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The VOICE

May 2019



Missouri District

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD



MO District LERT volunteers assisted residents affected by the EF3 tornado that touched down in Jefferson City on Wed., May 22.

pictured: Dr. Jean King and her daughter, Jocelyn



From the President's Desk: Better Together

St. Paul is the Christian Church's preeminent missionary. He traveled extensively throughout Asia Minor and Europe on his missionary journeys as he established congregations and set in place pastors to oversee the spiritual care of the flocks in the various cities. But, he also returned to many of the churches that he had established to encourage them in their work.

Additionally, he maintained an extensive correspondence with those congregations, but also congregations he had yet to visit. St. Paul never understood the Church exclusively as a congregation. He certainly addressed his letters to local congregations that he identified as churches. But he also understood that the individual congregations were part of something larger.

To the church at Corinth, St. Paul wrote, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." (12:4-7) However, the understanding of the varieties of gift or the common good should not be limited to a single congregation. A broader view of church than simply a single congregation would make possible many new opportunities for service to the same Lord and God and for a true common good. Jim Tomberlin and Warren Bird write in their book, *Better Together*, "Churches...are sensing that they could fulfill their God-given mission better together than separately, and they're exploring new ways to join forces for the advancement of God's kingdom."

We have examples of such shared ministry across Missouri. From association schools and LWML zones to circuit youth events and Mission Action Groups, there are positive collaborations where the variety of gifts from a number of congregations are shared for a common good and mission. But there are also examples of large churches and small churches sharing pastors, community outreach and new mission starts.

Two great legacies in the history of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are our unwavering commitment to the Word of God and our missionary zeal. Our shared commitment to the Word of God and mission allows us to look for ways in which we can serve better together than separately. My hope is that we would work to share our resources and gifts for the sake of the common good as we proclaim the Gospel in our congregations, schools and communities. Shared ministry and shared mission are the fruits of our shared confession of the faith. May the Lord strengthen us through His Word so that we may "maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3) that we might be better together!

Fraternally in Christ,

President Lee Hagan

PRESIDENT'S PRAYER LIST:

- Pray for our professional church workers to have a time of rest this summer.
- Pray for the upcoming LWML convention in Mobile in late June.
- Ask that God would bless all of the ways in which our congregations reach out in the summer, especially through Vacation Bible School.





Healthy Servants: Pastors, Please Take Your Vacation

As a pastor, you go where you're needed— counseling a couple on the brink of divorce, the side of a hospital bed or presiding over an unexpected funeral. But there's another place you're needed. And if you're being completely honest with yourself, you might be avoiding it. Pastors need to take vacations.

There's always a reason not to take a vacation. You may be planning around your children's schedules, in addition to the many duties of your ministry. The truth is there's no way to take time off without missing something. However, taking that vacation will help you be more effective in your ministry.

Here's why:

It's Something You Can Control

Taking control of your wellness can help you prevent and combat burnout and isolation. Much of life in ministry is outside your control, so by carving out time to rest, recharge and connect with your family, you can set yourself up for a healthier outlook for your career.

You're on Call 24/7

Sometimes you have to drop everything to deal with a crisis. It isn't always easy to cancel your plans or rearrange your entire schedule, but if it has to happen that's what you do. This constant availability can add another layer of stress to an already demanding job. The truth is that even going bowling can turn into work (depending on who you find in the other lanes). This means you need your vacation even more than other professionals.

It's a Chance to Add Clarity to Your Congregation's Policies

If your congregation doesn't have a clear vacation policy, that's not only a pastoral care issue, it's a Human Resources issue. A clear policy ensures that everyone knows what to expect and you can have your needs met. It affects all the other employees of the church, too. If you are not comfortable bringing up this issue, consider asking the Circuit Visitor to address the matter with congregational leaders.

Pastor Burnout Is More Common than You Might Think

According to a recent study by the LCMS, almost one third of church workers say that the constant busyness of their life has a negative impact on their relationship with God. Take time for yourself and help prevent burnout before it rears its ugly head in your daily life.

Your Family Deserves It

There's nothing like going on vacation with your family for bonding and making memories. The challenge of balancing the needs of your ministry career and the needs of your family isn't going to go away. If anything, it gets harder over time and the habits you cultivate tend to stay with you over the years. So, if regular vacations are not a part of how you live your life, it is going to feel infinitely harder to start going.

