



Central States Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.

February 2011

Number 209

From the Bishop



Rev. Dr. Gerald Mansholt

Juan and his father came to the United States when he was seven. The bright young boy quickly learned English and excelled in school. By the time he was in high school, he was on the honor roll in his western Kansas town and active in community and church organizations. And then his father broke the news: while he had become a Lawful Permanent Resident two years earlier, through Juan's uncle, who is a U.S. citizen, Juan was undocumented. And, now, he was devastated. His father explained that, as a Lawful Permanent Resident, his attorney had said that it would be at least a few more years before his son would get legal status. He promised to apply for citizenship as soon as he

could, to expedite the process, but he warned that if Juan turned 21 before his citizenship was approved, he'd have to go to the back of the line. Juan's dreams of majoring in accounting at Kansas State University, dreams encouraged by his mentor, a president of a local bank, were destroyed.

The story of Juan was sent to me by a person who works closely with immigration issues, encouraging me to write a letter to Kansas legislators where a movement is underfoot to repeal a 2004 law, passed with bipartisan support, that grants instate tuition to children of undocumented immigrants.

I plan to write the letter and continue advocating at both the state and national level for laws that address the plight of immigrants in this country. As the story of Juan illustrates the immigration system of this country needs major reform, including a path to citizenship for the 12 million or so undocumented persons living in this country. Without comprehensive immigration reform at the national level, immigration issues move to the state level.

I was deeply disappointed when the DREAM Act was blocked in December from coming to a vote. The DREAM Act would have provided a path to citizenship for children of undocumented workers, at least for those who served two years in the military or completed two years of college and have displayed good moral character.

Why do and I others raise the voice of the Church in these matters? We do so because of Christ who bids us to love the neighbor, even welcome the stranger. In this season of Epiphany we are hearing the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-8) every Sunday. Here Jesus calls us to walk as his disciples, to join in the sorrows of the world and work as peacemakers in building a more just world for all, to be a sign of God's Kingdom here and now. We are called to be salt of the earth and light for the world. These are more than lofty spiritual thoughts that have little relation to the struggles of daily life. Jesus calls us to walk with Juan, with people of poverty, with people who have little power or privilege in this world.

We do so because of Jesus, Savior of the world and Friend of Sinners, whose mercy welcomes us all to the Kingdom of God.

CENTRAL STATES SYNOD, ELCA
21 N. 12th St., Suite 210
Kansas City, KS 66102
Voice: 913-948-9701
Toll-free: 866-915-3548
Fax: 913-948-9707
www.css-elca.org



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In the Synod Office ...

Bishop

The Rev. Dr. Gerald Mansholt
gmansholt@css-elca.org

Bishop's Associates

Rev. Len Dale
ldale@css-elca.org

Rev. Dr. Janice Kibler
jkibler@css-elca.org

Rev. John Kreidler
jkreidler@css-elca.org

Assistants to the Bishop

Mr. Dan Glamann
dglamann@css-elca.org

Rev. Cynthia Schnaath
cschnaath@css-elca.org

Support Staff

Ms. Erin Morrison
emorrison@css-elca.org

Ms. Sandy Van Tuyl
svantuyl@css-elca.org

Deployed Staff

Ms. Joyce "JP" Palmer
Director Lutheran Planned
Giving
816-204-5181
jcpalmer49@aol.com

Ms. Paula Kitt
Mission Investment Fund,
ELCA
913-486-4801

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provided by CIGNA. Go to www.cignabehavioral.com for more information.

Making Christ Known

A publication of the Central States Synod

Published monthly by the Central States Synod, ELCA. Deadline for submission of materials is the 15th of the month for the subsequent issue. News may be directed to Dan Glamann, Email: dglamann@css-elca.org.

Permission is granted to ELCA congregations and members to reproduce any portion of this newsletter.



Pr. Juel Pierce (Chaplain, Heartland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph MO spiritjourney@stjoelive.com) and her mother, Eunice Neve, as Eunice continues recovery from open heart surgery in December;

Pr. Heidi Happel (disability, Salina KS, pastor-heidi@sbcglobal.net) as she deals with the multiple sclerosis that recently came out of remission;

All those who were affected by the New Year's Eve tornadoes at Ft. Leonard Wood and Sunset Hill, Mo.

Diaconal Minister Shirley Talbot (sbtalbot@gmail.com) who suffered a retinal detachment in December and now has had two surgeries;

Retired Pastor David Rossbach (prdc@rossbachs.com) who encountered heart and blood pressure issues just before Christmas and flown to a Denver hospital. Pastor Rossbach, who serves St. John's, Bird City, has returned home and has undergone further tests;

Pr. Jim Wagner (Immanuel, Wilson KS, djwag@wtciweb.com) as he continues to recuperate after suffering a heart attack and receiving a stent during January;

Pr. John Lundin (Hope, St. Charles MO, pastorjohn@hopelutheranelca.org) following back surgery in January;

Peggy Schaefer (PMA from Trinity in Chesterfield MO, pbschaefer@sbcglobal.net) and her family as her father is in the end stages of leukemia;

Mindy Tillberg, Associate in Ministry (Immanuel, Salina KS mindy@immanuelosalina.org) after suffering a mild heart attack mid-January;

Pr. Daniel Chong (Lutheran Asian Ministry in St. Louis, daniel-chong_p@hotmail.com) and his family as Daniel following a recent stroke;

Lord, in your mercy ...

