



The InSIDE Word

www.sidlcms.org

A newsletter by and for Southern IL District-LCMS

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Presidential Activities December 2009

- 2 Preaching Engagements
- 1 Installation
- 1 Circuit Presentation
- 1 KFUO Radio Bible Study
- 1 Meeting with Christ Our Rock Board
- 1 Presidential Visit
- 4 Congregational Meetings
- 4 District Meetings
- 2 Meetings with Roger Sprengel
- 9 Individual Consultations
- 3 Days helping with Consultation in Central Illinois District
- 10 Days Vacation

Happy New Year!

"And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb" (Luke 2:21). This one verse is the Gospel for January 1, the day the Church remembers "The Circumcision and the Name of Jesus."

In the name of Jesus, we enter the new year on our secular calendar. Thus we recognize that all of time belongs to Jesus. His birth and life, His death and resurrection, are the turning point, the hinge of all history, so it is fitting that we begin the year with His name.

Joseph could have been forgiven for not believing Mary's story. To human ears it sounded preposterous. "Joseph, I'm going to have a baby," Mary must have said at some point, "but it's not what you think. I have conceived this child by the Holy Spirit," as she told him about the visit of the angel Gabriel. An angel visit? What we are told is simply that, as Joseph considered this, "an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.'" (Matthew 1:20-21). Then Joseph also believed.

JESUS – the Greek form of Ye'shua, also Joshua, meaning, "the Lord saves." His name proclaims who He is – the Lord, Yahweh Himself – and what He has come to do – "save His people from their sins." But that's not all. The Bible is actually full of comforting names for the child, circumcised on the eighth day, and named Jesus.

CHRIST – the Greek form of "Messiah," in Hebrew, "Ma-SHEE-ach," the anointed one. The one chosen of God and precious, the one designated by God to be Lord and Savior, as the voice from heaven spoke at Jesus' baptism, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

I AM – "Before Abraham was, I am," Jesus told His Jewish hearers. (John 8:58). They took up stones to throw at him because they didn't believe Him. They thought He was dishonoring

God, who had revealed Himself to Moses as "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14). But we confess it is true. Jesus is God in our flesh. His claim is real. He is "the great I AM."

BREAD OF LIFE - So when the people asked Jesus, "Lord, give us this bread always," Jesus responded, "I am the bread of life!" (John 6:34-35). I am the one who feeds you. I will give you my own body and blood. I am the one who gives you life. All of Jesus' I AM sayings fit here.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD - "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). Jesus is the light of whom John wrote: "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines on in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:4-5).

I AM THE DOOR OF THE SHEEP - Jesus said (John 10:7). He is the entry point. Through Him we enter life.

I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD - same chapter, similar comparison. David had written, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want" (Psalm 23:1). If Jesus is the Lord, the I AM, then He can say, "I am the Good Shepherd." He laid down His life for the sheep, that is, for us.

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE - What is more profound than this name Jesus claims for Himself? He is standing near the grave of His friend Lazarus, now four days dead. In the face of death, He proclaims, "I am the resurrection and the life, he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die" (John 11:25-26). Brave words? No, but words backed up with His action, "Why look for the living among the dead? He is not here. He is risen!" As He said He would. (Luke 24:5f).

IMMANUEL - Hebrew for "God with us." That's our Jesus. God Himself with us, even in our death, to give us life. "A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). Our God with us. That is the point of all of Jesus' names. He is God come to be with us in order to save us. Every name of Jesus points to this, points to His everlasting love for us.

So that's why we follow Him into the new year, whatever 2010 may bring for us. That's why we can say, "Happy New Year!" and really mean it!

CALLING CONGREGATIONS

TRINITY, ANNA— Rev. Wade Butler of Evansville, IN serving as Vacancy Pastor.

ZION, BETHALTO—Engaged in self study process to prepare to call Senior Pastor.

ST. PETER, CAMPBELL HILL—Engaged in self study; Rev. Mark Buetow serving as Vacancy Pastor.

ZION, FARMERSVILLE—(Rev. Walter Byerley is serving)

CHRIST, FAIRFIELD—(Served by seminary students, and profs)

IMMANUEL, OKAWVILLE—Pastor Darwin Schrader serving as Interim Pastor.