The good news is that most people will applaud you for going on vacation. Many pastors feel guilty for finally announcing their plans to go on vacation only to hear, "Good! You need it. Make sure you turn your phone off."

If you're concerned about the church workers in your congregation, consider setting up a Congregational Church Worker Wellness Team. This approach helps all the church workers ensure their needs are met.

mo.lcms.org/congregational-worker-wellness-teams/

District Begins Search Process for Church Worker and Congregational Health Position

Rev. Gene Wyssmann will retire from the Missouri District staff at the end of 2019. A search process has begun to fill his role as Assistant to the President for Church Worker and Congregational Health. Nominations (including self-nominations) are open until August 1, 2019. Nominees must be rostered members of the Synod with at least five years of parish ministry experience and willingness to travel extensively within Missouri.

Desired competencies include training in Christian reconciliation and understanding of issues related to church worker health. The position reports directly to the district president.

Please contact Michelle Christ (michelle.christ@mo.lcms.org) for further information, a nomination form and the full position description.

Healthy Congregations: Three Simple Things You Can Do to Activate Your Volunteer Base



by Rev. Bill Geis

Summer is a unique time for most congregations. While many members are checking out of their routines and going on vacation, seasonal ministries are also ramping up. As many congregations get ready to kick off mission trips, vacation Bible school (VBS) and service projects, they'll also be seeking more volunteers. Here are the three most important things your volunteers need:

Volunteers Need to Know What to Do

This sounds pretty obvious, right? And yet, it's surprisingly easy to be vague with your call for volunteers. Really concentrate on communicating your needs. That will make the opportunity resonate with the right people. Someone who is wildly creative may not be satisfied serving on the altar guild. A shy person may not want to be a greeter.

Once you've matched the volunteers with the best roles for them, spell out exactly what you want them to do. When everyone feels successful, they'll want to come back and they're more likely to tell their friends they had a positive experience, which will encourage more people to sign up.

Volunteers Need to Be Equipped with Knowledge and Materials

When someone volunteers at their church, this is one of many other obligations they have in their life. The more smoothly this work integrates with their family, school, or work schedules, the more they will get out of the experience and they more freely they can give of themselves.

Here are a few simple ways to equip volunteers:

- If possible, host an orientation so everyone can get on the same page. This also means all the volunteers will get to know each other before rolling their sleeves up, which can lead to camaraderie.
- Make sure they have the chance to ask any questions before they start their project.
- Conduct a thorough inventory of any materials, books or technology, at least a few days before they start.

Volunteers Need to Know their Exit Strategy

People like to know exactly what they're committing to. Look at the following two examples of calls for volunteers. Which one do you think is more effective?

- We need some volunteers to teach Sunday School in our third-grade classroom.
- or
- We need four volunteers to teach Sunday School in our third-grade classroom. It takes two hours each Sunday. The task involves setting up the classroom with the materials we provide 15 minutes before the start of class, teaching, and 10 minutes of clean up after. We need people who are able to commit to the next four months.

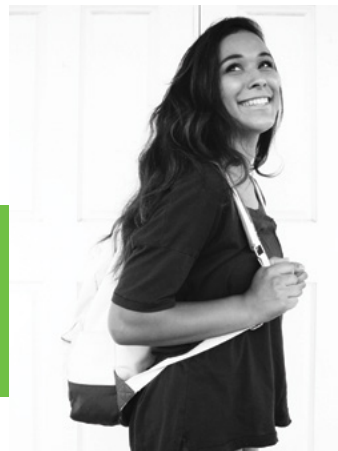
The first one is too vague. It's not clear if they're being asked to come up with lesson plans or if you still expect them to be teaching Sunday School four years from now.

Do you want to learn more about inspiring and empowering your volunteers? Contact Rev. Bill Geis to learn more at (314) 590-6205.



Healthy Schools

To see the full gallery of senior responses, go to:
mo.lcms.org/2019-senior-profiles/



There are so many ways to answer the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

Many students have grown up in the educational ministries of the Missouri District, where they learned not only where they want to go, but what kind of life they want to lead on the way to their dreams.

These are some of the young leaders graduating this Spring.

What Do You Want to Be?



As a kid, I wanted to be a coach.