Pr. Ethan Feistner (Falun and Salemsborg, Smolan KS, salemsborg@hometelco.net) at the death of his mother, Loretta, in Superior NE. Services were held on Dec. 11;

PMA Gary Wahlers (gkwahlers@windstream.net) at the death of his father, Elvan, Dec. 13;

Kris Luber (krisluber@prodigy.net) at the death of her father, Elmer G. Schleif, 91, on Christmas Eve. Kris and husband Pastor Elwyn Luber (elwynluber@prodigy.net) joined other family members in Milwaukie for the funeral.

Pr. Bill and Ann Say (intentional interim currently at Prince of Peace in Springfield MO, wmbsey@gmail.com) at the death of Ann's brother, Doug Philips, in California;

(PRAYERS continued on page 11)



BY MS JILL HEGGEN, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Messiah tickets on sale

Tickets for Bethany College's annual performances of Handel's "Messiah" and Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" went on sale January 3. The 130th Messiah Festival of the Arts will be April 17-24 with performances of "Messiah" on Palm and Easter Sundays, April 17 and 24, at 3 p.m. and "St. Matthew Passion" presented on Good Friday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets to the "Messiah" performances are \$20, \$14 and \$9; tickets to "St. Matthew Passion" are \$12, \$9 and \$5. Special rates are available for students, seniors, churches and tour groups. Music, art or theatre students are invited to attend the oratorio performances free of charge. Immediate family members may attend for \$5.

To purchase or reserve tickets, call Bethany's Messiah Manager at (785) 227-3380, ext. 8137, or e-mail bunningb@bethanylb.edu. Tickets may also be purchased in person at Presser Hall Box Office on Bethany's campus, open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For a full listing of special events and exhibits during the 130th Messiah Festival of the Arts, visit www.bethanylb.edu/messiah.

Campus pastor awarded for service to students

Noni Strand is this year's recipient of the Greg and Beth Pierce Award. The announcement was made at the President's Reception on December 1.

The award, formerly known as the Service to Students Award, honors a Bethany employee who has made exceptional contributions to the lives of students over the years. Established by two Bethany employees in 2001, the honor was founded to identify and reward outstanding efforts in serving students.

Strand is currently in her 20th year as campus pastor at Bethany College. As a spiritual leader on campus, she organizes peer ministry, various campus ministry groups and chapel services. She has also been active in the formation of the Green Team leading sustainability efforts and chairs the Pearson Professor of Swedish Studies committee. Strand also teaches a section of Bethany Seminar for first-year students. President Ed Leonard said of Strand, "As our cam-

pus spiritual mentor, she has guided many students in many ways. Her calm and kindness demonstrate her incalculable service to our students."

The award was created by donors Greg and Beth Pierce, former Lindsborg residents and employees of the college, to recognize a Bethany employee who has made a positive impact on

students' lives. Greg Pierce was associate professor of criminal justice. Beth Pierce was advancement administrative assistant.



Bethany College President, Dr. Ed Leonard, Pr. Noni and Virgil Strand.

Changed by Love, Sent in Love to Serve Shaping the Church for God's Mission

The Central States Synod Mission Fund Appeal

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (continued)

Q: HOW WILL MY GIFT STRENGTHEN MY LOCAL CONGREGATION?

A: Gifts will benefit local congregations by enhancing support for existing ministries and creating NEW ministries and programs:

- ▶ Support for theological training. Average debt for first call pastors is \$40,000 from seminary. We want to decrease this load through scholarships and debt reduction.
- ▶ Worship workshops and resources. Providing different and expanded options.
- ▶ Education and training for enhancing stewardship (e.g., Nathan Dungan's *Share, Spend, Save* events). New ways of looking at personal and congregational stewardship.
- ▶ Integrate faith and daily life. Retreats, workshops, and more resources for individuals and congregations.
- ▶ Advanced education and training. Provided by life-long learning centers and theological education for emerging ministries. Create distance learning technology and training.
- ▶ Parish Ministry Associate Program (PMA). Support training for lay leaders.
- ▶ Partnership for Missional Church (PMC). Growth and renewal for existing congregations through this program which has already reached 10% of the Central States congregations.
- ▶ Interim pastors, and pastoral internships. Support in transitional times.
- ▶ Leadership development for youth and adults. New young adult exchanges, youth leadership events and work with new and existing campus ministries.
- ▶ Outdoor ministries. Bolster current ministries and increase programs.

