

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN

September 2008—Number 198

EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN AMERICA



CENTRAL STATES SYNOD

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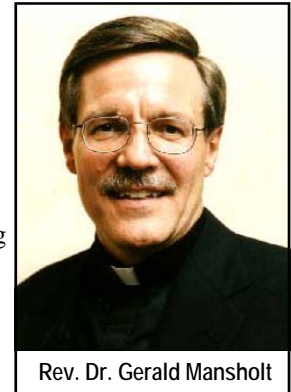
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+Insert Lutheran Planned Giving

From the Bishop

At the June synod assembly we voted to become a Book of Faith synod, thereby committing ourselves, along with brothers and sisters throughout this Church, to be ever more intentional in living in the Word of God. What I appreciated about this year's synod assembly, above everything else, was our being in the Word. We didn't simply pass a resolution and move on to another piece of business. Each and every segment of the assembly agenda began in prayer and Bible study. We talked with one another about what the Word said to us and we prayed. It gave me some agenda anxiety as time for resolutions quickly slipped away. But there was no doubt the Holy Spirit was at work. People were engaged and participating in prayerful conversation with one another. The Holy Spirit built us up and encouraged us in our life together as we dwelt in the Word and got our bearings straight.



Rev. Dr. Gerald Mansholt

I've thought about some commitments made over the summer related to Book of Faith:

In worship recently I was among those who reaffirmed my baptism as water was sprinkled upon the congregants. One of the specific things I promised was to hear the Word of God and to proclaim the Good News of God in Christ through word and deed.

A few weeks ago I also witnessed a baptism of a baby and heard the parents and sponsors promise to place the holy scriptures in the hands of this child and nurture this little one in faith and prayer.

Lastly, it was my joy to preside at six ordinations this summer, all of them now serving one of our congregations. Each of these pastors promised to be diligent in his or her study of the Holy Scripture and in the use of the means of grace.

One of the missional directions of this synod is to ignite the spiritual renewal of our congregations. I cannot conceive of spiritual renewal without our living more deeply in God's living Word, the life of Jesus, the center of the witness of Holy Scripture. People in the pews of our churches need encouragement to read scripture and know the foundations of the faith. And as leaders we need to work together to find ways to teach the faith and help our people grow in Christ-like living.

Too often I fear the study of the Bible has been a head exercise in which we tried to understand the Bible, or used scripture to bolster support for some theological tenet we hold. But the Book of Faith initiative is meant to help us all dwell in the Word, to let the Word work on us. Dwelling in the Word means the Word will critique our lives, heal our sinful selves, and empower us for bold living as peo-

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book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

(Continued from page 1)

ple who walk in the way of Jesus. Dwelling in the Word, we will be empowered to live as people *Changed by Love, Sent in Love, to Serve.*

I encourage every congregation to become part of the Book of Faith initiative and explore ways to deepen the congregation's immersion in the Word. Pastors and other leaders are invited to be part of on line communities sharing ideas for congregational renewal. Let us share ideas for how we can help one another in building up our congregations to be spiritually renewed and dwelling more richly in the Word. Or as Paul says to Colossians: *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God (Col 3:16).*

We hold in prayer ...



Deborah Rupprecht (synod leader/spouse of Pr. Peter Rupprecht, Intentional Interim -- perderkr@mail.cadvantage.com), who had knee replacement surgery August 22;

Pr. Don Rothweiler (Our Savior, Camdenton MO -- donrothweiler@yahoo.com), who was recently diagnosed with a tumor on his left kidney, which most likely is cancerous. Surgery is scheduled for September 24 in Osage Beach;

Ruth Pera (rdpera@hotmail.com - spouse of Pr. Steve Pera, formerly at Messiah, Lindsborg) following the fourth surgery on her inner ear;

Maynard Hansen's (Retired -- danehans@sbcglobal.net) daughter, Jane, who had surgery in Seattle Sept. 2;

Carol Rahn, spouse of Pr. Tim Rahn (gtrahn@hotmail.com), who has been diagnosed with cancer. Please remember both of them as Carol begins treatment;

All who have been affected by Hurricane Gustav. We pray for strength, endurance and patience during the clean-up and rebuilding process;

For Fountain of Hope Lutheran Fellowship as they complete the process of closing the congregation after over 20 years serving in the Kansas City MO urban core;

Lord, in your mercy ...

Amy Truhe (PMA serving Scherer Memorial, Chapman KS -- dtruhe@cox.net) and family at the death of her uncle. Amy had been a significant caregiver over the past couple years. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Amy and the family;

The family, friends and all in the Southeast Michigan Synod following the death of Bishop John Schreiber, who died suddenly from a massive heart attack. Bishop Schreiber was in his late 40s and had only been in office for 2-3 years. Please keep John's family and the synod staff in your hearts and prayers during this difficult time;

Mindy Tillberg (AIM, Immanuel, Salina KS -- mindy@immanuelalina.org) and family as they cope with two unexpected deaths in the family: Mindy's mother, Sandy Buster, was killed in a car accident on Monday, August 18; and Tuesday, August 19 Mindy's mother-in-law, Doris Tillberg, died suddenly from diabetes related heart failure. Both services were held at Immanuel, Salina. Our hearts go out to the family as they mourn the loss of loved ones so unexpectedly, and pray that God will provide courage and strength in the days ahead;

Rest eternal grant them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them ...