And thanks to my Lutheran education, I'm someone who can share my faith freely with all people.

—Dobrivoj Andrejic
St. Paul Lutheran High School



As a kid, I wanted to be a veterinarian.

And thanks to my Lutheran education, I am someone who wants to show love to everyone, because everyone has worth and value.

—Rebekah Buchholz
Lutheran High School St. Charles



As a kid, I wanted to be an FBI agent.

And thanks to my Lutheran education, I have gained the qualities of empathy and compassion from a Lutheran education, which help me to be more receptive to the needs of others.

—Caroline Johnson
Lutheran High School St. Charles



As a kid, I wanted to be a human resources manager.

And thanks to my Lutheran education, I hope to honor God in every step of the way and be a leader.

—Ruth Keako
St. Paul Lutheran High School



As a kid, I wanted to be a special education teacher.

And thanks to my Lutheran education, I have confidence, selflessness, courage, faithfulness, self-control to try to live the best life I can that serves God and others.

—Lynda Bennett
St. Paul Lutheran High School



Congratulations to the graduating class of 2019!!!

Please pray for all the MO District graduates from:

- Calvary Lutheran High School, Jefferson City
- Lutheran High School North, St. Louis
- Lutheran High School South, St. Louis
- Lutheran High School of St. Charles County
- Lutheran High School of Kansas City
- Saxony Lutheran High School, Jackson
- Saint Paul Lutheran High School, Concordia
- St. Paul Lutheran High School, Farmington
- Our Savior Academy, Platte City



The Power of Active Alumni for Lutheran Schools

With graduations happening across the world right now, many people are thinking about what the students will become— what majors they'll pick, what activities they'll choose, and eventually what jobs will kick-off their futures. However, they're also going to become alumni. Engaged alumni are a phenomenal resource for the educational ministries of the Missouri District.



When Tami and Tim Behnke won a pig roast with four other couples at an auction for Green Park Elementary, they weren't necessarily looking for a project. However, it occurred to them how easily they could use this as an opportunity to continue to support the school that meant so much to them.

After seeing how easy it was to host a successful fundraiser, they decided to do it again. They held MaiFest, described as "OktoberFest in May."

It was a simple set up; people paid to attend and received a meal, drinks and enjoyed live music. The crowd reflected the legacy of the school's impact as well as its current educational ministries.

Terri and her husband, Bill, also enrolled their children in Green Park. Terri has many fond memories of coaching her daughter's volley ball team. She says, "I think it's so important to keep that Lutheran education continuing, it's just so formative. That's why I worked outside the home, there's just no better use for that money."

It wasn't difficult to get donations from the community. Much of the food and drinks were discounted or donated. If you're interested in supporting a Lutheran school in your community, Behnke has this advice: "Don't be afraid. It all fell together for us and it was easy to get deals [for our event.]"

Engaged alumni are a phenomenal asset to the many educational ministries across the Missouri District.

If you don't have an active alumni association, there's no reason to wait. Contact Alan Freeman to learn more at (314) 590-6209.

"[The children] carry bibles in their backpacks like it's a math book."
—Tami Behnke



District-Supported Missions

Neighborhood Partnerships Help St. Louis Congregation Build Relationships

Ten years ago, things were very different at St. Trinity Lutheran Church. With about 35 members, it had come down to a vote of whether to close the congregation. The vote tied. Fast forward a decade, and you'll find a vibrant congregation of approximately 70 members always looking for ways to be more present in their neighborhood.



Rev. Dave Lewis points out that you never know what you're going to see on Sunday morning. Some days you'll find a family getting their four kids baptized, while other community children attend the church without their parents or guardians, because people feel like it's a safe place for their kids.

Around the time the congregation almost closed, the Missouri District leadership was recognizing the opportunities of working in urban areas, like the pocket of southern St. Louis city that surrounds St. Trinity. There were a few people who were infusing real energy into keeping the congregation going. Seven years ago, Rev. Lewis was approached about moving to St. Trinity from his church plant in Mississippi. Rather than a church plant, the work at St. Trinity was branded a "church re-launch."

The defining word for St. Trinity is "welcoming."

People often comment on how welcome they feel, which is necessary for a congregation serving such a diverse group of people. Their food pantry serves approximately 60 to 70 local families, which draws people to the worship community both directly and indirectly.