Q: IF I DO NOT HAVE A LOT TO GIVE, WILL MY GIFT STILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

A: Yes. Gifts of all sizes are welcome, greatly valued, and will make a meaningful difference. Without broad financial support from all members across the synod, we will not be able to live more faithfully and fully into the missional directions to which we have been called. With a financial goal of \$7.9 million, gifts of all sizes are being sought.

We will run FAQs from time to time in the newsletter. If you would like a complete Frequently Asked Questions booklet, click [here](#).

	<p><i>The</i> SIMPLE <i>Life</i></p>	<p>Plan to join in the learning community: 2011 Missional Church Convocation</p> <p>THE SIMPLE LIFE: GOD'S QUIET REVOLUTION OF LOVE, FORGIVENESS, AND UNITY</p> <p>July 14-16, 2011 Chicago</p> <p>For more information, visit The Center for Parish Development</p>
<p>God's Quiet Revolution of Love, Forgiveness, and Unity</p>		

A new issue of 'Caring Connections' available!

BY CHUCK WEINRICH AND KEVIN MASSEY, CARING CONNECTIONS CO-EDITORS

This issue, focusing on Pastoral Care and Addictions is available at <http://caringconnectionsline.org>

People with years of experience in these kinds of ministries have written the articles contained in this issue. We hope you will find in them helpful facts, inspiration and encouragement for your ministry with people battling addictions.

- Carl Anderson leads us on an exploration of "The Mystery of Addictive Illnesses," examining the susceptibility of humans to addiction. He also submits a brief but helpful list of "Effective Pastoral Responses to Addictive Illness."
- Bryn Carlson offers his essay, "Toward a Theology of Addiction," identifying ways in which he sees addictive behavior affecting people's spiritual and mental health.
- Jim Rivett shares with us his thoughts and experiences regarding "Pastoral Care and Addictions in a Prison Setting."
- John Keller, the first Lutheran pastor called specifically to a ministry with alcoholics, inspires us with his "Keller's History of Ministering to Alcoholics."
- David Potter draws on his experience as a spiritual counselor with Hazelden to share his thoughts about "Spiritual Care and Addiction."

Please forward this notice to anyone you think might be interested in this topic and *Caring Connections*. Subscription to *Caring Connections* is free!

News from Bethany House of Studies

NEW CLASS: *Sent to Preach*

First Class:

Saturday, February 12, 2011
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Immanuel Lutheran Church
2819 Avenue F, Wilson, Kansas.

Instructor:

Pastor Dick Monson
Bethany House of Studies Administrator

[Click here for registration form.](#)

If you have questions, please e-mail [Sharon Custer](#).

Spring Event 2011

Trends in Christian Education

Saturday, March 12, 2011
9:15 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Messiah Lutheran Church
402 North 1st Street
Lindsborg, Kansas

Please join us for this exciting and informative event!
Details and registration form will follow shortly.





2011 Book of Faith Jubilee: Inspiring everyday people to engage the bible

April 29-May 1, 2011
Luther Seminary

Through presentations, conversation and practical takeaways, this conference is designed for congregational leaders, both lay and clergy, to inspire and equip you to lead your congregation into reading the Bible in engaging new ways. Spread the word about the 2011 Jubilee.

For more information click:
[2011 Jubilee.](#)

A Great Continuing Education Opportunity!

Looking for an affordable way to learn and grow this year? Do it from the convenience of your home or office when you join The Renewable Church Learning Community. Members will attend six live webinar events (plus the recorded versions & discussion guides) and receive a monthly article to include in your own online and/or print newsletters, a free copy of the book "19 or More Ways To Ignite Passion in your Congregation" (due out mid-year), an invitation to the Renewable Church Retreat (onsite in the Chicago area this August), and discounts on books and resources all year long. The Renewable Church Learning Community is facilitated by Kelly Fryer, Dave Daubert, Tana Kjos, and the team at A Renewal Enterprise (ARE). Find out more about The Learning Community at www.RenewableChurch.com

Parish Ministry Associates Convocation
Ministry: It's A Way of Life
Claiming and living out our baptismal vocation

May 6-7, 2011

Heartland Presbyterian Center
16965 N.W. 45 Highway ([map it](#))
Parkville, MO 64152

Additional information will be forthcoming.

Making Your Work Together Matter:

AN **ONLINE** LEADERS RETREAT!