SID PASTOR'S CALLS RECEIVED/ACCEPTED/RETURNED

PRAYER REQUESTS



For the family of **Jean Kostencki**, wife of Dan Kostencki (Principal of Metro East LHS), as she was called home by our heavenly Father on December 7, 2009.

For the family of **Alice Lunneberg**, wife of Pastor Allen Lunneberg (formerly of St. Paul, Wood River), as she was called home by our heavenly Father on December 8, 2009

For the family of **Darlene Wilshek**, mother of Chaplain David Wilshek, as she was called home by our heavenly Father on December 8, 2009.

For **Pastor Gary Galen**, emeritus, for recurring problems with pneumonia.

For **Pastor Elmer Schwartzkopf**, emeritus, as he is dealing with health concerns.

For **Marilyn Hebenstreit**, sister to Vicki Nicely (our district archivist), dealing with the return of cancer and undergoing more tests.

For **Paula Nelson**, principal at Trinity, Edwardsville, as she undergoes radiology and chemo treatments.

For **Andy Kollmeyer**, son of Rev. David Kollmeyer, who has Acute Myelogenic Leukemia and undergoing chemo.

For **John Eggerding**, member of the SID Board of Directors, as he undergoes chemotherapy.

For **Pastor Tim Weiser**, Trinity Iuka, as he continues with his cancer treatments.

For the **Mission Efforts** going on in Saline County, Illinois.

Please keep our brothers and sisters serving our country in your prayers:

Active duty Chaplains from the SID: **Lt. Col. Gregory Jans, Capt. Gregory N. Todd, Lt. Col. David Wilshek, and Capt. Jon Smithley.**

For **Pfc. Adam Burch**, son of Mary Barnett, Holy Cross, Collinsville, serving in the U.S. Army in Iraq.

For **Khotsi Tswaedi**, son of Bishop David and Lucy Tswaedi, Southern Africa, in the U.S. Army, has returned to the US and serving in Georgia.

Lt. Commander Craig Muehler (brother of Cindy Nebel) US Navy Chaplain now serving in San Diego.

Lt. Carl Muehler (brother of Cindy Nebel) US Navy Chaplain now serving at Norfolk, VA.

Capt. Joshua Henschen (son of Ron and Ellen Henschen, teachers in Edwardsville) at Ft. Hood, TX.

Capt. Drew Ponivas (son of Nancy Ponivas, teacher at Zion, Bethalto) is stationed at Ft. Benning, GA..

MM1 John Ponivas (son of Nancy Ponivas, teacher at Zion, Bethalto) has returned with the USS Albuquerque and is now in San Diego.

Lt. Col. Robin Schultze (daughter-in-law of Shirley Schwartzkopf) is now at Fort McNair, DC. as a National Defense University Nurse.

Sgt. Matthew Kasten (son of Steve and Marge Kasten, Hoyleton, IL.) U.S. Army has returned to Baghdad for 18 mo.

Capt. Anthony Skeesick (son of Pastor Dale and Kathy Skeesick, St. Peter, Prairietown) is now back at Ft. Campbell, KY.

Lt. Col. John Pepin (son-in-law of Pastor [Emeritus] and Lois Eckert) is now serving at Scott AFB, IL.

Please call Donna at 618-234-4767 to add your prayer request, or update the information above.

PRAISE REPORTS:

The District Databook pages have been updated—look for them real soon

At:
www.sidlms.org

PASTORS' ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATED

The following pastors celebrated anniversaries of their ordination into the Holy Ministry in **December** and received certificates. If you, or someone you know had an anniversary (20, 25, 30, 35, etc.) during the month of **December** and their name is not on this list, please call Donna at the District Office so this can be taken care of right away. Thank you.

Rev. Royal Boeder	20 Years	12/03/2009
Rev. Gary Byers	35 Years	12/15/2009

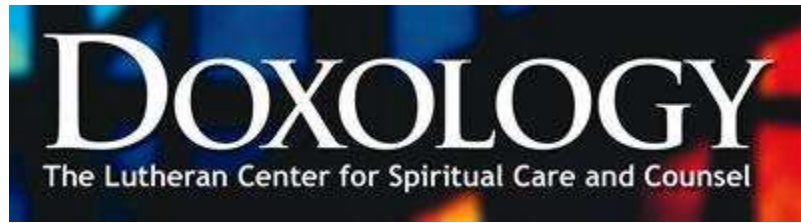
Lutheran Fraternity Celebrates Homecoming On University of Illinois Campus

Alpha Chapter of Beta Sigma Psi held another successful celebration during the Homecoming weekend of October 10-11 at the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana. In addition to attending the football game as a group, an annual dinner/dance was held to present deserving awards to Alums. Active members living in the Fraternity Chapter House also participated in the scheduled activities.

