



WORKERS TOGETHER

An Email Publication of the LCMS Kansas District | www.kslcms.org

June 2017

Editor's Note: Yes, that's a new logo at the top of the page, one of many changes you'll be seeing in District communications in the coming months. Another change: Shannon Oldham has passed on the editing baton for *Workers Together*. (Thanks to Shannon for her work over the past several years.) You can now send your article ideas, comments and suggestions to Kris Bruss at kbruss@kslcms.org.

The newsletter format for this issue is basically the same. Each article title is listed in the Index below and linked to the location of the article in this newsletter. After each article, you'll find a link, "*Index*", which takes you back to the Index. You can scroll down and read each article, or you can pick and choose from the Index—whatever works best for you.

Index

President's Office

- [Call Updates](#)
- [Transition at Haskell LIGHT House](#)
- [New on the Web: Board Report Summaries](#)
- [Prayer Requests](#)
- [District Calendar](#)

In Preparation for Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation – 2017

- [God's FedEx Truck: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism](#)
- [Reformation 500: Congregational & Circuit Events](#)

Missions & Stewardship

- [Progress Report: Guinea/West Africa](#)
- [Visit to Mission Central](#)
- [Campus Ministry Brainstorming Meeting](#)

Educational Services

- [KINDLE – Cultivating Health](#)
- [Calling a Minister of Religion-Commissioned](#)
- [Lutheran Youth Fellowship \(LYF\)](#)
- [LCMS Early Childhood Educators Conference](#)

Caring Ministry

- [Disaster Relief Coordinator Named](#)

Business

- [Have You Filed Your Non-Profit Annual Report?](#)
- [Do You Need to File Form 5578?](#)
- [Administrative Assistant Position Open](#)

LCEF

- [Letter from LCEF VP Jeff Maltz](#)
- [Church Improvement Program](#)
- [Join the Y.I. Club](#)
- [Earn 3% with ConnectPLUS Term Note](#)

Around the District

- [2017 Kansas Classic Doxology Returns](#)
- [Youth Concert in Ottawa](#)
- [Orphan Grain Train Dedication in Wichita](#)
- [Ordination Celebration for Rev. Edward Trost](#)
- [Installation and Ordination at Ascension, Pratt](#)
- [Saints Alive After 55](#)

Our mission is to support and encourage the members of the District in carrying out the mission Christ has given His Church (Matt. 28).

District Office Contact Information

President's Office

- Rev. Peter K. Lange, President: kspres@kslcms.org, 800-357-4421 ext. 200
- Tami Lierz, Administrative Assistant: tami@kslcms.org, 800-357-4421 ext. 200

Missions & Stewardship

- Rev. Dan Galchutt, Assistant to the President for Missions & Stewardship: dangalchutt@kslcms.org, 800-357-4421 ext. 222

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- Shannon Oldham, Administrative Assistant: shannon@kslcms.org, 800-357-4421 ext. 202

Lutheran Witness Subscriptions

- Shannon Oldham: shannon@kslcms.org, 800-357-4421 ext. 202

Retreat Center Reservations

- Shannon Oldham: shannon@kslcms.org, 800-357-4421 ext. 202

Communications

- Kris Bruss, Communications Specialist, kbruss@kslcms.org, 800-357-4421 ext. 223

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF)

- Jeff Maltz, LCEF Vice President, Kansas/Oklahoma: jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org, 800-357-4421 ext. 118
- Curt Loupe, Administrative Assistant/Promo Director: curt.loupe@lcef.org, 800-357-4421 ext. 100

[Index](#)

President's Office

Call Updates

PASTORAL CALLS

- Rev. Dr. David Hasselbrook, Missoula, MT to Bethlehem, Greenleaf, pending
- Rev. Timmothy Heath, Sr. to St. John, Aliceville – accepted, installation 6/25
- Rev. Ervin Daugherty, to Christ, Elkhart – accepted, installation 7/1
- Rev. James Price, Waco, TX to Mt. Calvary, Wamego – accepted, installation 7/9
- Rev. Daniel Wehmeier to Good Shepherd, Fremont, NE – declined

SEMINARY CALLS SPRING 2017

- Grace, Larned and Our Saviour, Great Bend – Candidate Nicholas Martinez, Fort Wayne (Ordination & Installation 6/18)
- Trinity, Mission, SMP Benjamin Vineyard (Ordination & Installation 7/8)
- Ascension, Wichita, Pratt Mission Plant – Candidate Daniel Chrismer, St. Louis (Ordination & Installation 7/2)
- St. Paul, Coffeyville – Candidate Anthony Fields, St. Louis (Ordination & Installation 7/9)