Saturday, February 12, 2011 - 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (CST)

So, you've been called into leadership in your congregation. Some of your friends may be offering condolences but – really! – church leadership doesn't have to suck the life out of you. In fact, it can be rewarding, joy-filled work that really makes a difference. This **day-long, online retreat** is designed to help you and the team you're a part of learn how to work together in life-giving, purposeful, fun ways for the sake of doing what matters to God and neighbor. Led by Kelly Fryer & Dave Daubert of A Renewal Enterprise (ARE), this retreat is designed for church councils, boards, and other leadership teams to "attend" together. It will be a great way for a new team to start the year off right or for an existing team to get recharged for a new year. The day will include opening devotions, engaging webinar presentations by Dave & Kelly, guided activities and discussions, live "chat" sessions with the presenters, and time for a lunch break. The content will be both practical and thought-provoking. We'll explore things like:

- Why so many church leaders burn out and how to avoid it.
- The real job of church leadership and whether or not you measure up.
- The characteristics of a healthy leadership team.
- 8 keys (or 10 if we get carried away!) to making your work together matter.

The cost of this retreat is just \$99 for a whole team to attend. Visit <http://areleadershipretreat.eventbrite.com/> for more information and/or to register.



Be sure to visit the Central States Synod web page for
Book of Faith

<http://css-elca.org/bof.html>



We are pleased to announce *the ELCJHL Libraries Project: Opening a World of Possibilities*

JERUSALEM, January 5, 2011 - The ELCJHL is pleased to invite our friends around the world to partner with us in a new and exciting project! With your help, it is our goal to equip each of our four k-12 schools with new English-language resources. [Visit our bookstore](#) to donate a book to the ELCJHL Libraries Project: Opening a World of Possibilities!

About our project...

The schools of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land have been providing excellent education for students in Palestinian communities since 1851 - regardless of gender, race, religion, or ability to pay.

The schools teach English from Kindergarten through the 12th grade, equipping students for dialogue with international partners and expanding their opportunities for college and careers.

Through the ELCJHL Libraries Project: Opening a World of Possibilities, we invite you to accompany teachers in the Holy Land as they build libraries that foster a love of language and learning right from the start.

A great book has the power to open a world of possibilities!

[Click here to visit our bookstore now!](#) or follow the links below for more information about this project and how you can get involved.

[Get Started](#) | [How it works](#) | [Ideas and Imagination](#) | [Accompanying Study Materials](#) | [Contact Us](#)

We look forward to our collaboration!

Rev. Elizabeth McHan, Communications Assistant, ELCJHL

Support Needed for One of Our Ministries

THE REV. JEAN DEVOLL-DONALDSON,
ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP, A-OK SYNOD

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod,

Eben Ezer Lutheran of Oaks, OK, must renovate their parsonage before they can call a new pastor. Many of you support the mission done through Oaks Indian Mission. Eben Ezer is the congregation providing on-site spiritual support and friendship to the children and staff of Oaks Indian Mission, but they are not a part of the Mission and therefore they do not benefit from your generosity to the Oaks.

The ministry that Eben Ezer provides to Oaks Indian Mission is vital. However with half their worshipping members made up of children and staff from the Mission, as well as being located in a rural, impoverished area, the ministry of Eben Ezer is depended upon outside support. Your Mission Support provides some of that funding both through the synod and through churchwide expressions of our church (the ELCA).

In order to call a pastor to serve Eben Ezer part time, and to serve as Chaplain of Oaks Indian Mission, part time, Eben Ezer must bring their parsonage up to habitable condition. [At the end of this newsletter] you will find a request for partnership to complete the projects that must be accomplished, as well as related costs. Donations of expertise or funding are requested. Bishop Floyd Schoenhals and I support this request and extend our thanks to those of you who are able to enter into partnership with Eben Ezer in this endeavor.



your school or congregation as participants come face to face with the breadth and importance of the Reformation, make new friends, connect with their heritage, and experience firsthand how Church history can be a whole lot of fun. Prepare to be transformed, or rather, re-formed.

Learn more and register at www.luther500.com.

Central States Synod Assembly 2011

June 2-5, 2011
Holiday Inn Waterpark SE
Kansas City, Mo.

Pre-assembly activities will begin Thursday evening, June 2.

The Assembly will officially open with worship at 1 p.m. Friday, June 3. Additional info: www.css-elca.org. Registration will be available Feb. 15.

Milestone Anniversaries

The following anniversaries of note will be recognized at the Assembly Banquet, Friday evening, June 3. Please review the list and contact the synod office if there is any incorrect information. Thanks!

5 Years

Natacha D. Kemp
Lowell R. Michelson
Zachary P. Sturm
Marla G. Deines, PMA
Donald R. Jones, PMA
Mary R. Keidle, PMA
Cathy Lessman, PMA
Jill D. Menard, PMA
Kathy Sanley, PMA
Phyllis Saunders, PMA
David Stock, PMA
Gary Wahlers, PMA

10 Years

Gary A. Harris
Heidi S. Happel
David A. Newman
Lesley M. Radius
Melba E. Smith
Anita K. Dorf, PMA
James R. Fiete, PMA
Diana Osborn, PMA
Nell Pinckert, PMA
Alan Walter, PMA
Kathie Walter, PMA
Nancy Warner, PMA

15 Years

Dean M. Apel
C. Timothy Leaf
Robin J. Morgan
Brenda K. Ulrich
Judy Bone, PMA
Jean Hagbom, PMA

20 Years

Bradford N. Bray

(Continued on page 9)

What's UP with Campus Ministry?