(PRAYERS continued on page 11)

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Making Christ Known

A publication of the Central States Synod

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AUBREY STREIT, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Rain doesn't dampen enthusiasm of volunteers at Bethany

LINDSBORG, Kan.—Twelve volunteers worked around – and sometimes in – showers and rainstorms to brighten the campus of Bethany College, as part of the college's third annual painting blitz.

The group of Bethany alumni and friends totaled 86 hours of work from August 7 through 10. They painted the exterior of Chi Rho House, 413 N. Second, which houses Bethany's Campus Ministry program and the office of Campus Pastor Noni Strand.


"This summer's painting blitz was a huge success," said Molly Johnson, director of alumni development. "We didn't have a large group, but the quality of those who did volunteer was like none other. Rain or shine, they were there to prime!"

Chi Rho was power washed, primed and painted white. The "fish-scale" trim of the house, along with the sign in front, was painted pale blue and yellow. In addition, the car port area was washed and scraped, and repairs were made to posts.

"The students will be so thrilled to see the beautiful new paint job at Chi Rho! I can't thank our volunteers enough for all they do for Bethany – on this project and in so many ways," said Campus Pastor Noni Strand.

Butch Gibson, friend of the college, led this year's project. The Bethany College Alumni Office provided supplies and meals, and Bethany Auxiliary donated several dozen cookies for the volunteers.

Previously, volunteers have painted the interiors of Warner Hall and Gregory Hall on campus. A fourth annual



book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Vision Statement for Book of Faith Initiative:

That the whole church become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered, and sent by the Word.

Watch for more information to be provided throughout the year. Visit www.elca.org/bookoffaith or contact Dave Mareske, Synod Advocate for the Book of Faith Initiative at holliscenter@kc.rr.com.

painting blitz is being planned for next summer.

Bethany College welcomes volunteer help and expertise throughout the year. To learn more, contact Molly Johnson at 785-227-3380, ext. 8286 or johnsonm@bethanylb.edu.

New logo and mascot will represent Bethany

Bethany is proud to introduce redesigned imagery for its logo and athletic mascot, completed as part of a recent branding project. The images are now beginning to be used on campus.



Through the image of a dove in flight, the logo represents Bethany's core values and characteristics: a personal, caring, and spiritual learning environment in which all students can soar to success.

The logo was designed by Bethany College in conjunction with Carnegie

Communications. It was inspired in part by the college's previous logo, designed by alumnus Cotton Smith, which also featured a dove.

In turn, "The dove in flight inspires us to create a shared future that has Bethany soaring to new heights," said Bethany College President Edward F. Leonard III. The logo will serve as Bethany's identifying sign.



Through the historical image of a Swede, the Bethany College Swedes mascot represents Bethany's unique heritage, tradition of excellence in athletics, and active teams and student-athletes that soar to victory.

The mascot was designed by Jim Ward Design, St. Louis, Mo.

The mascot will serve as a consistent symbol to identify Bethany's athletic identity and teams. Over the past decades, various symbols have been used

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NEW! Stewardship Course

Money Leadership: Your Life with Money

A course for continuing education and personal growth

Orientation week Sept. 15, 2008

Course Sessions: Sept. 22 –Oct. 31, 2008

This interactive study was developed to help pastors and other congregational leaders increase their confidence in money leadership. The course is designed to encourage greater freedom to talk about the relationship between money and faith and to examine and, perhaps, change behaviors.

To register for the class visit www.selectlearning.org and click on “New Products”

‘We are the Body: What Full Communion Might Mean’

BY PR. KEITH HOLSTE, LST ADMINISTRATOR

The Lutheran School of Theology, St. Louis, will sponsor a workshop Sept. 25 which involves three denominations, Episcopal Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the United Methodist Church, in a dialogue pertaining to Holy Communion. The workshop anticipates the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly decision about entering into full communion with the United Methodist Church.

The event, *We are the Body: What Full Communion Might Mean*, will be presented at Kirkwood United Methodist, Kirkwood, Mo. The central topic of conversation is the Methodist document, “This Holy Mystery.” The major presentation is by the Rev. Dr. Bart Hildreth, scholar, district superintendent, and ecumenical officer of the Missouri Conference UMC. Episcopal and Lutheran responses will be by Rev. Dr. Lydia Speller and Rev. Dr. Michael Hoy respectively. Reverends Roy Moore, Emery Washington, and David Bennett will be participating in the program. The 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. day will culminate with the celebration of the Eucharist. Information and registration online at www.lststl.org or by mail to Lutheran School of Theology, 6325 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63117.

Praying for one another ...

Please include these in your congregational prayer petitions.

