enough material and supplies for all participants. Rev. Craig Boehlke is the presenter. The workshops, all from 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m., are listed below.

- 1-24-04 Building on a Solid Foundation
- 2-28-04 Colloquy - Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How?
- 3-27-04 Methods and Materials for Teaching the Faith

For more information, contact King of Kings Lutheran Church, 913-856-2500 or kingofkingsks@earthlink.net.



"Luther" Movie in SW Kansas

The film "Luther" will be shown in Kinsley, KS at the Palace Theatre on December 12, 13, 14, & 15.

Times are as follows: December 12 & 13 - 8 PM
December 14 - 7 PM
December 15 - 2 PM

Admission is \$5/adult and \$4/child.

If there is enough interest, the theatre may add a matinee time on Sunday afternoon. For more information about the movie, go to www.lutherthemovie.com.

Conference at Lord of Life/Leawood

Kansas District Circuit 3 (Johnson and Miami Counties) invites interested church workers and lay people to join them for a special conference with Rev. Sam Nafzger, Executive Director of the CTCR on Tuesday, December 16, from 8:30a.m. to noon at Lord of Life in Leawood. The topic is "Unionism, Syncretism and Church Fellowship as it applies to Inter-Christian Relations."

We will cater in an excellent BBQ lunch (both good and reasonable) but we need to know how many will be attending. To reserve lunch, please send emails to Byetta@lordlife.com. If you have questions, you can contact Pastor Tom Krause at tomk@lordlife.com or 913-681-5167.

Choir Member Workshop

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will offer its 12th Annual Schola Cantorum, a choir member workshop, on Saturday, January 24, 2004. This workshop is open to all choir members and directors.

The day will begin with registration at 8:30a.m. and conclude at 3:30p.m. Prof. Eldon Balko, emeritus associate professor of music at Valparaiso University, Indiana, is this year's clinician.

The cost is \$75 per congregation (\$65 for congregations with less than 200 members). Lunch and the choral music to be learned are not included in the fee. For more information or registration forms, call 314-505-7123.

Taste of the Sem

The second annual "Taste of the Sem" will take place Jan. 17-19, 2004 on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. This event is designed to allow young men in high school the opportunity to experience Seminary life.

Participants will be matched one-on-one with Seminary students and will accompany these students to their resident field congregations on Sunday morning and to classes and chapel service on Monday morning. There will also be a tour of the campus and an opportunity for dinner and discussion with Seminary faculty members.

All meals and lodging will be provided free of charge. Participants are responsible for their own transportation to St. Louis. For more information, contact the Admissions Office of Concordia Seminary, 801 DeMun Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63105; 1-800-822-9545; admissions@csl.edu.

Shepherds of God's Flock

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis will host its 6th annual "Shepherds of God's Flock" retreat Jan. 6-8, 2004, for men college age and older who are thinking of entering the pastoral ministry.

While on campus, participants will study the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions concerning the pastoral ministry. Pastors, missionaries and chaplains will speak about the joys and challenges of their service. Participants can talk with other retreat guests from around the country who are contemplating such service, worship with the Seminary community in daily chapel services, talk with current students, and attend Seminary classes. Additional sessions will cover topics such as financial aid, housing and the admissions process.

Wives, fiancées and girlfriends are also encouraged to attend, with some special sessions planned for them.

There is no charge to attend. All meals and on-campus lodging are provided free of charge. Travel assistance is also available. Transportation to Concordia Seminary from the airport, bus or train station, and return transportation is provided as needed. For more information, contact the Admissions Office of Concordia Seminary, 801 DeMun Ave, St. Louis, MO 63105; 1-800-822-9545; admissions@csl.edu.

Guinea Prayers

For the Heiney family:

- ✚ Thanksgiving for Tim's safe travel and the encouragement it has given to the national church.
- ✚ Pray for guidance as he tries to prepare to bring guests with him next time.
- ✚ Pray that Guinea elections in December will go off peacefully. Pray for the safety of all the missionaries in Guinea.

For the Norton family:

- ✚ Pray for the Nortons' move to Siguiri. For the time being they will be the only missionaries in that town.

For the Oetting family:

- ✚ Pray for the Oettings as they hunt for a house in Siguiri.
- ✚ Pray for God's blessings as they prepare for another big transition.

For Dr. Schmaltz:

- ✚ Pray for relationships with the entire medical personal at the Kissidougou hospital. Many are Muslims and during the month of Karim-Ramadam they were fasting, experiencing more stress with less energy. May they hear and be open to the gospel message as Dr. Schmaltz has the opportunity to talk with them in work and life topics.
- ✚ Ask for help with communication by email from Kissidougou to get better.
- ✚ Thanksgiving for the Kouranko village contacts Tim and she made in the travel they had to Kankan. May the teaching and their involvement be a blessing to the villages there who are open to this teaching.
- ✚ Thanksgiving for a wonderful time the medical team had at the end of October in Kouroussa. Many blessings were seen and people were helped medically, including a C-section baby who was born healthy when the outlook and village care were dismal. God planned this timing! The people are thankful and persons have said they want to know more about Christianity in this Muslim village.
- ✚ Thanksgiving for power in Dr. Schmaltz's new house after some problems that now have been solved.
- ✚ Pray for guidance and wisdom as Dr. Schmaltz writes grants for pharmacies in strategic areas as well as a nutrition project with the hospital and church for LC-MS World Relief.
- ✚ Thanksgiving for David Londenberg, a Sierra Leone missionary pastor, who was injured and medically evacuated to the USA after a truck accident. Pray for a full recovery.
- ✚ Thanksgiving for good trip to Kankan and fellowship with Oettings and Nortons

✚ For the Mission field:

- ✚ Please remember these two occasions this month: Joel Heiney's birthday on December 11 and Jon and Sharon Oetting's wedding anniversary on December 28.
-



Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Kansas District
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Topeka Kansas 66604-1104

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Topeka KS