THIS MONTH BY PR. KEVIN CLARK, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MINISTRY

Love is Alive and Well on Campus

With Valentine's Day coming up soon, hearts young and old are turning to thoughts of love! I've met many married couples whose relationships first bloomed during their college years, and I've seen many romantic relationships come and go among college students!

Oftentimes though, the romantic relationships erupt at college like popcorn in a hot kettle lack the depth and maturity to truly bear the name "love." So... why do I say that love is alive and well on campus?

While I have seen romantic relationships at college that lack depth and maturity, I have seen many other types of relationships at KSU that do great honor to the word "love." Particularly, I have seen great love in my work with Lutheran Campus Ministry!

First of all, I have seen great love *for* college students, and I want to thank the many people who have demonstrated that love through their volunteer hours, home-cooked meals, prayers, financial gifts, and advocacy for Lutheran Campus Ministry! Your love truly is a treasure to students!

I have also seen great love *from* college students! Sometimes this love comes as a very conscious reflection of the love of God for us in the person of Jesus Christ, a love that is full of tenderness, mercy, grace and forgiveness. At other times, I see love that comes from a "spiritual subconscious" that has been formed over the last 18 or more years through their relationships with God, family, friends, neighbors, church members, and spiritual leaders in towns, cities, and rural areas near and far.

College students are great lovers, and I have seen that to be ever so true in Lutheran Campus Ministry! I have seen many friendships form that are steadfast, supporting and accepting, relationships which do great honor to 1st Corinthians, chapter 13! I have also seen love extended to those who would not ordinarily be chosen as friends, a love which pushes students to welcome those whom they do not understand and appreciate, even people they find to be unpleasant! LCM students love like this because God loved us "while we were yet sinners." (Romans 5:8) I have seen this kind of love extended to people of different religions, cultures, beliefs, world views, political parties, and even people that are just plain hard to get along with! And finally, I have seen love extended to complete strangers, as KSU LCM students have collected out of their meager resources nearly \$1,000 during this past year for relief in Haiti and all around the world through Lutheran World Relief!

What a joy to see the love of God overflowing more and more on the college campus!



Faith  **LANET 2011
Biennial Conference**

**April 11 & 12
Minneapolis, MN**

Action

Lutheran AIDS Network (LANET)

Central Lutheran Church
333 S. 12th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Updates – Workshops – Prayer – Banquet
Inspirational Speakers – Worship – Networking

Special hotel rates from \$84.95 - \$94.95 + tax per
night are available at the Holiday Inn Express in
downtown Minneapolis.

Visit the conference website for up-to-date informa-
tion on registration categories, individual banquet tick-
ets, scholarships & hotel reservations.

More information available online at
www.lutheranaids.net/conference2011
Or e-mail: info@lutheranaids.net

*The mission of the Lutheran AIDS Network is to keep the
issue of HIV and AIDS in front of the Lutheran Church with
an emphasis on HIV and AIDS in the United States.*

Our chance for \$38,700

The ELCA Board of Pensions is offering us the opportunity to earn a 2% discount on ELCA health contributions again in 2011. As in 2010, each congregation and organization in our synod will receive a 2% discount on health contributions if 65% of our eligible ELCA-primary plan members complete the confidential Mayo Clinic Health Assessment January 1 – April 30.

In 2011 we could collectively save \$38,700!

If you have ELCA-primary health coverage, this savings depends on you. Take the 2011 Mayo Clinic Health Assessment on the Embody-Health web portal at www.elcaforwellness.org January 1 – April 30. We'll be one person closer to 65% participation, and you'll earn \$150 in your personal wellness account to offset out-of-pocket medical costs.

Instructions for taking the assessment are available in *Understand my benefits* at www.elcabop.org.



Society of St. Andrew

GLEANNING AMERICA'S FIELDS ~
FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY

HARVEST OF HOPE

WWW.ENDHUNGER.ORG ~ [SOSA-
HOH@ENDHUNGER.ORG](mailto:SOSA-HOH@ENDHUNGER.ORG)

Harvest of Hope is the ecumenical study, worship, and action mission trip program of the [Society of St. Andrew](http://www.societyofstandrew.org).

This summer, we are pleased to offer several opportunities to learn about hunger and about gleaning - a commonsense solution to the issue. Together, we will glean fresh fruits and vegetables which will immediately, through the help of local feeding agencies, find their way onto the tables of those in need. We will experience a simple, healthy lifestyle during the event. We will worship together, exploring what God wants us to do concerning our neighbors who are in need. Join us and do something about hunger!