SEPT. 7: **Atonement**, Overland Park KS; **Holy Cross**, Overland Park KS; **Overland Park Lutheran**, Overland Park KS; **St. Paul**, Peabody KS

SEPT. 14: **St. John**, Pittsburg KS; **St. John**, Pocahtontas MO; **St. Andrew**, Poplar Bluff MO; **Faith**, Prairie Village KS

SEPT. 21: **First**, Rock Port MO; **Hope**, Rolla MO; **St. John**, Russell KS; **United Emmanuel** (Milberger), Russell KS

SEPT. 28: **Trinity**, Russellville MO; **Our Savior**, Salem MO; **St. John**, Salina KS; **Redeemer**, Salina KS

LST provides Bible course

BY PR. KEITH HOLSTE

Heralding the ELCA new “Book of Faith” initiative, Lutheran School of Theology of St. Louis announces a fall course, “The Bible Says It: Does that Settle It?”

The four session course will be taught by the Rev. Dr. Edward Schroeder at Trinity Lutheran Church, Chesterfield.

The classes will examine the ways Lutherans read and interpret the Bible including five key Lutheran principles of interpretation. Four ways to read the Bible will be explored. Practical tools to read the Bible with greater understanding and confidence will be given.

The underlying text for the course is the new book published by Augsburg Fortress as a companion to the anticipated Book of Faith entitled Opening the Book of Faith.

The classes begin at 7 p.m. on the four Thursdays of October 2, 9, 16, and 23. Cost is \$45. For information or registration visit www.lststl.org or mail Lutheran School of Theology, 6325 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63117.



5th Annual Sunday Scientist Symposium

Food & Faith: Making the Connection

exploring the relationships among science, food, and spirituality

Faith Lutheran Church, Clive, Iowa
October 31 - November 2, 2008

[http://archive.elca.org/
faithandscience/
sundayscientist](http://archive.elca.org/faithandscience/sundayscientist)

Heifer International Matching Grant Funding Complete

Each year staff from Heifer International choose one domestic and one international project to promote and support through the Festival of Sharing. This year the international project selected is the East Africa Dairy Development (EADD) project, a \$2.5 million matching grant fund. However staff from Heifer International announced on July 8th that funding for the match is complete.

Gifts toward the grant greatly exceeded the expectations of Heifer staff. It was predicted that funding would not be complete until January, 2009. Cash gifts designated for the EADD project will still go to that project site but will no longer be matched.

The EADD project, spread across Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya will bring life-giving changes to the farmers in these countries by improving their diet and by providing a means of earning income. Gifts to this project will increase the number and improve the quality of dairy herds and will provide funding for micro loans to local farmers for milk processing plants and more. The matching grant promoted through the Festival was part of the \$42.8 million gift from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Contributions to the domestic Heifer project located in Holmes County, Mississippi are also still needed. Donations of heifers or the cash to purchase them will help farmers in this impoverished part of our country by providing diversity in their farm products and by creating high quality marketable and locally grown farm products. Our gifts will help these families move from lives of poverty to lives of self-sufficiency.

For further information, please see the Festival of Sharing booklet or contact Carol Oliver at oliver@umocm.com or at 573-474-7155. Please call the office before September 10th if you have a heifer to donate or are donating cash for the purchase of a heifer.

Educational Opportunities at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Explore sustainability at the Spirit at LSTC's 2nd Annual Women's Day Event on Saturday, September 27 at 1100 East 55th Street, Chicago. "Fertile Ground: Women, Spirit, and Sustainability," is the theme of the event for women, men, and youth. Registration is \$25 and includes lunch. For more information, see <http://www.lstc.edu/events/womensday/08/index.html> or contact Ruth Ann Deppe at 773-256-0712 or rdeppe@lstc.edu.

Six stewardship workshops offered during fall 2008 and spring 2009 at LSTC — The Tithing and Stewardship Foundation at LSTC workshops are designed for both seminarians and congregation members and leaders. Topics include "Preaching Stewardship" on September 13, "Stewardship and Social Justice" on October 18, "Biblical Foundations of Stewardship" on November 15, "Effective Congregational Stewardship" on February 21, 2009, "Stewardship and Wellness" on March 21, 2009, and the annual LSTC/Metropolitan Chicago Synod Stewardship Event in April 2009. For more details and registration information, visit <http://www.lstc.edu/connections/tithing/index.html> or contact Cathy Kelly at 773-256-0679 or tithing@lstc.edu.

Tour to the Holy Land makes the Bible come alive — January 6 -18, 2009, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago Professors Barbara Rossing (New Testament) and Esther Menn (Old Testament) will lead a study-tour in the Holy Land exploring ancient sites and current struggles. These experienced teachers and travelers will make the Bible come alive as you journey places holy to Christians, Muslims, and Jews. For a detailed brochure see http://www.lstc.edu/lifelong_learn/travel/09holyland.pdf. Cost for the tour is \$3299 and includes round trip airfare from Chicago, all accommodations, breakfast and dinner each day, and all ground transportation. An optional three-day extension to Mount Nebo and Petra is \$495. Places for this popular tour are limited; reservations should be made as soon as possible. Email the leaders at brassing@lstc.edu and emenn@lstc.edu or the travel company at groups@gttd.org.