VACANT CONGREGATIONS CALLING OR GETTING READY TO CALL

- Emporia, Messiah (associate)
- Garden City, Trinity
- Greenleaf, Bethlehem
- Hoisington, Concordia
- Kansas City, Our Saviour (associate)
- Netawaka, Immanuel

- Salina, Trinity (senior)
- Topeka, Calvary

CALLING COMMISSIONED

- Bethany, Overland Park - DCE
- Messiah, Hays – DCE
- Christ, Overland Park – DCE
- Trinity, Mission (Shawnee campus) – Family Ministry/Music
- St. John, Alma – Teacher
- St. Paul, Leavenworth – Principal

COMMISSIONED CALLS:

- Tchr Mark Meyer (St. John/Alma) to Our Savior/Crookston, MN – accepted
- Prin/Tchr Eric Pralle, Zion, Independence to First, Fort Smith, AR – declined
- Director of Parish Music - Bethany (Woelmer) Johnson (CU-W – Candidate) to St. John's, Topeka – pending designation
- Tchr Jena Birt, Hope/Shawnee to Faith/Lincoln, NE – accepted
- Prin/Tchr Mervin Dehning, St. John, Alma to Topeka Lutheran – declined
- Erika Troester (CUNE – DCE Candidate) to Holy Cross, Dodge City – pending designation
- Issac Taylor (CUC – Candidate) to Topeka Lutheran School – accepted
- Tchr Emma Taylor, Immanuel, Elmhurst, IL to Topeka Lutheran School – accepted
- Tchr Miranda Mondary, Christ, Murray, UT to Hope, Shawnee – accepted, installation 8/13
- Prin/Tchr Michael Glowinski, Zion, Victorville, CA to Good Shepherd, Marysville – accepted
- Tchr Mary Koch (CUC-Candidate) to Bethany, Overland Park – pending designation, installation 8/13
- Sarah Kuske (CUNE - Candidate) to Bethany, Overland Park – pending designation, installation 8/13
- Tchr Sarah Kutschkau, Topeka Lutheran School to Bethany, Overland Park – accepted, installation 8/13
- Tchr Calah Stichler, Grow in Peace, KCMO to Hope, Shawnee – accepted, installation 8/13
- Tchr Justin Hoffman, Zion, Denison, IA to Trinity, Atchison – accepted

[Index](#)

Transition at Haskell LIGHT House

Lutheran Indian Ministries, a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of the LCMS, has asked us to share the following announcement with members of the District.

Dear Members of the LCMS Kansas District,

Lutheran Indian Ministries transitions into a new phase of Haskell LIGHT Campus Ministry. Please join us in welcoming Deacon Bob Prue (Rosebud Sioux) to the Haskell LIGHT House.

As Will and Patricia Main, co-directors of the LIGHT House for the past ten years, move on to a new phase in their lives, Bob, with the support of his wife, Deon, will step into the role of Ministry Leader at the LIGHT House.

Beyond his LCMS theological training, Bob is also qualified to help people dealing with issues of trauma and addiction in individual and small group settings. Bob will spend this summer planning Bible studies, service projects, and outreach programs in order to start the fall semester strong.

The Haskell LIGHT Campus Ministry will continue to uphold Lutheran Indian Ministries' mission to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ with Native American peoples, disciple Native leaders to share the Gospel with their brothers and sisters, and provide resources to assist in the healing of social sufferings while valuing Native cultures.

But the ministry will not be confined to the campus. Bob and Deon look forward to reaching out to the local Lutheran churches and the greater Lawrence and Kansas Native community.

"We want people to know they are welcome here!"

To learn more about LIM visit: www.lutheranindianministries.org

[Index](#)

New on the Web: Board Report Summaries

Interested in keeping up on District Board business? One option is to read the regularly posted minutes of the quarterly Board of Directors meetings, but we now have another option for you: Board report summaries, which you can find right beneath the minutes on the Board of Directors page on our website.

Click on the summaries link, and you'll find highlights from executive staff reports and meeting minutes of the various District boards. The reports are designed to be reader-friendly, offering a comprehensive yet concise digest of District activities. You can find the Board report summaries for May [HERE](#).