Summer Schedule

June 24-26 (Intergenerational Weekend):
Camp Kirkwood - Wilmington, NC

July 8-10 (Jr. High Weekend): Camp
Occohannock - Exmore, VA

July 10-16 (Sr. High Week): Camp Occo-
hannock - Exmore, VA

July 10-16 (Sr. High Week): Randolph
Macon College - Ashland, VA

July 17-23 (Sr. High Week): Camp Kirk-
wood - Wilmington, NC

July 29-31 (Jr. High Weekend): Camp
Alta Mons - Shawsville, VA

Aug. 5-7 (Intergenerational Weekend):
YMCA Hargis Retreat - Chelsea, AL

(Continued from page 7)

Ramona Carlin, AIM
 David R. Mareske, AIM
 Jeffrey A. Martin
 Austra Reinis
 Norma J. Vander Meer
 Sacia L. Vik
 Thomas J. Wehrman

25 Years

Keith Hohly
 Scott Musselman
 Juel Pierce
 G. Michael Rose
 D. Erich Schwartz
 Naomi M. Strand
 Gary C. Voss

30 Years

James A. Bennett
 Roger D. Dennis
 Daniel C. Friberg
 Margaret E. Gary
 Edward L. Merckel
 Peter E. Rupprecht
 William B. Say
 Jean Vargo

35 Years

John F. Ashcraft, Jr.
 Ronald E. Brooker
 Michael P. Hartzheim
 Paul H. Moessner
 James A. Strasen

40 Years

Emil Bartos
 Robert F. Klein, Sr.

45 Years

Arthur P. Bliese
 Nile H. Buch
 James M. Davis
 William O. Horn
 Arthur L. Ohl

50 Years

Paul A. Beins
 Herman W. Frerichs, III.
 Walter G. Laughlin

55 Years

Paul J. Bauermeister
 Carl Wendell Berggren
 Vance L. Eckstrom
 Richard I. Preis
 Stanley C. Rogge
 Arthur H. Strege
 Phillip N. Youngquist Jr.

60 Years

James F. Hennig

65 Years

Arnold A. Wuertz

Central States Women's news

BY IRIS TURNBULL, PRESIDENT



Ladies, it's time to get your reservations made!

Renew, Respond, Rejoice

Eighth Triennial Gathering
 July 14-17, 2011 * Spokane, Washington

Our triennial theme verse is Philippians 4:4-9:

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.”

Renew — take a walk through the park on your way to the Gathering as the sun winks over the mountains outside Spokane. Soothing waterfalls, birds' morning songs, laughter and singing remind us that we are loved, cared for and meant to be whole. This is your time to pray, to sing, to see and to hear. Find the new you and be renewed.

Respond — unpack your gifts along with your toothbrush! Open yourself to the revelation that you are a gift from God, waiting to be shared, as an expression of God's love. All that you need has been provided in your baptism. Respond to God and to the world around you as a testament of God's love and grace.

Rejoice! — rejoice in God's amazing grace unfolding and shared with sisters of all sizes, colors, shapes, persuasions, intentions, histories, dreams and desires. You will come to Spokane to share, to sense, to see, to sing and to hear how God's unending love is for you and for all as you Renew, Respond, and Rejoice!

Please let Tanya know if there is anything she can do to help make this an exciting and rewarding experience. Registration booklets have been sent out that include all the guest speakers, workshops to attend, and etc.

If you have questions concerning the Central States Women of the ELCA, please contact me at classic@bluevalley.net or 785-736-2887 or 1433 27th Road, Axtell KS 66403.

Tanya Fraker, Triennial Gathering
 Promoter, CSS W of the ELCA
 785-828-3396
tfraker@hughes.net

Around the synod . . .

Congregations work together to benefit 'God's Global Barnyard'

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, the Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church [Washington, Kan.] joint Sunday school class did a fund raiser to raise money to buy animals for *God's Global Barnyard*, a program of Lutheran World Hunger. The Sunday school children



each had a barn in which they had saved money. With the help of the congregations they raised a total of \$1042.83. They raised enough money to buy a Cow for \$500.00, Fish for \$250.00, Sheep for \$125.00, Goat for \$50.00, 2 Pigs for \$30.00, Ducks for \$20.00 and 2 Chicks for \$10.00. They started collecting their money in September and ended in January. If it wasn't for everybody's work the Sunday school kids would have not been able to collect all the money. They were proud to hold up their barns that their money was put into. For doing such a good job they got to enjoy having a pizza party.

Reports and Forms Reminder

BY SANDY VAN TUYL, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Thank you again for your partnership in mission and ministry!

Below are reports due in the upcoming months:

2011 Congregational Mission Support Statement of Intent – Due now
Every congregation should have received an email with an electronic form attached. They can be filled out and emailed to Sandy Van Tuyl svantuyl@css-elca.org, or mailed to the office. If you have questions or did not receive the email, please contact Dan Glamann dglamann@css-elca.org.