2008 Kansas All-Hazards Behavioral Health Symposium

Friday, October 24, 2008

The Bicentennial Center, Salina, Kansas

The Symposium is divided into six main tracks: Preparedness, Response & Recovery, Individual Response, Special Populations, Disaster & Emergency Management and Special Trainings Track. Selection of a specific track is not required. However, pre-registration into courses is required for scheduling purposes.

Sponsors: Kansas Department of Health & Environment, Center for Public Health Preparedness in cooperation with Adjutant General's Department of the State of Kansas; Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services; Kansas State University, School of Family Studies and Human Services; The University of Kansas Medical Center Area Health Education Centers

Additional information will come to congregations in the near future. Questions? Call KUMC AHEC East, 620.235.4040.

Area Ministry Visits 2008-09

Visits for 2008 and 2009 are being scheduled differently this year. Congregational leaders, PMAs and Rostered leaders will be invited either to a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon gathering; over-night retreats are being scheduled for Rostered and PMAs, that may group more than one Area Ministry, depending on the location. The follow is a tentative schedule — some areas are still confirming dates and times.

Area Ministry 7 — Saturday, October 18

Faith Lutheran, Prairie Village KS
9 a.m.-noon. Lunch provided.

Area Ministry 6 — Sunday, October 19

First Lutheran, Topeka KS
3-6 p.m. Dinner provided.

Area Ministry 9 — Saturday, November 22

Our Savior Lutheran, Jefferson City MO
9 a.m.-noon. Lunch provided.

Area Ministry 10 — Sunday, November 23

Unity Lutheran, Bel-Nor MO
3-6 p.m. Dinner provided.

Area Ministry 5 — Saturday, January 24 2009 [tentative]

Lord of Life Lutheran, Wichita KS
9 a.m.-noon. Lunch provided.

Area Ministry 8 — Sunday, January 25 [tentative]

Prince of Peace, Springfield MO
3-6 p.m. Dinner provided.

Area Ministry 2 — Saturday, January 31

Bethlehem Lutheran, WaKeeney KS
9 a.m.-noon. Lunch provided.

Area Ministry 1 — Sunday, February 1

Emmanuel Lutheran, Goodland KS
2-5 p.m. (CSS time). Dinner provided.

Area Ministry 3 & 4 — February dates/locations TBD.

Tentative Rostered/PMA Leader Retreats

November 17-18 – St. Louis area (Mercy Center)
December 1-2 – Kansas City area (Heartland Presbyterian Center)
January 26-27 – Jefferson City area (Rickman Center)
February 2-3 – Western/Central Kansas (Cathedral on the Plains)
February 9-10 – Southern/Central Kansas (Spiritual Life Center)

Additional information and schedule information will be provided as available.

Time with God ...

A MONTHLY DEVOTION FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN BY REV. MIKE BROWN

"FOUNDATIONS"

Read 1 Peter 2:6

We recently had a room addition built to our house. The contractor worked very hard to be sure that the right materials were used to construct the new room and did his best to oversee the work to be sure it was done right. Now that the work is finally over, we are very happy with our room addition. It took skills that neither my wife Kathy nor I had to do the job. Making the house a little bigger makes our living in our home a little easier.

Thinking about our new room addition, I wonder just how big is your home church? Is it a large building or a small one? Does your church have lots of special programs for people of all ages or is most of your church's activities centered around Sunday mornings? Does your congregation have one pastor or several? Do you have a big Sunday School? Maybe your church is made of stone, or brick, or even wood. Perhaps your church is located in a big city, a small town or, like where we live, in the countryside. As you can probably guess by now, your church's size really doesn't matter; what does matter is how it is made. In home construction, we call that "foundation work" and that's making sure that everything is done right from the ground up! When it comes to churches, it's something else! Jesus once said, "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone, chosen and precious and whoever believes in me shall not be put to shame."

Every church congregation, regardless of size has the same cornerstone as its foundation! Can you guess what that foundation is? That's right, Jesus Christ, the Son of God! Everything we do as Christians depends on that one cornerstone. Jesus also gives us all kinds of other good building material to help us and all of that material depends on the same cornerstone. Perhaps you can think of some? Parents? Pastors?

Sunday School teachers, friends, church camp programs, and youth groups are just some of the building material for a church. So are other people praying for you, wor-

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ELCA Youth Gathering

MINDY TILLBERG, CENTRAL STATES
SYNOD COORDINATOR

www.elca.org/gathering

New Orleans and Hurricane Gustav update (09/02/08)

We have been monitoring closely the conditions in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast as a result of Hurricane Gustav moving through the area. The impact of Hurricane Gustav has not diminished or changed the ability and commitment of the city of New Orleans and the ELCA to safely host the 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering. [Registration](#) for the Gathering will open, as planned, on September 15, 12:01am central time.

Gathering E-News -

Register now! Visit <http://archive.elca.org/youth/gathering.html> and look in the purple bar on the left-hand side. The third issue came out August 21 but you can view the archive for previous issues.