[Index](#)

Prayer Requests

Rev. Joel Schultz and family – sudden death of his brother, Martin.

If you have a prayer request you would like the staff to know about, please email the request to Tami Lierz at tami@kslcms.org.

[Index](#)

District Events Calendar

- **June 13:** Scholarship Committee, District Office, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **June 15:** Constitution Committee, District Office, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **June 19:** Campus Ministry Meeting, District Office, time TBD
- **June 26-29:** Doxology, Spiritual Life Center, Wichita
- **July 3-4:** District Office closed for Independence Day
- **July 11:** Church Planting Committee (GoToMeeting), 10:30 a.m. to noon
- **July 16-21:** Lutheran Valley Retreat, Florissant, CO
- **July 16-18:** Saints Alive After 55, Spiritual Life Center, Bel Aire, KS
- **July 17:** Guinea Task Force (GoToMeeting), 7-8 p.m.
- **July 28:** New Worker Orientation, District Office, Topeka
- **July 29:** LCMS Early Childhood Conference, Our Savior Lutheran Preschool, Kansas City
- **Aug. 3:** Professional Development Committee, District Office, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Aug. 3-5:** Board of Directors meeting, District Office, Topeka

You can find the full District event calendar on the District website [HERE](#).

[Index](#)

Reformation 500

God's FedEx Truck: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism by the Rev. Joseph Seifert, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Cheney, Kansas

In recognition of the 500th anniversary year of the Reformation in 2017, the LCMS Kansas District Board of Education has commissioned brief articles for inclusion in Workers Together on the Lutheran Confessions. The Board brings you these articles in the hopes that you, as workers in the church, might use them as a springboard for further study in your own congregation or school. We pray that you will find this material beneficial not only as a review of the Confessions but also for the ministry in the place the Lord has called you.

Wouldn't you agree that deliveries are important? I don't know about you, but when I have an important package, I want to make sure that it is delivered safely and expediently. The delivery business has always been an important business. Today, it is a very competitive business so different package companies often use a catchy slogan to encourage you to trust them for all your delivery needs.

FedEx gives you their "purple promise": "I will make every FedEx experience outstanding." Well, it just so happens that God is in the delivery business as well, but He doesn't need a catchy phrase to garner our trust. Because of Jesus Christ (2 Cor 1:20), we can count on all of God's promises, including His promise in and through Baptism. Baptism, simple water included in God's command and combined with God's Word, has the power to forgive sins, rescue from death and the devil, and give eternal salvation to all who believe (SC 4).

However, unlike FedEx, the experience of Baptism isn't all that important. It may seem like a pretty dull and anticlimactic moment to merely say a few words and sprinkle some water on someone's head. It may seem like a pretty stressful and difficult moment trying to baptize a kicking and screaming child who wants nothing to do with that water or pastor! And yet, despite the dull or stressful experience, by the power of the Holy Spirit that child still receives a "washing in the Word" (SA 3.5). Despite our feelings about it, God delivers something outstanding every time in baptism!

Although the title of this article is "God's FedEx Truck: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism," I would be remiss if I didn't give a hat tip to the company my dad has worked at for over 30 years, UPS. I always liked their old phrase, "What can Brown do for you?" And that's really what God's gift of Baptism is about, isn't it? God wants to do something for you. Over the years, many people have mixed this teaching up and turned Baptism into something we do for God. But God's Word and our Lutheran Confessions have always been very clear on this matter. "Baptism, however, is not our work, but God's work (for, as was said, you must distinguish Christ's Baptism quite clearly from a bath-keeper's baptism)" (LC 4.35). God is certainly in the delivery business, and thanks be to God for His wonderful package of Baptism!

Further reading

AC 9, 13; Ap 9, 13, 24; SA 3.5; SC 4; LC 4; Taufbüchlein

An index listing the abbreviations for the scholarly sources cited in these articles is available [HERE](#)

[Index](#)

Reformation 500: Congregational & Circuit Events



Is your congregation or circuit planning an activity or event to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation? If so, please share what you're doing with the Kansas District office, and we'll help publicize your event. We hope that sharing information about events around the state will help others as they plan for ways to celebrate this milestone year of the Reformation. Please send details, including date, location, time and contact information, to Curt Loupe at curt.loupe@lcef.org.

You can find our current list of events [HERE](#).