Congregational Annual Reports (Parochial Reports) - Due Feb. 15, 2011
Click here to complete the report or go to www.elca.org/ELCA/Forms.aspx. In the 2nd column (congregations) click on [Congregational Report Forms A and C](#) (password required) and [Congregation Leadership Directory \(Form B\)](#) (password required). Note: these passwords will come out at the end of Dec. 2010

If you have questions or need your password, contact Sandy Van Tuyl svantuyl@css-elca.org.

Completion of this report helps to provide accurate information on all congregations of the ELCA and is the constitutional responsibility of the called pastor of the congregation. Thanks for your participation.

Rostered Leaders Annual Reports to the Bishop - Due Feb. 15, 2011

All rostered leaders under active call, on leave from call, retired, or on disability are required to complete this report. Click here to complete this report online or go to <https://www.elca.org/ELCA/Forms.aspx> in the first column click on [Rostered Leaders Report to the Bishop Forms](#) and choose the appropriate status. Please send this report to svantuyl@css-elca.org rather than to Bishop Mansholt's email.

If you have questions, contact Sandy Van Tuyl svantuyl@css-elca.org.



Pr. Richard Krenning (second from left) at his installation at Hope Lutheran Church, Rolla, Mo. on December 5.

Parishes in the Call Process

- (a) intentional interim/interim
- (b) developing congregational profile
- (c) interview phase
- (d) call pending

Area Ministry 2

Kensington, St. John (a)

Area Ministry 3

Beloit, Zion (a)
Marquette, Elim (b)

Area Ministry 5

Derby, Cross of Glory (b)
Haysville, Resurrection (c)
Wichita, Christ (a)

Area Ministry 6

Atchison, St. Mark (part-time) (c)
Rock Port, First (a)
Topeka, Our Savior's (d)
Topeka, Trinity (a)
Topeka, First — associate (c)

Area Ministry 8

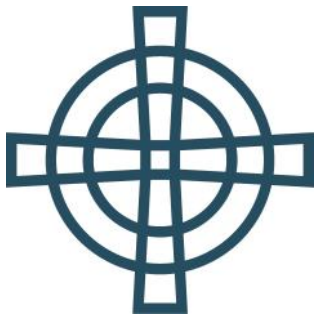
Nevada, St. Paul (a)
Springfield, Prince of Peace (b)

Area Ministry 9

Sedalia, Christ & Trinity (d)

Area Ministry 10

Manchester, Good Shepherd —
associate (b)



Position Opening

PARISH NURSE POSITION: Gethsemane Lutheran Church (ELCA) is accepting applications for a part-time (10 hours/week) Parish Nurse. Applicants must be an RN, have completed (or be willing to complete) a Parish Nurse course, able to work as part of a pastoral team. Please contact Pastor Kendra Nolde at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 3600 Hampton Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109, 314-352-8050, or prkendra-glc@swbell.net.

SYNOD CALENDAR

February

- 3 Interim Pastors — Synod Office
- 4-5 St. Louis PMC Cluster
- 15-20 Bishops' Assistant/Associate Gathering — Tampa Bay
- 24-26 Covenant Cluster Network -- Mundelein, Illinois

March

- 1 Campus Ministry Meeting — Synod Office
- 3-8 Conference of Bishops — Itasca, Illinois
- 11-12 Synod Council Meeting — Synod Office
- 29 Synod Staff Retreat
- 31-1 125th Anniversary of Lutheran Mission in PNG — Wartburg

(Continued from page 2)

Pr. Linda Diepenbrock (OLFC, living in McPherson KS, ldiepenbrock@sbcglobal.net) at the death of her mother, Lucille, January 29;

Pr. Beverly-Jo Arnold (Living Christ, Florissant MO, revbjold@sbcglobal.net) at the death of her mother, Olga, January 30;

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

All those who have been formed by the ministry at Friedens Lutheran Church in Home City, KS, as they give thanks for the life of the congregation and hold their last service this Saturday evening. <http://www.marysvilleonline.net/articles/2010/12/09/news/features/doc4cfff08531bc9133571635.txt>

Kimberly Knowle (kimberlyknowle@gmail.com) who was ordained January 29 in Perrysburg, Ohio. Kim is a graduate of Trinity Seminary in Columbus, who has been called to serve Christ & Trinity in Sedalia MO;

In this Season of Global Awareness, we pray for Lauren Frail (LS8408A@student.american.edu) from Good Shepherd in Manchester MO. Lauren is a volunteer with the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission, and was assigned to Hungary and Slovakia for this year of service;

January 20 was the last time that Prince of Peace in Kansas City KS gathered for worship in their former space. They had been there for 51 years, and will be moving in with Zion United Church of Christ temporarily. Prince of Peace will sell their property, and use that gift to plant a brand, new congregation in Kansas City KS. We hold the people of Prince of Peace and their pastor, John Polk (jpolk@saint-lukes.org), in our prayers this weekend, and we thank God for their witness of hope and life in their time of transition;

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 Rev. Janice Kibler at jkibler@css-elca.org.