DON'T FORGET - Registration opens September 15 at 12:01am (Central Time).

If you have any questions, please contact me at mindy@immanuelsalina.org

(Continued from page 6)

ship services where we learn each Sunday to pray to God and care for each other. There are all kinds of building materials for a church congregation and each congregation has need of special material important for their church family. However every church, whether large or small, has the same cornerstone: Jesus Christ and that makes our foundation sure! Have a wonderful day!

Rev. Mike Brown is a retired ELCA pastor living with his wife Kathy in the Central States Synod.

Join in Prayer

The North Carolina Council of Churches is promoting and inviting participation in the International Day of Prayer for Peace on September 21, 2008. Please join Christians all over the world, and people of other faiths, in praying for peace that day or evening. As you think about your community and our world, there are many places in need of reconciliation and healing from violence, and God calls us to be instruments for that in our actions and in our prayers. For bulletin inserts and other resource materials, visit the North Carolina Council of Churches web site: www.nccouncilofchurches.org or the World Council of Churches site at www.oikoumene.org.

Visit the Mission Investment Fund's new web site

BY SHELLY PETERSEN, MIF
AREA REPRESENTATIVE

The Mission Investment Fund has a new Web site and address: www.elca.org/mif. Visitors to the new site will find a convenient new feature and several changes in the fund's investment products.



First, to the new feature: PDF files for investment and loan applications may now be completed online. A visitor to the site can open a PDF and begin typing information in the data fields. When finished, simply print the application, sign and date the form. The completed document can then be mailed to Mission Investment Fund with a check (for an investment) or the required supporting documentation (for a ministry loan). Adobe Acrobat is required to enter information in the applications. Data cannot be saved.

Visitors to the new site will also find that a number of changes have been made in the investment products offered by the fund. Among the investments are:

- A new MissionTermSelect fixed-rate investment with a one-year term is now being offered.
- MissionTermSelect term investments may also be held as Traditional, Roth or SEP Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) or Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (CESA). As always, MissionTermSelects may be held as term investments.
- MissionFirst investments may now be held in three ways, all of which have no stated term to maturity. The options are as a:
 - Savings investment plan
 - IRA/CESA adjustable-rate investment, and
 - Health Savings Account.

All of the fund's products earn interest for you as they are used by the fund to make loans to build the church.

For more information about the fund's new Web site or investment and loan products offered by the fund, please contact area representative Shelly Petersen at 402-916-9174 or shellymif@cox.net.

2008 Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM) events and activities

LMM's Vision *for every man to have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ through an effective men's ministry in every congregation.*

LMM has had an exciting month with several activities. Those activities include:

Coming of Age 2008 Lutheran Men's Gathering in Omaha –The LMM, Coming of Age Gathering featured several exciting speakers that talked about men's faith, ministries and relationships spanning generations and how to effectively make men's ministries effective in our churches. About 600 men attended the Gathering Aug. 1-3 at the Hilton Hotel and Qwest Center. The event theme, "Coming of Age," focused on LMM's 20th anniversary, its new relationship with the ELCA and its emphasis on the spirituality of men ages 18-34.

The speakers addressed the need for men's involvement in the church and how to maximize the impact of that involvement and leading men to Christ. The speakers included: Rev. Arnold R. "Ernie" Hinojosa, Rev. Richard Hardel, Rev. Paul G. Hill, Rev. David W. Anderson, Rev. Lawrence J. Clark, and Tom Osborne. In addition there was inspirational music by Peter Mayer and the band Dakota Road. There was a strong emphasis in the Gathering of bringing young men to Christ and back to church, deepening the spirituality of men and mentoring other men, including several workshops on ways to accomplish these subjects. The emphasis on young men was reflected by many grandfather/ father and sons attending the Gathering.

There was also a celebration as LMM announced the success in surpassing their goal of the \$1.5 million dollar "Building for the Future" endowment fund. For more information on the Gathering please go to the ELCA website at <http://archive.elca.org/news/video.html>.

LMM Assembly – The LMM Assembly was held the two days prior to the Gathering with the election of officers for the next three years and considerable work was done planning the future of LMM. The planning work included approval of the three year plan for LMM which includes a strong emphasis on: developing leaders in men's ministry, which is the top priority as we move forward; equipping men for men's ministry; and providing resources and leadership to enable men's ministry throughout the church. Because LMM has a relatively small staff we will continue and increase our partnering with others in the church. For more information on the Assembly please go to the ELCA website at <http://archive.elca.org/news/video.html>.

Men's Retreats – We have had moving responses from men who have attended the 'One Year To Live' retreats in the past eighteen months and that continued with the retreat in the Omaha area at Carol Joy Holling Retreat Center, which was held Wednesday, July 30 - Friday, August 1. The next scheduled retreat will be held in the Denver, CO, area September 18-21. This retreat continues a new and compelling men's ministry in our congregations and we hope that you will consider selecting men in your congregations to attend. The retreats are followed with resources to continue to help the men grow in their faith. Please let me know if you and/or your congregation are interested in attending a retreat and holding one in the future. Please contact Norm Smith at normanlsmith@earthlink.net or 913-706-0291.

