



# The InSIDE Word

www.sidlcms.org

A newsletter by and for Southern IL District-LCMS

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## Presidential Activities September 2008

- 4 Individual Consultations
- 2 Days –travel
- 7 District Meetings
- 3 Meetings with Roger Sprengel
- 2 Congregational Meetings
- 1 day Meeting for Synod
- 4 Days-COP—St. Louis
- 1 KFUE—Ask The Pastor
- 1 SID LWML Convention
- 1 Installation of Brother, Bill, in Indiana
- 3 Preaching/Speaking engagements

### The One Sure Foundation

*“No one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 4:11).*

My brother Tim and I have become masons! Now before you call up the district board of directors or the elders at St. John’s, let me explain. Actually I’m not talking about the lodge kind of mason, but the brick and mortar kind. I’ve done a little brick and tile and mortar work in the past, so my brother, Pastor Tim Mueller of St. John, New Minden and St. Luke, Covington, volunteered the two of us to tuck-point the foundation of the church building at Covington. I readily agreed – it’s actually become a stress-reducer for us and we enjoy working together. We have no pressure, no restrictions, no deadlines and no guarantees. We’re just doing our best to help out a small congregation and enjoying a bit of a diversion this fall.

It’s really not as big a job as it sounds. The foundation consists of 2-3 courses of field stone topped by five courses of soft red brick. The structure is basically sound but the 100+ year old mortar is soft and crumbling on the outside. We dig it out to the required depth with a grinder and hammer and chisel, then fill it in with new mortar and finish it off. Don’t look for flaws – there are plenty, but that’s not the point. We want to help the building last another 100 years. Well, another 50 anyway.

Working on the foundation of St. Luke’s church got me to thinking about the scripture above. As the hymn writer says it: *“Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ, our head and cornerstone. Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the Church in one; Holy Zion’s help forever and our confidence alone” (LSB 909, st. 1).*

Just as a building has to rest on a sure foundation, so the Church rests on Jesus Christ alone. He is our head and cornerstone. On Him alone we are built. His Word of Law exposes our death, but only so that His Word of promise can call us to life.

That’s why the only power in Christ’s church is the power of the Word of God. Only the Word of God forgives sins. Only the Word of Christ gives life. Only the Word of God shows the way, as the Word of God made flesh in Jesus said Himself: *“I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me” (John 14:6).*

There’s our foundation. So what’s the problem? What is happening in our churches? Could it be that for us the mortar between our bricks is crumbling a bit? (Here’s where my analogy breaks down somewhat, but bear with me.) Or perhaps it is more accurate to say we are slipping off the foundation at times.

What do I mean?

We say we believe in the Word of God. But do we truly believe the Word actually works? What would be evidence of a lack of faith or a weak faith in the power of God’s Word? When we...

Let the world shape and form our beliefs and values rather than the Word.

Assume that “every one” in our community “goes to church.”

Think that the Word of God works for me but it probably will not work for \_\_\_\_\_(you fill in the blank).

Keep the Word of Christ for ourselves rather than speak it to others.

Make excuses for our failures to plant the seed of the Word.

When people blame the pastor or church workers blame the people.

When the Word does not seem to work on our time table we think we need to add something to the Word to make it more effective.

When we fail to do our best to communicate in ways people will hear and understand.

We in the Lutheran Church are the Church of the Word. I am writing to you for the month of October, the time of the Reformation. The Lutheran Church is always reforming, refocusing on the Word, and is not reformation simply another word for repentance. It is significant that the first of Luther’s 95 Theses posted on October 31, 1517, reads:

“When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, ‘Repent,’ He willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance” (LW31). Indeed, our Lord Himself began His ministry with the words, “The kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel” (Mark 1:15). Our Lord calls to us, His Church, “Turn away from the empty promises of the world and trust me! I have life, real LIFE for you, found in my death and resurrection.

Here is the sure foundation for life: “This is eternal life,” Jesus prayed, “that they know You [Father] the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” (John 17:3). We in Southern Illinois also need to hear our Lord’s Word to the church in Ephesus, “I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance... I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and you have not grown weary. **But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.** Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent...” But He ends with a promise, “To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God” (Revelation 2:2-7). Examining our lives by the Word, the Spirit of God leads to repentance. And when we hear the Gospel promises, the Spirit increases faith and forms our life in Christ. Only God gives life!

Now renewed, refreshed, restored, forgiven in Christ, we live in faith and in obedience to Christ’s command to “go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel...” (Mark 16:15). With Spirit-given faith in the power of the Word, we seek to sow the seed of the Word wherever and whenever we can, all in response to the grace of God by which we are saved. Living in repentance and faith, we are led to say, with St. Paul, “I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes...” (Romans 1:16).

So... when it comes to tuckpointing a foundation, Tim and I are easily seen to be rank amateurs. But here’s the eternal foundation for the Church, solid, sure, all tuckpointed and firm forever – our Lord Jesus – for “Christ is made the sure foundation.” On Him alone we stand.

A blessed celebration of the Reformation to all!