They also partner heavily with the neighborhood association, supporting events with cars at the Trunk or Treat, family-focused booths at street festivals and candy or egg stuffing for the Easter egg hunt. When it comes to building local relationships, Rev. Lewis says, "It doesn't have to be at our place. We look at what's going on in the community, and we provide the Jesus place or the family place for these kinds of events."

Working closely with the neighborhood association also ensures St. Trinity doesn't duplicate their efforts or put on competing events. Urban ministry comes with a lot of challenges. "This is hard work," he says. "There are not a lot of resources." It simply makes sense to augment the good work already happening in the congregation's foot print.

Ultimately, though, he says there's a simple truth when it comes to community outreach. "Engaging communities means engaging people...We love our neighborhood and we're always asking how we can help make it a better place to live."

St. Trinity is one of many organizations that receives financial support from the Missouri District. District mission funds are supporting the leadership development of the lay leaders of St. Trinity, to help them capitalize on the momentum of their current ministry and form concrete plans for future engagement.

Engaging Communities

How One Congregation Uses Technology to Build Relationships with Military Families No Matter Where they Are

When Rev. John Perling first traveled to Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in St. Robert, MO, he was working on his Ph.D. at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

He was not seeking a Call at the congregation. However, as he continued to preach there as part of the seminary's Pulpit Supply, he built relationships and soon took the role of vacancy pastor.

In 2016, the church called him formally. Located in the shadow of Fort Leonard Wood, the congregation has a clear draw to military families and military-connected people. In fact, when the congregation was founded in the 1950s, the growing importance of the nearby military base was a key part of the strategy.

Now, Fort Leonard Wood houses people at many levels of the military. From basic training to officer training, it also houses a school that accepts children whose parents are in all branches of the military. There are also military police, chemical engineers, chemical readiness specialists and advanced infantry.

At his ordination, Rev. Perling and President Hagan discussed the vision for the Plus One process, a movement to encourage congregations to find a way take one new step into their communities. The congregation agreed to pilot Plus One. On May 20 (Armed Forces Day), 2017, the congregation hosted an Armed Forces Ministry Summit, with visitors from the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces team came to attend.

As the summit unfolded, they discussed many ideas about how to become more present to the local military community. The idea that emerged with the most potential was to work with the chaplaincy office on base. They reached out to the Director of Religious Education, a position that's structured a little bit like a DCE for the army base.

The Director of Religious Education at the time had need for an adult education class. Because it was also the 500th anniversary of the reformation, they wanted someone to teach a Wednesday night class about the reformation. Rev. Perling taught the class, covering Luther, Calvin and the English reformation.



Since then, Rev. Perling has taught several other courses on base, strengthening existing relationships. This compliments the many other activities the congregation organizes for the military community, such as hosting a Thanksgiving dinner for the many service members only receiving 12 hours of leave to enjoy their holiday. Approximately 40 to 50 first and second lieutenants showed up for that dinner.

In addition to adult education, the congregation used a Plus One grant to upgrade software that helps them keep in touch with people after they move away from the area. All their relationships start face-to-face, and Rev. Perling usually has a sense pretty quickly if the faces in his congregation will be around for just a short while (like basic training) or if they might be there awhile (like an engineer).

However, there's a lot of value in continuing the relationship even after people get assigned to live somewhere else, no matter how long they were involved with Faith. With their new software, they're able to keep track of where people are going next, and whether or not an LCMS congregation serves the area.