[Index](#)

Missions

Progress Report: Guinea/West Africa

By Rev. Dan Galchutt

On Monday, May 15, Rev. Gary Schulte, West Africa Area Director, and Rev. Dan McMiller, Associate Executive Director of the LCMS Office of International Mission (OIM), visited the Kansas District office in Topeka and provided an update on mission work in Guinea and West Africa. A few highlights:

- The Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET) in Togo is growing and plays an important role in mission work in West Africa. There are 19 students this year and will be 46 students next year, with four from Guinea.
- Students attend for three years and serve a vicarage for two years. The school calendar generally aligns with the American school calendar.
- As the Togo seminary grows, decentralized learning will become more common. Students in Guinea, for instance, will soon be able to complete their introductory course of study right in Guinea.
- Schulte and McMiller believe that our opportunity to raise up Guinean pastors and support other potential seminarians is vital to the long-term health of the churches in that region. This is the fruit of many years of mission work and is needed because of the instability of the region.
- Both are thrilled about the Kansas District's work in this part of the world and have high hopes for our continued work there in the years to come.



[Index](#)

Visit to Mission Central

By Rev. Dan Galchutt

I recently traveled to Mapleton, Iowa to visit Mission Central, a mission support agency that raises substantial funding for LCMS missionaries. The visit was part of our ongoing exploration of a possible partnership between the Kansas District, Mission Central and LCMS Mission Advancement. Key takeaways:

- The people involved in Mission Central, including Gary Thies and Rev. Brent Smith (who will be working with us in Kansas), care a great deal about mission work and are incredibly supportive of the mission efforts of our Synod.
- Gary is excited about the Kansas District's focus on West Africa.
- Mission Central is a special place with artifacts collected by missionaries from all over the world. Many of these artifacts (e.g., joss paper, a spear with a leg bone, a black magic mask) are used in non-Christian religious practices and testify clearly to the need for mission work.

[Index](#)

Campus Ministry Brainstorming Meeting Set for June 19

On Monday, June 19, Rev. Marcus Zill, Director of LCMS Campus Ministry, will be at the Kansas District Office for a brainstorming meeting. If you're interested in exploring campus ministry in your area and would like to join the meeting, contact Rev. Dan Galchutt.

[Index](#)

Education Services

KINDLE – Cultivating Health (The Fifth in a Series)

By Jim Bradshaw, Kansas District Education Executive

Environmental keys are ways to assess and address how well the development of Christ-like servant leadership is supported in a ministry area where KINDLE is being practiced. Key leadership and participants fill out an instrument. They assess a designated ministry area (e.g. Equipping the Board of Elders for leadership and service) according to two criteria of EMPHASIS and EVIDENCE using statements under each of the five keys:

- **Leaders being valued** – an environment where there is an investment of time, energy and resources to develop and multiply Christ-like servant leaders;
- **Leaders given opportunities** – an environment where leadership opportunities are identified, created and acted upon;
- **Leaders being developed** – an environment where people are in an ongoing process, growing as Christ-like servant leaders;

- **Leaders gathered together** – an environment where leaders are brought together for enrichment, encouragement and accountability as they multiply Christ-like servant leaders; and,
- **Leaders being deployed** – an environment where Christ-like servant leaders are sent out to be the welcoming presence of Christ in their congregations, homes, workplaces, communities and the world.

Key leaders and KINDLE participants are invited to offer candid responses which will provide a baseline measurement to gauge future growth in developing a healthy environment for fostering and multiplying Christ-like servant leaders.

KINDLE is a never-ending process. It’s about the ongoing development of Christ-like servant leaders who serve in the congregation, home, workplace and community and cultivate others as Christ-like servant leaders.

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KINDLE (Karpenko Institute for Nurturing and Developing Leadership Excellence) is a non-profit organization formed in 2000. KINDLE’s mission is “to foster and multiply Christ-like servant leaders to enhance the ministry of congregations in their communities and the world.” KINDLE’s mission is grounded in Philippians 2:5-8.

If you desire further information regarding KINDLE, please contact me at the District Office, or check out the KINDLE website at www.KINDLEServantLeaders.org.

[Index](#)

Calling a Minister of Religion–Commissioned (the Fifth and FINAL in a Series)

By Jim Bradshaw, Kansas District Education Executive

Ministers of Religion–Commissioned includes teachers (and school administrators), directors of Christian education, directors of Christian outreach, directors of parish music, deaconesses, certified lay ministers, directors of family life ministry, and parish assistants (Constitution Art. V).