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## CALLING CONGREGATIONS

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

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

**TRINITY, GIRARD**—Called Rev. Keith GeRue, Assist. Pastor Trinity, Worden and St. Paul, Hamel

**ST. PAUL, TROY**—Working with Call list

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## SID PASTOR’S CALLS RECEIVED/ACCEPTED/RETURNED

**Rev. Keith GeRue**—Assist. Pastor, Trinity, Worden and St. Paul, Hamel to Trinity, Girard

## PRAYER REQUESTS ....



For **Laurel Witte** and her husband, (Laurel is the granddaughter of the late Pastor Clarence Witte and wife, Fern) as they try to leave Georgia, Central Asia. The airports are closed and at times they can hear the bombs.

For **Marian Martens**, former SID Treasurer, who has been diagnosed with cancer and inclusive body myositis.

For **Cathy Bevirt and Melissa Combs**, teachers at Holy Cross, Collinsville, for strength and courage while both are fighting cancer.

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

Active duty Chaplains from the SID: **Major Gregory Jans, CDR Gregory N. Todd, and LT. COL. David Wilshek.**

For **Khotsi Tswaedi**, son of Bishop David and Lucy Tswaedi, Southern Africa, in the U.S. Army, deployed to Iraq.

**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.

**Sgt. Aaron Richardson** (son of Faith Richardson, (Immediate Past President of the SID LWML & member of the Southern Africa Mission Task Force) has returned from Baghdad and is safely home, **Praise God**

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

**Capt. Warren Kostencki**, (son of Dan and Jean Kostencki, Dan is principal at Metro East Lutheran High School), is back home. **Praise God**

**Capt. Drew Ponivas** (son of Nancy Ponivas, teacher at Zion, Bethalto) is stationed in Bagdad, Iraq.

**MM1 John Ponivas** (son of Nancy Ponivas, teacher at Zion, Bethalto) is assigned to the USS Albuquerque.

**Lt. Col. Robin Schultze** (daughter-in-law of Shirley Schwartzkopf) is now at Fort McNair, DC. for additional training.

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

**Capt. Anthony Skeesick** (son of Pastor Dale and Kathy Skeesick, St. Peter, Prairietown) serving in the US Air Force and is being deployed to Afghanistan.

**Lt. Col. John Pepin** (son-in-law of Pastor [Emeritus] and Lois Eckert) is now serving in Iraq.

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

## PRAISE REPORTS:

Praise God for **Elijah Joseph Rethwisch**, born August 18 and baptized August 31. Loving parents are Rev. Stuart and Jennifer Rethwisch, Holy Cross, Wartburg.

Praise God for **Hannah Isabelle Wilson**, born August 20 and baptized August 30. Hannah is the new granddaughter of Rev. Dr. Gary and Sharon Galen, Trinity, Edwardsville.

Another Praise Report...

## **CELEBRATE THE 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHINESE SERVICE!**

*Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. Psalm 145:3-4*

Ten years isn't a generation, but much has happened in the past decade. Many people have come and gone. Ten years ago, Our Savior started a Chinese-language worship service. This year, on Sunday, November 2, we will celebrate the tenth anniversary of that service.

Our purpose is not only to look back and remember the mighty acts the Lord has done so far, but also to look ahead and be re-energized for whatever he plans to do next.

SIU alumnus and former OSLC vicar, Rev. Michael Paul, will preach at the anniversary service at 4 PM. English and Chinese choirs are preparing to sing. A potluck dinner and program will follow in the church basement. Everyone is invited to share in this celebration!

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## PASTORS' ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATED

The following pastors celebrated anniversaries of their ordination into the Holy Ministry in **September** and received certificates. If you, or someone you know had an anniversary (20, 25, 30, 35, etc.) during the month of **September** 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. Russell Koen	25 years	September 11, 2008
Rev. Robert Gray	35 years	September 16, 2008

### Mark Your Calendar !!!

**You don't want to miss the "Carload Conference"**

Saturday, November 8  
St. Mark Lutheran School  
Steeleville, IL  
9:15 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Details and more information will be mailed to all congregations real soon, so be watching your mail.

### MESSAGE FROM CONCORDIA SEMINARY, ST. LOUIS

**RE: Change of Date for "You Are Not Alone!" – An interactive Workshop for the Single Parent**

Due to a shortage of enrollment for our six-week workshop, starting Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, the date and location has been changed. Instead of having a six-week program, we are going to have a one day session on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> with registration at 8:30 a.m. and the workshop beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 3:00 p.m. (approximately). This will be held at Blessed Savior Lutheran Church in O'Fallon, IL.; 1205 N. Lincoln Avenue. Their telephone number is 618-632-0927. Again the cost will be free to single parents and a luncheon meal will be provided for the parent and their children, as well as free childcare service for the day. Please notify your parishioners of this change and if possible post it in your bulletins from now until the event weekend. We hope this will encourage more participants to register in advance.

Apparently with the start of school this was not a time that would work for those who may be interested in this workshop. Now they will be able to attend all the sessions in one day rather than the six week program. If you have any further questions please direct your questions to Marty Lintvedt at 314-505-7160.

We thank you in advance for your support of this program.