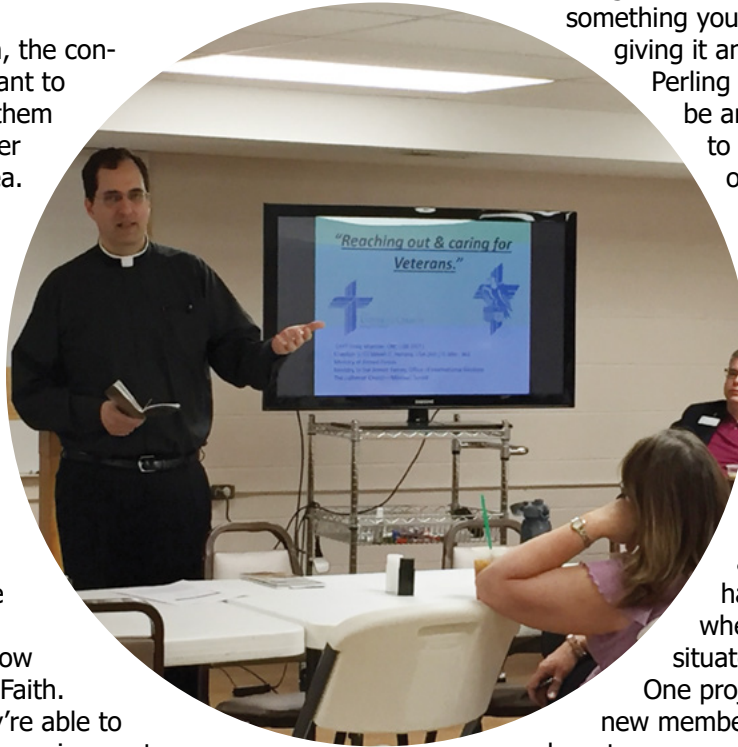
They're also working on getting electronic resources available to people assigned to areas without an LCMS presence. This includes electronic bible studies and the ability to live stream and record church services, with appropriate lighting.

If you're on the fence about participating in Plus One, Rev. Perling recommends looking at it as "Taking something you're already doing well and giving it an evangelism nudge." Rev.

Perling thinks Plus One projects can be an opportunity for members to try new things. He points out, "Everyone assumes the accountant who spends 50-60 hours a week crunching numbers can't wait to be the church treasurer. What if his dream is to be a chef? It's a great chance to let people be creative."

Additionally, Rev. Perling suspects most congregations focus really hard on attracting new members, but have room for improvement when it comes to getting them situated within the church. A Plus One project is a great way to disciple new members and engage them for the long-term.

For more information about Plus One, contact Rev. Bill Geis at (314) 590-6205.



To learn how you can support congregations like Faith Lutheran Church in their military outreach, contact Leah Sieveking at (314) 590-6211 or leah.sieveking@mo.lcms.org.

Mission Advancement Snapshot

Light of Christ Chinese Mission will be added to the district mission grant recipient list for the fiscal year starting in July! This outpost of Immanuel, Olivette, serves the growing Chinese population in the St. Louis area—now numbering 50,000 adults and children. Sunday worship is conducted in Mandarin and led by Pastor Edmund Lim. Thank you for walking with this congregation through your prayers and gifts!

Lutheran Early Response Teams (LERT) Assistant Jefferson City Residents

Lutheran Early Response Teams (LERT) are LCMS volunteers around the country, trained to respond in the wake of natural disasters, such as flooding, earthquakes and tornadoes.

Kent Kunkel, a member of the MO LERT team, helped organize volunteers in the immediate aftermath of the tornado. Kunkel has seen many people recovering from a traumatic experience. He says, "They're a little shocked and kind of have this feeling of wondering what's next and wondering what to do. It's a neat thing when we show up and just getting their yard cleaned up, you can see them have that peace come about them. They're reassured everything is going to be okay."



Dr. Jean King (widow of Rev. Dr. Robert King, former Vice-President of the Synod) and her daughter Jocelyn can attest to Kunkel's observations. During the night of the storm, the Kings were startled when the typical music of their wind chimes escalated, booming like clashing cymbals. Still, they had no reason to suspect the catastrophic damage to the property's trees.

Because their house is situated at the bottom of a hill, the tornado "jumped" over their house, damaging the roof, but inflicted far less destruction than the block up the hill, where residents found their furniture in the street. However, the tornado wreaked havoc on the property by uprooting and snapping the trees and tossing the pieces across the property. Half a large maple tree landed on their roof.

Unsure what her insurance company would cover, Jocelyn called her Thrivent representative to learn what her options were. The call ended with a suggestion that she reach out to the Missouri District Disaster Response Team, a ministry neither Jocelyn nor her mother had ever heard of.

Soon after their call, Jean sat on her front porch, engrossed in the sounds of three chain saws, a sound she describes as "glorious." After a few hours, the debris from the yard had been cleared out and piled on the curb. The stack of cut limbs and trunks towered almost eight feet tall and spread into her neighbor's yard (with their permission). The team was not able to remove the tree from the roof, because that would have taken specialized equipment.