Other LMM Activities

LMM is currently assessing direction in developing training for leaders in men's ministry and developing men's ministry specialists within synods. For LMM to be successful in carrying out our vision it is mandatory that we have leaders who have a high level of spirituality and leadership capabilities in our synods and congregations. If you are interested in being a men's ministry leader please contact Norm Smith at normanlsmith@earthlink.net or 913-706-0291.

Can you help?

BY KATHY KOEHN, LDR VOLUNTEER
COORDINATOR

Volunteers are needed NOW!

Skilled volunteers are preferred but anyone can come. We do have an age limit of 16 and above — some exceptions are honored. We are supplying volunteers for Mennonite Housing. Volunteer numbers are really down and we are getting a little worried. Repeat volunteers are needed also.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Call my cell at 620-388-3760 or office phone at 620-723-3339 or e-mail ldrgreen@live.com. Thanks for your help. God Bless.

(Continued from page 3)

to represent the Swede mascot.

Feedback and participation from students, staff, faculty, coaches, alumni and friends was solicited during the design processes for both the logo and the mascot.

The new creative images are only one part of Bethany's comprehensive image study and brand-identity project, which the college began work on in 2006. As it is implemented, the branding project will strengthen both the college's communications and actions, helping Bethany provide all audiences with a positive, clear and consistent image of Bethany, and an understanding of how Bethany is different from other schools.

To learn more, visit www.bethanylb.edu/branding.

To request files of the logo and mascot for publication, please contact Aubrey Streit at 785-227-3380, ext. 8274. Simplified versions of the mascot, including the Swede image alone and the wordmark alone, are available.

Bethany College, established by Swedish Lutheran immigrants in 1881, is a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The mission of Bethany College is to nurture and challenge individuals in their search for truth and meaning as they lead lives of faith, learning and service. Bethany College is on the Web at www.bethanylb.edu.

People of Faith Gathering to Explore

Children in Poverty

SPONSORED BY: KANSAS ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES

October 25, 2008

St. Paul's United Methodist
1356 Broadway, Wichita Kansas
10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (registration at 9:30)
Cost: \$20 for 1st person—\$15 for any additional registrations

Program will feature Dr. Pamela Couture, St. Paul's Seminary, Kansas City. Her latest book is Child Poverty: Love, Justice, & Social Responsibility. Recently, the Seminary wrote: "Pamela Couture has been a passionate, informed, and insightful advocate for placing children and poverty at the top of our ministry agenda. In this book she shows us the alarming condition of children around the world which is so often invisible even to the church, and the myriad and complex circumstances that create those conditions. Yet this is a most hopeful book, both recounting the many creative and effective ministries that are occurring, and, even more deeply, directing us to faith in a God who has particular concerns for the most vulnerable among us." The book will be available for purchase at the Gathering.

Lunch will include a presentation and dialogue with a representative from SRS, and will be followed by three workshops:

1. After School "Church" — a program that is more than just custodial care
2. Community Health Program — meeting the health needs of those living in your community
3. Children in Crisis — helping children cope with the many losses they face

More information and a downloadable flyer is available at www.css-elca.org/workshops.html

Central States Women's news

BY IRIS TURNBULL, PRESIDENT



I must begin with congratulations to Mr. Norm Smith, newly elected president of the Lutheran Men in Mission! That is exciting news for our synod! I extend congratulations coupled with prayers of support on behalf of the Central States Women of the ELCA!

July was the month for conventions for the Central States Women of the ELCA! Between the Triennial Convention in Salt Lake City and our Synodical Convention in Springfield, Mo., we were kept on the run! News from the Triennial convention is extensive! On the Central States Synod website www.css-elca.org on the Women of the ELCA page, you will find a complete report by Triennial coordinator, Debbie Selland and delegate, Jan Malpert, and by clicking on the Women of the ELCA churchwide website at the top of that page, you can get to wonderful photos and insights of the Triennial via the Triennial Times newsletter.

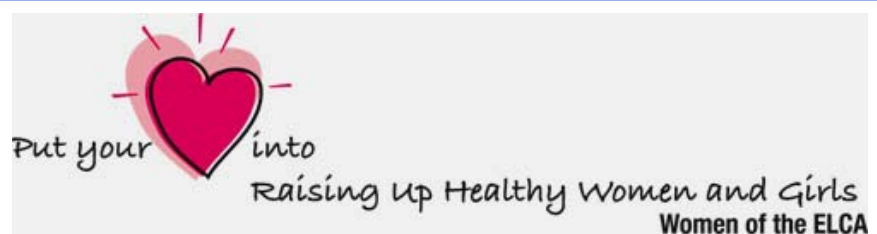
Information overload is affecting many of us! So, I will just be hitting the highlights of the synodical convention.