The National Lutheran fraternity emphasized the three 'S's (Spiritual, Scholastic, and Social). The current Chapter House was appropriately complemented at the business meeting, because their collective grade point average was second highest among all the fraternity's at the University. This collegiate atmosphere provides a very desirable learning environment for young Lutheran men.



A large representation from the Southern Illinois District gathered for this picture during the evening banquet. They are: L. to R. seated, Merle Aukamp and Bill Keel, members of Zion, Belleville; Michael Nolte, St. Paul, Columbia; Standing, Rev. Peter Kirby, Zion, Carlinville; Mark Keel, Zion, Belleville; Jake Payne, St. Paul, Columbia; Kirk Meyer, Trinity, Hoyleton; Tyler Mathews, Zion, Belleville; Brett Ruecker, St. Paul, Troy; Tony Keel, Zion, Belleville; Steve Meyer, Trinity, Hoyleton.



DOXOLOGY is coming to Illinois, beginning January 24-27th, 2010!

As you may have heard, our program provides advanced training in spiritual care skills and counsel for pastors who want to enhance their ability to assist people struggling with ever-more complex burdens. DOXOLOGY's training cycle includes three events:

- a pastors only segment (the Gathering)
- a pastor and lay leader segment (the Encore)
- a pastor and wife segment (the Reunion).

Just a couple of comments from graduates of our program will give you a taste of its helpfulness for serious ministry:

- *"I feel better equipped to handle the pressures and stresses of ministry, and more confident in delivering the gifts of God's grace to hurting people. Doxology has been a huge part of that by offering not just information, but resources and people to help in this growth process."*
- *"The Doxology experience is partly professional development, but completely about nurturing and nourishing the faith and spiritual life of the pastor so that he would be qualified for the work of the ministry, not because of personal attributes, but because first and foremost he has stood in the shower of God's grace and in the blood of Jesus Christ flowing from that cross."*

A new cycle in DOXOLOGY training is slated to start January 24 – 27, 2010 in the comfortable surroundings of the Chiara Center in Springfield, IL.

<http://www.chiaracenter.org/>

Registration is limited; plan now to attend! President Herbert Mueller and President David Bueltmann will be in attendance January 26, 2010. Registration forms are downloadable here:

<http://www.doxology.us/registration.html>

If you have questions, contact Rev. Harold L. Senkbeil, Executive Director for Spiritual Care of DOXOLOGY at hsenkbeil@doxology.us



2010 Men's Retreat

Connect your men's group to a get-away retreat where everything is planned...you just have to show up. The food will be hearty. God's Word will be especially relevant to you. If you dare, free activities will make you feel like an adventurous kid again. Your group will have the time to meet and plan the upcoming year, and work together on a camp service project. Make it a weekend for men!

**Be Strong...and of
Good Courage**

**January 15-16
Camp Wartburg, Waterloo, IL
All Men or Men's Groups are Invited!
Cost per person: \$35.00**

**God's Word • Fellowship
• "Manly" Activities • Campfire
Time for your group to meet and plan
Response coupon on next page.**

Be Strong and of Good Courage

This retreat is for men. In the first chapter of Joshua, “Be strong and of good courage” is emphasized four times. In today’s world, what does it take to be a man AND to be a Christian? What are the challenges? What are the natural connections? This weekend is an opportunity to explore the topic a bit, but also to try your hand at the adventurous activities your kids do here at camp (and you always wanted to try!). Apply your muscles to a servant project, enjoy hearty meals and fellowship, and give yourself a break that will speak to your head, your heart, your stomach and your hands.

Bring your men’s group with you and cut out some time for planning, building camaraderie and simply getting away from it all.