However, seeing Lutheran volunteers tackle the seemingly insurmountable task of cleaning up their yard was incredibly uplifting. Jean says, "We have a ways to go but we're very grateful. Sometimes when the burden is lifted like that, you can see more clearly where to go." Jocelyn adds, "And you feel encouraged."



"Like God's Grace, it's Free!"

Throughout his work in Jefferson City over the weekend, many grateful residents offered them money. They couldn't believe someone was providing these valuable services for free. Kunkel's response was, "Like God's grace, it's free!" The work on the Kings' yard would have likely cost thousands of dollars. They feel confident in this estimate, because they received several unsolicited quotes from tree removal companies, with business cards still stuck to their front door after the clean-up.

Jean says, "God is so merciful when he answers when you haven't even asked yet. He had this planned as soon as the tornado struck."



A New Pastor's Close and Personal Encounter with the Jefferson City Tornado

Rev. Samuel Powell of Trinity Lutheran Church, knew there could be tornadoes the evening of Wednesday, May 22, 2019. Although it was the eighth anniversary of a devastating tornado in Joplin, most people in the community were more concerned about flooding. As a chaplain for the fire department, he had dedicated a new fire station earlier that afternoon.

That night, when he and his family went to bed, they knew they might need to move to the basement if the tornado sirens went off. Sure, enough, late that night, they heard the sirens and they went to the basement to monitor the weather on the iPad.

Looking at the radar, it became clear that they were not in the direct path of the storm. However, Jesse Schlie, their newly called pastor from Fort Wayne Seminary was staying a hotel with his wife and newborn on a pre-installation visit to the congregation. And that was in the path of the storm. So, he sent a text message, to see how it was going.

Sure enough, the hotel had been hit. Thankfully, Schlie and his family were uninjured. As a chaplain, Rev. Powell had access to the emergency channels and knew the hotel had sustained significant damage. And though it took three times longer to get there due to unpassable roads, Rev. Powell got to the hotel and took the new pastor and his family to his house for the night. He wanted to get back off the roads as soon as possible, to make room for emergency responders.

At the hotel, there was a semi-truck that had been thrown from the highway into the parking lot, narrowly missing hitting the structure. The Schlie family has safely returned to Indiana, while the Jefferson City community focuses on rebuilding.



Missions 10:02 Prayer

The severe weather threatening lives and communities with wind and water across our state is a call to prayer with "Hands Open." As we monitor our devices for weather alerts and news, let this be a time that calls us to prayer with "hands open." I'm not talking merely about the way you fold your hands, but how we pray together for the hands and hearts of our churches to be open to the needs of our communities. St. Paul instructs the church in mission, "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." (Romans 12:12-13).

While the crisis is before us now, whether trained or not, this is a call for "all hands!" It is a call for each church community to ask the Lord, "how I am sent to engage my community in a way that brings the joyful hope of the Gospel?" "How can simple acts of hospitality help my neighbor in need as a disciple of Jesus?"

Pray with your hands open—in the storm and beyond! Pray for our churches as they engage their communities. Pray for Jesus to show you how he will use your church and your hands to share with His people who are in need.

MO District Hosting Disaster Response Training Sessions

LERT certifies volunteers to FEMA standards, and makes them eligible for access to federal disaster sites. Across Missouri, these trained volunteers are ready to step in when the unthinkable happens. The district's goal is to have teams in every pocket of Missouri, so LERT volunteers can serve locally, without the need for travel or extensive lodging.

These 6 to 8 hour trainings are \$35 and include lunch and a LERT vest. These courses will cover:

1. An introduction to the LCMS Disaster Response program
2. Congregation preparedness
3. Lutheran Early Response Teams

Anyone can attend the training session but only LCMS members who are 18 years or older, however, receive certification as LCMS volunteers.

To sign up for anyone of these LERT training classes go to <https://www.lcms.org/form/lert-volunteer-info> You will need to insert the four digit code number on the form corresponding to the class that you would like to attend. You will also be asked to upload a photo of yourself which will put on your badge.