**claimed
gathered
and sent**
for the sake of the world

An Important Anniversary In Papua New Guinea

In 2011, our companion Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea is all set to celebrate an important anniversary. On July 12, 1886, Johann Flierl, a missionary sent by the Neuendettelsau Mission Society in Germany landed at Finschhafen in what is now Papua New Guinea and began evangelizing the people in that region of the north coast of the Island of New Guinea. Finschhafen is part of the Kate District of the Evangelical Lutheran in Papua New Guinea (ELCPNG) and the Kate District is the Companion District to the Central States Synod.

What that means is that 2011 is the 125th anniversary of the arrival of the first Lutheran Missionary in Papua New Guinea and celebrations are planned, both in Papua New Guinea and here in the United States. Wartburg Seminary is planning an anniversary celebration on March 31 – April 1, 2011 at the seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. The Central States Synod is working together with the Seminary to bring a representative from the ELCPNG to be the honored guest at the celebration in Dubuque, and then afterwards, tour the Central States Synod sharing the story of 125 years of Lutheran mission and ministry in Papua New Guinea. More details of the celebration and the tour of the Central States Synod will be coming shortly.

It is anticipated that it will cost about \$5000.00 to bring this representative of the ELCPNG to Wartburg and the CSS. Therefore, the Companion Synod Team is appealing to the congregations of the Central States Synod to consider designating special offering during the Epiphany Season and on Companion Synod Sundays for this project. Also, congregations and individuals interested in hosting this visitor from PNG and hearing the story of the planting and growth of the Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea should contact Pastor Gary Teske, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lawrence, KS or Rev. Janice Kibler of the Synod Office. This is a golden opportunity for us to share in an important celebration with our companions in Papua New Guinea, and to learn about the lives and the faith of the people in that land.

Contact information: Gary Teske, 785-843-4150, gteske@tlclawrence.org. Rev. Janice Kibler, jkibler@css-elca.org or call 913-948-9701 or 866-915-3548.

We also want to remind everyone that by Synod Resolution, the Epiphany Season is the season of Global Awareness in the Central States Synod and we encourage all congregations to have a Global Mission Sunday or a Companion Synod Sunday or have a mission speaker during the Epiphany season to highlight the Global Church and our relationships to Christians around the world. Resources for Companion Synod Sundays are available on the [Synod Web Site](#). Simply click “Companion Synods” in the quick links at the right.

[Ed. Note: Please see the flyer/registration form at the end of this newsletter.]



February 2011

Connect to the global church through elca.org

Calling young people to connect globally
The Lutheran World Federation invites groups of youth and young adults to connect digitally to young peo-

ple around the world through an innovative program called **LWF together—the earth needs you**. Each group will be matched with two other groups in other continents for a six-month period of Bible study, environmental projects and building relationships through the Internet. Register your group of 2-15 members, with a majority in the ages 15–30, with the Lutheran World Federation by April 1, 2011, and receive a handbook and guidelines for the time period of May through October. See <http://lwfyouth.org/lwf-together/>

ELCA missionaries from Egypt arrive safely in Istanbul

Ten ELCA missionaries arrived safely in Istanbul, Turkey, Feb. 1, after they left Cairo, Egypt, on a chartered flight provided by the U.S. Department of State. Read more about this story and other global news at www.elca.org/news (*News Releases*), including:

- ELCA Presiding Bishop asks for prayers for peaceful solution in Egypt
- ELCA continues long-term relief effort in Haiti
- ELCA Presiding Bishop addresses Coptic church bombing in Egypt

“Don’t worry, Peter, she is my mother now”

Read this heartwarming story from a missionary in Cairo as he prepared his family to leave Egypt. See <http://blogs.elca.org/handinhand>.

Annual directory now available

Learn more about what 233 ELCA missionaries are doing in 48 countries today by ordering the *2011 Hand in Hand Annual*. It is a wonderful tool for your ministry.

- Hear what the ELCA has been doing together with global companion churches
- Learn how you can become a missionary
- Discover how you can become a missionary sponsor
- Find handy resources to augment your global mission ministry
- Get your copy by contacting globalmissionsupport@elca.org or call 800-638-3522, ext. 2580. Order Code: EL-CADS1033. You pay only handling and shipping for this resource.

Hope in Haiti

Mytch Dorvilier's mother and brother were in Haiti when the earthquake hit. Now it's her husband, ELCA churchwide staff member Louis Dorvilier, who is working to rebuild their homeland. She tells her moving story in a Living Lutheran.com feature video. Watch it at <http://www.livinglutheran.com/videos/hope-in-haiti.html>.