This series of articles is intended to assist congregations and school with the call process. The Synod and its districts assist calling entities and workers to maintain the integrity and orderliness of the process. (*Previous articles are archived on the District website.*)

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A Call Has Been Accepted – Now What?

➤ Accessing Call Documents for Commissioned Ministers

- Call documents for Commissioned Ministers are only available in electronic format. You will access the call documents at a website through a URL provided by the District Office.
- You will need a username and password to access the Call Document for Ordained or Commissioned Ministers. These are case sensitive. The username and password are also available from the District Office.
- Once you log in, choose the file type you want: “Commissioned Minister.” The next page has the download software and the documentation/instructions for both Mac and PC users. It is best to make sure that you have deleted any other call document software from your computer before proceeding with the new download.
- **The Diploma of Vocation needs to be printed on a sheet of parchment.** All other documents can be printed on regular plain paper.

➤ **Complete appropriate paperwork through the Office of the District President for installation and/or commissioning of the worker.**

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Summary Steps for Congregation / School Seeking First Placement Candidate (Including Colloquy Candidates)

- Formulate the position or job description.
- Advise the district president or education executive that you are going to request a candidate from one of the Concordias.
- Go to http://cusapps.cus.edu/PlacementEntry_Home.aspx to complete the Candidate Request Form in its entirety and submit the record.
- Placement directors will send the calling entity information on the candidate(s).
- Calling entities can interview candidates.
- Select the candidate of choice.
- Request your candidate of choice to be designated to the placement director.
- Upon receiving notification of acceptance of designation, contact your district office to obtain call documents. Prepare call documents.
- Sign and send call documents to district president.
- District president signs the call document.
- District president sends call documents to placement director.
- Placement director delivers call documents to candidate and notifies Concordia University System staff of designated call.
- Candidate informs calling entity of acceptance of the call.
- Assignment is made and approved by the Board of Assignments.
- Director of placement notifies the District that the candidate has completed all requirements and is now approved for commissioning and installation.

Summary Steps for Congregations/Schools Seeking Candidate Already in Ministry

- Formulate position or job description.
- Inform and seek advice from district officials.
- Calling body prepares the call documents.
- Send call documents directly to person.
- Inform district president as to who has been called.
- When call is accepted, request authorization to install from the district president.
- Install called person (commissioning occurs only at the beginning of a person's service in the church).

Source: Rubrics Governing Call and Placement Procedures for Ministers of Religion Commissioned, Adopted by the LCMS Council of Presidents; Revised February, 2017.

[Index](#)

Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF): Forming Future Leaders

The following article was written by LYF representatives Hannah Fritz (Prince of Peace, Topeka) and Clara Jackson (Trinity, Garden City).

What is Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF)?

LYF is a group of teenagers chosen annually by the Kansas District Youth Ministry Team to represent the Kansas District youth.

What do LYF Reps do in Kansas?

We attend two District Youth Ministry meetings, help with the District Youth Gathering and reach out to churches and their youth groups. At the District Youth Gathering (DYG), we greet everyone, serve and speak about LYF on stage. The DYG is held on a weekend each November. We also have a National LCMS training event, Teen Leadership Initiative (TLI), in St. Louis during spring break. There, we meet other LYFers, professional church workers and other teens and take part in the training. The training this year (2017) was "Faith During Times of Transition." The training always emphasizes application of learning back in the District.

In Kansas, we hold a Teen Fellowship Retreat (TFR) in March where we do just that! We share what we've learned from the previous TLI with the teens and parents involved.

Why is LYF youth leadership important for youth ministry in Kansas?

LYF leadership is important because youth are the next generation and the church of today. LYF teaches youth to be leaders to help grow the church. Even though we are young, we can still be taken seriously and make an impact.

LYF Applications can be found on the District website on the [Educational Services page](#). **The applications are due in August with reference letters to the District Office.** For more information on LYF please contact adult LYF liaisons DCE Charity Smith (St. Luke's, Manhattan) 804-874-1225; DCE@stlukesmanhattan.org or Jesse Smith 402-879-5825; smithjesse@icloud.com

[Index](#)

Kansas District LCMS Early Childhood Educators Conference

The Kansas District LCMS Early Childhood Educators Conference will be held on Saturday, July 29, 2017, at Our Saviour Lutheran Church (4153 Rainbow Blvd.) in Kansas City, Kansas. The conference theme, "Growing in Grace," will be presented by Angela Naeve. Angela is an LCMS music teacher, singer, songwriter and VBS writer. She is a mother of four and farm wife. Children's ministry and family ministry are the focus for her music as she seeks to communicate the Gospel truths in a dynamic, fun way to impact lives for Jesus. She's been involved with a traveling music ministry for over 17 years. She and her husband, Russ, farm near Gilmore City, Iowa.