The group of Baptized, Blessed, Believers that gathered in Springfield were AWESOME! Featured speakers were Bishop Gerald Mansholt, who charged our women to be "Changed by Love, Sent by Love, to Serve" and Denise Smith, church wide W of the ELCA representative, who commended our synodical organization for sharing through our offerings and in-kind gifts, especially stressing Thankofferings. We were blessed to have pianist, Joe Alan, entertain us on Saturday evening. Dollars were raised for Ozark Food Harvest, \$1,175; Women and children's health initiative, \$750; the Barbara Nelson Scholarship Fund, \$1,180; and there was a wonderful ingathering of in-kind gifts for Isabelle's House!

Resolutions included encouragement of our members to participate in the Good Deed Foundation and the Women's Funding Network used cell phone drive (for more information go to www.GoodDeedFoundation.org/recycle) and promotion of individual partnerships within W of the ELCA - this is a way for women who have no local congregational unit, no easy access to a congregational unit or no strong affiliation to a congregation to take part in Women of the ELCA (call 800-638-3522, ext. 2730 for more information).

Carolyn Bauer, Sedalia, Mo., is our newly elected secretary and Lois Viebrock, Cole Camp, Mo. is now a board member. Re-elected were vice-president, Carla Standley, Hazelwood, Mo. and board member, Kathy Oullette, Washington, Kan. Leaving the board was Mary Tinkler, Raymore, Mo., who has most recently served as liaison to the cluster coordinators.

B.J. Smart, Cluster Coordinator of God's Sonflowers, issued an invitation to the Central States Women of the ELCA, to come to the "Little Apple," Manhattan, Kan., July 24-26, 2009 for our 22nd annual convention!



Around the synod . . .

Looking for college students ...

If your congregation has college students attending Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly UMR/MSM) in Rolla, Mo. this fall, please send their names, addresses, phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses to Hope Lutheran, P.O. Box 1737. Rolla, MO 65702 or e-mail wschluemer@socket.net.

Hope Lutheran Church holds worship services at 10 a.m. every Sunday at #12250 Private Drive 2045 (on US 63N where the 4 lane ends, about 1.8 miles north of I-44 exit 186 in Rolla). Our Campus ministry (called Common Call Campus Ministry) now includes Christ Episcopal Church and First Presbyterian Church. They plan to feed the students on the fourth Sunday of every month. The students will plan the rest of their program.

Care for Returning Veterans

A Workshop Presented by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — Supported by Grants from Thrivent

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me . . ." Matthew 25:35

For pastors, caregivers, and any who desire to help create a welcoming and caring place for those who return from war and their families.

Compare and contrast military and civilian cultures: How does your community perceive the military?; What might be impediments in your community to interaction with military personnel and/or their families.

Identification of impacts on the returning veteran: Psychological impacts; Moral impacts; Spiritual impacts; Family impacts; Resources for care.

Sept. 24 — First Lutheran Church, Manhattan, Kan.
Sept. 26 — Trinity Lutheran Church, Chesterfield, Mo.

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lunch provided.

Please register no later than one week before the event. For information and registration contact Terry Viscardo, 202-822-6414 or email elca-chap@aol.com

Coming up at Hollis Renewal Center Mark your calendar!

Fall Celebration, Oct. 19 5 to 8 p.m.

Annual fund-raiser for Hollis featuring: live music, live auction, homemade pies, chili cook off and concluding with Holden Evening Prayer. We are looking for chili cookers, donations to the live auction and pie bakers for a selection of home-made pies for guests to enjoy. Contact us if you can help.

Hollis Hike-A-Thon, TBD

Hollis Golf Benefit, Friday, October 10.

For more information call Hollis at 913.441.0451 or visit www.holliscenter.org.

FREE for the taking

The Bethel Lutheran Church music department (in University City) has about two dozen navy blue, adult size choir robes to give away. Please contact the church office at 314-863-3112 to coordinate pick up if interested. Thanks!

The BRIDGE of NEW TOWN
invites you to

Crossover



7 pm • Sunday Sept. 21st • The Amphitheater of New Town
One mile north of I-370 on Elm/New Town Blvd.

A Free Evening Of Music & Praise

Hosted by
The Bridge • Wired Coffee
St. Thomas/Holy Spirit
Lutheran Church

Smoothies from Wired Coffee
Music from the Crossover Band

Proceeds benefit
Malawi Project Peanut Butter

Prevention to Recovery — Recovery to Prevention Conference

September is National Recovery Month. During this month, communities across the country join together to help people realize that substance abuse disorders are treatable diseases. If you are interested in learning more about prevention of and treatment for substance abuse, join us at the **Prevention to Recovery — Recovery to Prevention Conference Sept. 25-27, 2008**, in Salina. As part of Recovery Month, this conference will encourage faith-based organizations, civic leaders, treatment and prevention organizations, and the recovery community to address the continued need for treatment, discuss barriers that prevent people from seeking help, and ensure access to local treatment facilities. The conference will begin at 1 p.m. on Thurs., Sept. 25 and run until 12:15 Sat., Sept. 27. For more information contact Susan Liening, Kansas Family Partnership, at 800-206-7231 or sliening@kansasfamily.com

(Continued from page 2)

Pr. Ted Mosher, who was ordained at Advent Lutheran Church, Olathe KS on August 16. Ted has received a call and will be serving Good Shepherd, Lawrence KS, starting in September;

Pr. Shelly Klingensmith, who was installed August 17 at Emmanuel Lutheran, Stuttgart KS;

Pr. Maureen Howard, who was installed at Christ Lutheran, Eureka KS on August 17;

**For God's good and amazing grace,
we lift our prayers of thanksgiving ...**

To receive prayers throughout the month by email and/or be added to the prayer list, please email Dan Glamann at dglamann@css-

The *Parishes in the Call Process* column will be back when Rev. Kibler returns from sabbatical.