Men’s Retreat January 15-16, 2010	<u>Saturday, January 16</u>	
	8:00am	Breakfast
	8:45	Bible Study
	9:30am	“Manly Adventure” (caving, rock climbing, zip line)
	Noon	Lunch
	<u>Friday, January 15</u>	
		12:45pm Your group meets
	together	
	6:30pm	Registration
	7:00	Intros & Ice Breakers
7:30	Opening Devotions	
8:15	Keynote Speaker	
9:00pm	Snacks, campfire	
	2:00	Servant project at Camp
		Clean up
	4:30	Bible Study
	5:30	Evening Meal
	6:30	Closing Worship – Sending

Dr. Richard Marrs



Rick Marrs holds a Ph.D. in counseling and psychology and is an ordained pastor. During 15 years of college teaching, he also was a counselor in organizational settings and private practice. Dr. Marrs joined Concordia Seminary’s faculty in 2006 where he teaches courses on the pastor as a counselor and educator. He also serves as director of continuing education.

Return this coupon, along with a check payable to Camp Wartburg by January 8, 2010.

Name _____ Church _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

For more information, contact Camp Wartburg at 618-939-7715, or email us at wartburg@htc.net.

Check Amount \$ _____

Number of people registered _____

Southern Illinois District
Pastor/Elder Workshop

Topic:

*“Partners in the Gospel:
The Identity and Work of Pastors
and Elders”*

- 1. The Church’s Treasures**
- 2. The Church’s Challenges**
- 3. The Church’s Opportunities**

Presenter:

Dr. Harold Senkbeil

(formerly Professor at Concordia, Fort Wayne; now Executive Director of
DOXOLOGY: The Lutheran Center for Spiritual Care and Counsel)

Date:

Sunday, January 31, 2010

Two Choices for Place and Time:

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamel, IL
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Nashville, IL

*Cost: \$20.00 registration fee per congregation
Bring as many people as you like*

Registration Form

Pastor/Elder Workshop:
“Partners in the Gospel:
The Identity and Work of Pastors and Elders”

Dr. Harold Senkbeil, Presenter

Sunday, January 31, 2010

Congregation: _____

Pastor(s): _____

We will bring _____ Elders (approximate).

We will attend at the following location:

_____ 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamel, IL
_____ 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Nashville, IL

_____ *Enclosed is our \$20.00 per congregation registration fee.*

*Please return this registration form with a check for \$20.00 made out to the Southern Illinois District Office (2408 Lebanon, Belleville, IL 62221) indicating how many will attend by January 21, 2010. Thank you.
Sponsored by the District Office in Cooperation with the Board of Spiritual Care and Supervision*

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS & EVENTS IN AND FOR THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT 2010

JANUARY

- 5 Prison Ministry Mission Society, 6:00 p.m.
- 7 S.A.M.T.F. Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Lutheran Older Adult Retreat Planning Meeting, 11:00 a.m.
- 11-13 Theological Convocation on Worship, at Concordia Lutheran Church, Kirkwood, MO.
- 14 Youth Advisory Committee, 2:00 p.m.
- 16 Mission Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
- 19 District LLL Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 LWML Board of Directors, 9:30 a.m.
- 21 Finance Committee Meeting, 5:15 p.m.
- 22 SID Administrators Conference—Roland Barkau Golf Course, Okawville, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- 22 District Office and Personnel Committee Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- 25 District Presidium, 3:00 p.m.
- 25 Fund Advisory Committee, 4:30 p.m.
- 28 Youth Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 29-30 Youth Leader Training at Camp Wartburg
- 30 SID Board of Directors, 9:00 a.m.
- 31 Pastor/Elder Workshop, St. Paul, Hamel -2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Trinity, Nashville—7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 1 Board of Spiritual Care and Supervision, 9:00 a.m.
- 3 Lutheran Older Adult Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 4 Board of Congregational Support, 5:30 p.m.
- 4 S.A.M.T.F. Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Ash Wednesday
- 19-20 Regional Convention Delegate Caucus, St. Louis, MO.

MARCH

- 4 S.A.M.T.F. Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Day of Prayer and Bible Study, St. Paul, Columbia
- 7-13 National Lutheran Schools Week
- 20 Mission Board Meeting at Edwardsville, 9:00 a.m.

APRIL

- 1 Maundy Thursday
- 2 Good Friday
- 4 EASTER
- 15 SID LWML Board of Directors, 9:30 a.m.
- 17 SID Board of Directors, 9:00 a.m.