Conference registration will open soon! Click [HERE](#).

Five State-approved clock hours will be available. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Bottemuller at 816-868-4772.

[Index](#)

Caring Ministry

Disaster Relief Coordinator Named

The Kansas District Board of Caring Ministry is pleased to announce that Donna Williams (Zion, Newton) has been appointed to serve for the next 12 months as the Kansas District Disaster Response Coordinator (DDRC). Williams will promote and facilitate Lutheran Early Response Training (LERT) and coordinate disaster response efforts and resources for District congregations in need.

Donna is a member at Zion serving on staff as Youth Coordinator. Since 1992, she has been blessed to serve in various roles in youth and family ministry. She and her husband, Terry, have long shared an interest in mission/restoration work. They have organized and traveled with teams to Taos, NM to build adobe homes with Habitat for Humanity and in 2012 organized a team of youth and adults who traveled to Minot, ND to assist Camp Hope with flood restoration.

Donna, who completed LERT Certification in January 2017, sees this new role with the Kansas District as Disaster Response Coordinator as an opportunity to use her gifts to serve on the "front lines" of helping communities and individuals cope and move forward from the devastation that surrounds them after a disaster. In the next year, she will work in tandem with the Board of Caring Ministry and existing Kansas District LERT teams to develop protocol, training material and teams that will continue to train and prepare volunteers to be effective in the event of a disaster call-out.

“First responders see people in some of the worst moments in their lives. As disciples of Christ, this is our chance to walk alongside folks who need the comfort of compassionate hearts and the works of the hands of those He calls to serve.”

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

[Index](#)

Business Office

Have You Filed Your Non-Profit Annual Report?

Kansas law requires all non-profit organizations that are incorporated with the Secretary of State to file an annual report. The form requires basic information along with a \$40.00 annual fee. The deadline for filing the report is the sixth month and fifteenth day following the end of the organization’s fiscal year; i.e., fiscal year-end of Dec. 31 would have a filing due date of June 15. Failure to file on a timely basis will result in delinquent status and loss of good standing with the Secretary of State and could eventually jeopardize your corporation’s certificate of incorporation.

You are now able to file your annual report online. Go to www.kssos.org, click on Business Filing Center on the left side of the page and click on File an Annual Report. Enter your business entity ID number and complete the questions on the screen. The online transaction charge is \$2.00; payment of the filing fee and transaction charge can be made with any major credit card or by electronic check. Filing is immediate, and the filed copy is available for you to print for your records.

If you are unsure of your organization’s filing due date, its current filing status or your business entity ID number, you can check it at the Secretary of State’s website www.kssos.org. Under Business Filing Center, click on Perform a Business Entity Search. Search for the organization by either business entity number or by name.

[Index](#)

Do You Need to File Form 5578?

Does your church operate a preschool? An elementary school? If you answered yes to either question, then you are required to submit Form 5578 to the IRS each year. Filing the certificate of racial nondiscrimination is one of the most commonly ignored federal reporting requirements. Churches that operate, supervise or control a private school (including a preschool) must submit Form 5578 each year with the IRS. Deadline for filing is the 15th day of the fifth month following the end of the organization’s fiscal year. This is May 15th for those who operate on a calendar year basis. You may obtain a Form 5578 by calling the IRS forms number (1-800-829-3676) or by downloading a copy from the IRS website at www.irs.gov.

[Index](#)

Administrative Assistant Position Open

The Kansas District LCMS has an opening for a part-time administrative assistant on the District staff. The ideal candidate will be a Christ-like servant leader who desires to utilize his/her God-given talents and creative energies to support the extension of God’s work through the Kansas District. This position will provide clerical support to the President’s Assistant for Missions and Stewardship. Applicants should have excellent computer skills and communication skills (written, verbal and interpersonal). Must be highly organized, reliable and able to work independently. Send resume to Debbie Crites, Business Manager, Kansas District LCMS, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka KS 66604 or by email to debbie@kslcms.org.