SYNOD CALENDAR

September

- 1 Office Closed — Labor Day
- 3-4 PMC Cluster Meeting — St. Thomas/Holy Spirit, STL
- 5-6 PMC Cluster Meeting — Hollis/Savior Pastoral Center, KC
- 11 Youth Directors' Meeting — Bethany College, Lindsborg
- 12 Mission Endowment — HTC*
- 12-13 Outreach Team — HTC*
- 15 Synod Staff Retreat — Hollis
- 17-18 Re-Connect Youth Leaders, Holy Cross, Overland Park
- 26-27 Campus Ministry Team — Lawrence KS

October

- 10-11 Synod Council Meeting — KCMO
- 13 Synod Staff Retreat — Hollis
- 18 Area Ministry 7 Visit — Faith, Prairie Village KS
- 19 Area Ministry 6 Visit — First, Topeka KS
- 28-30 Bishop's Convocation — Osage Beach MO

* Harold Thomas Center — Synod Office

Upcoming Metro Lutheran Ministry (MLM) Events

BY SUZANNE BARTLING, DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH MINISTRY

Hollis/MLM Golf Benefit—Friday, Oct. 10, lunch at noon, 1 p.m. start *Fun, contests and Prizes!*



CROP Walk—Sunday, Oct. 12, 2 p.m. start, Jacob Loose Park, 51st & Wornall, Kansas City, Mo., *Help CROP Walk stop hunger. Many local beneficiaries including Metro Lutheran Ministry.*

MLM Power of Each One Event—Saturday, Nov. 1, 5:30 p.m. at Starlight Theatre *Featuring the KC Girls and Boys Choirs*

MLM Christmas Store—Ingathering Dec. 6 & 7, Setup Dec. 8 & 9, Christmas Store Dec. 10-13 at Immanuel Lutheran Church (1700 Westport Rd, KCMO) *Making Christmas a little brighter for 1,000 needy families in Christ's name*

DO YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THESE EVENTS? PLEASE CONTACT SUZANNE BARTLING, SuzanneBartling@mlmkc.org

Metro Lutheran Ministry, 3031 Holmes, Kansas City, MO 64109
816-931-0027 — www.mlmkc.org

Bishop's Convocation
October 28-30, 2008
Inn at Grand Glaize, Osage Beach, Mo.

For more information visit:
<http://css-elca.org/convo08.html>

Lutheran Planned Giving

Arkansas-Oklahoma & Central States Synod

September 2008

Estate Planning with Life Insurance

Sara was an only child and, early in her life, realized she would be responsible for her parents' care as they aged. Recently, the last parent died and, not only did she need to settle that estate, she also needed to update her own estate plan. Sara had several large life insurance policies with her parents designated as the primary beneficiaries. Now that both parents were deceased, the original reason for having the life insurance no longer applied.

Sara has been a life-long active member of the local Lutheran congregation and is a consistent supporter of it and other ministry organizations. Is there a way for her to use her life insurance policies for her charitable desires? Yes!

Here are several ways Sara could use life insurance assets:

- **Change the beneficiary:** Complete a change of beneficiary form, name the ministry/ministries of her choice - no cost, process simple, maintain ownership.
- **Transfer ownership of her policy to the ELCA or ministry organization:** Irrevocable transfer (held until her death, then used for the ministry organizations she named), receive charitable income tax deduction for making this a gift - if premium due policy, would make gifts to ELCA/organization to support

premium payment and receive income tax deduction; or if enough cash value, there would not be a need for additional gifts. This could also be to fund an individual memorial endowment fund with the ELCA Foundation that would distribute income in perpetuity to named ministries.

Lutheran Planned Giving urges you to review and update your life insurance beneficiaries when life events occur. There are other ways to plan a deferred gift to ministry and charity using life insurance that may better meet your circumstances. To learn more contact

Lutheran Planned Giving Joyce "JP" Palmer

Director/ELCA Regional Gift Planner

3210 Michigan Ave., Suite 407

Kansas City MO 64109-2055

Phone: 816-861-6584 or Toll-free: 866-915-3548

Cell: 816-204-5181

E-mail: jcpalmer49@aol.com

ELCA Lutheran Planned Giving is a service to ELCA congregations and individuals to help them plan for themselves, loved ones and the work of the Lord, by providing education and consultation in the area of stewardship of accumulated assets.

All services are available without cost or obligation.

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