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. August 24
Redeemer in Springfield (Code # 0018)

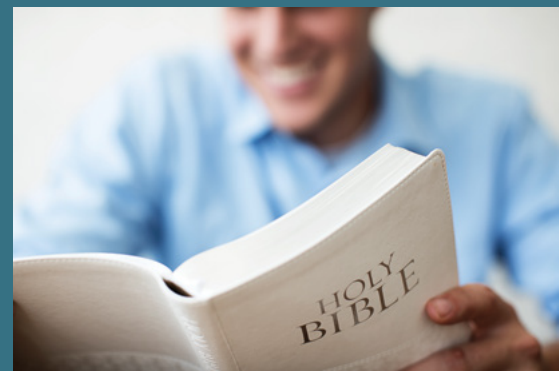
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. August 24
Trinity in Cape Girardeau (Code#0020)

Fall (dates TBD)
Heits Point - (Code# 0019)
Includes optional chain saw certification and first aid, to sign up for these, end your name, address, phone number, location of LERT training and which class you are signing up for by email to pastorschultz@att.net.



Missouri District Publishes Theological Essays for Pastors

Read 5 different essays from district leaders:
Go to mo.lcms.org/essays/



Partner News

Church Partners with LCEF and MO District to Teach Stewardship

Rev. Samuel Powell, of Trinity Lutheran Church in Jefferson City, doesn't think most pastors are overjoyed at the idea of starting a stewardship campaign. However, last year everyone agreed it was the right time.

Rev. Powell reached out to Casey Carlson of the LCEF and Gene Wyssmann of the Missouri District to use Consecrated Stewards, a stewardship ministry service. Rev. Powell found he could customize the approach to the specific needs and people at Trinity, while enjoying guidance from Rev. Wyssmann.

Using Storytelling to Connect People with their Congregation

The leadership at Trinity decided to focus on storytelling, using worship services to highlight a weekly theme.

Week 1

Caring for people, included stories about their involvement in a variety of ministries

Week 2

Education, with people discussing the many activities that focus on teaching and families

Week 3

First Responders, people described their efforts to bring meals to first responders

Week 4

"Bridal Care," referred to the church as the bride of Christ, with people talking about how individuals cared for church grounds, saving tens of thousands of dollars

Approaching the Topic of Giving in the Context of People-Focused Ministry

Each week, the leadership also requested that individual re-examine their giving. "There's no hiding from the fact that stewardship is also about money," Rev. Powell says.

However, the response was overwhelmingly positive. Rev. Powell recalls, people would say, "I didn't know that was happening," or "I've seen that person [around church], but I didn't know who she was."

A Holistic and Scripture-Based Look at Stewardship

Consecrated Stewards might be a good fit for your congregation if you're looking for something that is:

- Rooted in scripture and based on biblical principles
- Is easy to implement and organize
- Provides a trained Guest Leader to keep the process on track, maintain the biblical focus and avoid expensive shortcuts

If stewardship is not your favorite part of being in ministry, Rev. Powell says, "I'm with you. But you can't assume people know what stewardship is."

He once met with a couple who wanted to give, but they didn't know what was appropriate. They didn't know how much they were "supposed" to give of the time, talent or treasure. To not address stewardship in the midst of such generosity would have been a missed opportunity, for the congregation, and for this family.

To learn more about how you can get started with biblical stewardship training, contact Casey Carlson at (314) 590-6207 and ask about Consecrated Stewards.



Missouri District 2019 Calls

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne



Steven Braun
The Board for International Mission – St. Louis, MO

Jesse Schlie
Trinity Lutheran Church – Jefferson City, MO

Joseph Schlie
Immanuel Lutheran Church – Perryville, MO

William Smith, Jr.
Faith Lutheran Church – Warsaw, MO

Carl Wendorff
Faith Lutheran Church – Warsaw, MO

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis



James Bartok
Faith Lutheran Church – Springfield, MO

Jeremiah Gensch
Child of God Lutheran Church – St. Peters, MO

Andrew Lehenbauer
St. Paul Lutheran Church – Concordia, MO

Alan Mueller
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Immanuel Lutheran Church – Sweet Springs, MO

Cory Stallings
The Exchange Communities Lutheran Church – Jackson, MO

Laura Jostes, Deaconess
Village Lutheran Church – Ladue, MO

Calling Congregations and Personnel Changes Now Available Online!

Go to mo.lcms.org/personnel/ to see information about calling congregations and personnel changes (both ordained and commissioned ministers of religion).