[Index](#)

LCEF

From LCEF Vice-President Jeff Maltz

Dear Kansas District Members,

LCEF empowers LCMS ministries with every dollar invested. And with nearly 60,000 investors, we've been able to make a difference for thousands of ministries. We provide customized loans and support services to new and growing ministries as well as loans for Rostered Church Workers who dedicate their lives to sharing the Gospel.

Our partnership is about more than money—it's an investment in the future of the LCMS and its ministries. Work with a financial partner who shares your values—without sacrificing great interest rates.

"A Christian loves his neighbor as his brother." [#MartinLuther](#)

Blessings,



Jeff Maltz
jeffrey.maltz@lcef.org
785-230-4112



[Index](#)

Church Improvement Program

The Church Improvement Program is a multi-staged process designed to help churches identify, assess and fund critical church repairs and upgrades. After you identify the critical need, we run an assessment and share a report on the work to be done. If you decide to make the repairs or upgrades, you and your District Vice-President (DVP) can explore the LCEF Church Improvement Loan. For more information and details please visit lcef.org/church-improvement.

Church Improvement Loans are limited to congregations and include:

- Maximum 10-year term
- Up to \$150,000
- 24 months at Cost of Funds (COF) adjusted annually
- LCEF COF plus up to 2.5% adjusted annually for remaining term
- Payments fully amortized over term

Church Improvement Loans can be used on:

- Critical repairs that can lead to substantial damage and cost if not fixed in a timely manner.
- Upgrades that enhance your church's appearance and comfort.
- Projects that improve energy efficiency and save money in the long term.



[Index](#)

Join the Y.I. Club with a Y.I. StewardAccount®

Often we struggle to find the most appropriate gift to show our love to family and friends. What about giving a gift that continues to give? Consider beginning a Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) investment for your **children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews**. The investment will grow along with them while providing funds for Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod churches, schools, universities, child care centers and other ministries to expand the Kingdom.

Join the Y.I. Club with a Y.I. StewardAccount®

With an investment of just \$25 to open the Y.I. StewardAccount, your young investor becomes a Y.I. Club member with special fun activities that grow with three different age levels.

Y.I. StewardAccount Features:

- Minimum of \$25 to open account
- Premium interest rate of 3.5% on balances up to \$1,000
- Savings grow with the child but are accessible
- Checks and debit card available to custodian
- Debit card available at age 16
- Interest compounded and paid monthly
- Make additional investments with checks or Y.I. stamps



For details, contact Jeff Maltz, District Vice-President, at 800-357-4421 ext. 118.

[Index](#)

New to LCEF - Earn 3% With ConnectPLUS Term Note

ConnectPLUS is for the new LCEF investor who wants to experience the over-and-above reward of supporting LCMS ministries—ultimately helping to expand the kingdom of God. Realize not only the financial benefits that LCEF offers, but start a new relationship with LCEF, the financial arm of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Features of ConnectPLUS:

- Open with a minimum of \$500
- Earn a fixed rate on the first \$5,000 (principal & interest) during the two-year term
- Balance above \$5,000 earns second-tier fixed rate
- Additional investments of \$25 or more allowed during the term
- Available to new* LCEF investors only; one account per investor
- At the end of the term, the funds remain yours to re-invest or redeem
- Interest compounded and paid quarterly (March, June, September, December)



For details, contact Jeff Maltz, District Vice President, at 800-357-4421 ext. 118.

[Index](#)

Around the District

2017 Kansas Classic Doxology Returns: June 26-29

Doxology Returns to Kansas! Kansas Gathering Conference

Dates: June 26-June 29, 2017

4:00 p.m. Monday start in Wichita

3:00 p.m. Thursday program closes

Place: Spiritual Life Center, Wichita, KS

Registration deadline is Sunday June 11, 2017

Fees and Grant Information: The registration fee covers ten days of instruction, materials, food and lodging for pastors, three days for one lay leader, and three days for the pastor's wife. Thanks to generous grants by the LCMS Office of National Mission and other funding partners, DOXOLOGY can offer each enrolling congregation a \$2,900 grant. The net result is that all expenses for sixteen days of instruction (pastors, lay leader and pastor's wife) costs only \$1800 (although the actual cost of this training is \$4,700 per congregation).

2017 series registration fee due: \$1800
(Cost to congregation: \$1700 + cost to pastor: \$100)

Congregation payments can be made in three installments spread over two fiscal years. If there are special financial considerations, please email HSenkbeil@doxology.us regarding eligibility for additional grant dollars.

Note: This is a professional advanced training seminar. It is essential that each man attend the entire conference to gain the full benefit of the training.

You can learn more about the classic, three-part program [HERE](#).
Spiritual Life Center information [HERE](#).

[Index](#)

Youth Concert Featuring Bread of Stone in Ottawa June 10

Faith Lutheran Church, Ottawa and Franklin County Young Life are pleased to present Living Out Loud, a youth concert featuring nationally renowned band Bread of Stone, along with Skylar Kaylyn and Some Assembly Required. The details:

- Date: June 10, 2017; doors open at 5 p.m.
- Place: Ottawa Memorial Auditorium, Ottawa, Kansas
- Tickets: \$10, available from [Ticketfly](#) or at the door. If your group is interested but has limited funds, contact Courtney Sands at 785-248-0207 about discounted tickets.

[Index](#)

Orphan Grain Train Dedication and Open House in Wichita June 25

Orphan Grain Train (OGT) is a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS that encourages and enables God's people to share personal and material resources with people in need. OGT is opening a new warehouse in Wichita at 911 W. Maple. Beginning June 21, the warehouse will be open every Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.. You are cordially invited to the DEDICATION AND OPEN HOUSE Sunday, June 25 at 2 p.m. If you would like additional information or to volunteer, please call 316-655-1854.

OGT has 26 regional warehouses across the United States that gather clothing and many other relief supplies. During the last fiscal year, over 88,000 volunteer hours were spent sorting and packing, making it possible for 90 shipping containers to go to destinations overseas and 58 semi loads to domestic locations. OGT serves 90 orphanages, three hospitals and seven prisons in Russia and former Soviet Republics.

[Index](#)

Ordination Anniversary Celebration for Rev. Edward Trost June 25

Bethany Lutheran Church of Johnson County, Kansas is pleased to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ordination of Rev. Edward William Trost. All are invited to join our congregation on Sunday, June 25 for 8:30 a.m. worship and a reception to follow. The celebration will be held at the Overland Park campus, located at 9101 Lamar Avenue.

Pastor Trost received his Master of Divinity degree from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis and was ordained on June 18, 1967 at his home congregation, Ashburn Lutheran Church, Chicago. He has served several congregations in Kansas, including Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Wamego; Holy Cross, Wichita; and Bethany Lutheran Church, Overland Park. He retired from full-time ministry on June 19, 2011 and has continued to serve Bethany as a visitation pastor.

During his years in the Kansas District, Pastor Trost served as a member of the District Youth Committee, Circuit Counselor, Chairman of the Circuit Counselors' Conference, member of the Board of Directors and First Vice-President. He and his wife, Barbara, have two daughters, two sons, and three grandchildren.

Ordination and Installation of Daniel G. Chrismer July 2

On Sunday, July 2, Daniel J. Chrismer will be ordained and installed as pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church, Pratt, Kansas, with Rev. Peter Lange, Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer, Rev. Scott Goltl and Rev. David Lewis officiating. The service will be held at 4 p.m. at the Pratt Area 4-H Center. All ordained ministers are welcome to join in the procession; red stoles requested. A dinner reception will follow at 6 p.m. Kindly RSVP meal reservations to bergnerqh@hotmail.com or to 620-770-2392 by June 26, 2017.

[Index](#)

Saints Alive After 55: July 16-18

The 2017 Saints Alive After 55 gathering will once again be held at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita July 16-18. This year's theme is "Saved by Grace," based on Ephesians 2:8. Rich Bimler, the keynote speaker, is the former President/CEO of Wheat Ridge Ministries; he currently serves part-time as the Ambassador of Health, Hope, and Aging! (AH-HA!) for Lutheran Life Communities in Arlington Heights, Illinois. Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer, Senior Pastor, Ascension, Wichita will lead Bible study. Small group sessions include Dr. Roland Mueller, "Luther's Family," and the film documentary "The First Rosa." Rev. Rick Hathaway, Trinity, Winfield, will conduct the closing worship service. If you have never attended before, join us this year. In addition to the excellent presenters, you will enjoy the peaceful setting, accommodations and fellowship. Check with your church office for registration forms or online at www.kslcms.org.

[Index](#)