Connie Evans, Secretary  
314-505-7160 phone  
314-505-7176 fax

## **Doxology**

### **The Lutheran Center for Spiritual Care and Counsel**

DOXOLOGY, a new and vital opportunity for pastors, offers an innovative program of advanced study retreats to strengthen pastors for the task of faithfully shepherding the souls entrusted to their care. DOXOLOGY provides pastors with a unique study and renewal experience, rooted in the classic art of spiritual care and informed by the insights of contemporary Christian psychology.

The primary purpose of this organization shall be to provide training, mentoring and consultation services for pastors who would like to enhance their ability to provide the spiritual care and counsel required to address the ever-increasing personal, family and social complexities with which people currently struggle. The training experience, grounded in Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, ensures that pastors will be emotionally and spiritually refreshed and equipped as a result of their participation. The Center provides a safe environment for clergy to reflect on their own spiritual and emotional health and assists them to review and to enhance their professional competencies and skills. DOXOLOGY strengthens pastors so they can more faithfully pastor others.

#### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

DOXOLOGY seeks to restore and recover the classic Christian legacy of the cure of souls for contemporary times. The Center provides training, mentoring, and consultation services for those who seek to improve their ability to provide spiritual care and counseling.

The primary purpose of this organization is to provide ongoing spiritual care opportunities for Lutheran pastors. Participants will be refreshed and equipped as a result of their participation in a program of soul care grounded in Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. The Center provides an excellent setting for clergy to reflect on their own spiritual health and offers a program carefully crafted to help them review and enhance their professional competencies and skills. DOXOLOGY strengthens pastors so they can more faithfully pastor others.

#### **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:**

Provides resources, insights, teaching, admonition, encouragement, new tools and strategies needed to move beyond “survival functioning in pastoral ministry” to joyful service in the pastoral life and calling.

Provides opportunities for immediate and ongoing care to nurture and encourage pastors whose personal lives may have been burdened by stress and isolation or wounded by sin, depression, conflict, fear, or hopelessness.

Yields critical insights to enhance the practice and pedagogy of spiritual care and counsel.

Benefits from team casuistry and the experience of fellow pastors enrolled in this renewal experience.

DOXOLOGY is an intensive clergy renewal program involving three distinct meeting events that take place over a twelve month interval.

**Doxology will be starting a new cycle of training in Springfield, IL at the Chiara Center January 25-28, 2009.**

*For more information please check out their website: <http://www.doxology.us/>*

## **Lutheran Blind Ministry Celebrating 85 years of Mission and Ministry**

By now all congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod will have received a resource packet from Lutheran Blind Mission in which they are sharing information and materials giving your congregation a chance to help them celebrate the 85 years in the ministry and mission of helping the blind and visually impaired to “see” Jesus.

The packet contains:

A Bible study written by Pastor Dave Andrus, executive director

LBM’s 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary hymn written by Jeffrey Burkhart and a hymn setting by Rick Gieseke.

An electronic file of the text is on their web site ([www.blindmission.org](http://www.blindmission.org)) under RESOURCES

A banner design for their 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary

A litany that may be used in worship.

A brochure master *Helping Blind People See Jesus* that provides general information about LBM that may be copied and inserted into bulletins or newsletters.

A brochure master *May We Be of Service?* That may be photocopied for members of your congregation who are blind or visually impaired. It highlights the many materials and services that are available to them at no cost

A *car donation poster*. LBM accepts car donations as another way to fund the mission. Feel free to duplicate the poster as needed.

What? You say you do not have any members of your congregation that are blind? Then reach out into your community and bring them to church with you.

They are also encouraging congregations to have door donations or special offerings to help support the work of LBM. They are a mission society dependent on God’s people for support. They are the mission arm of LCMS World Mission to blind and visually-impaired people, as such, they receive no funding from Synod. Please mark 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on your check and envelope so they may thank you correctly.

LUTHERAN BLIND MISSION  
7550 WATSON ROAD  
ST. LOUIS, MO. 63119-4409  
Toll free: 1-888-215-2455

On September 18 the SID Retired Lutheran Pastors, Teachers and Church Workers met for their annual gathering at the Roland Barkau Memorial Golf Club in Okawville, IL.

It was a good time of sharing events of families, activities and trips taken over the last year. The golf club prepared a delicious meal of sliced ham, grilled chicken breasts, mashed potatoes, green beans almandine and California mixed vegetables, rolls and coffee, tea, lemonade and water in a comfortable setting.



Mr. Roger Sprengel, on the right, presenting the NLSA Certificate to Mr. Robert Mayhew, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church/School on September 7, 2008

The group began meeting at the invitation of the late Rev. Ervin Meseke back in the early 1990's at various restaurants in Southern Illinois as an opportunity for retired church workers in the district to share in some fellowship, visit with old acquaintances and reminisce and share their present activities, family life and plans. It has also been a sharing of other mission services and continued church work involvements that many have continued doing.

The group is all LCMS retired church workers who are presently in the Southern Illinois area and its planned annual meeting is advertised in the InSiDe Word (the newsletter for SID church professionals) about a month ahead of its usual mid-September meeting. The widows and widowers of previous workers are included in the invitation.

If you know of someone who would like to receive the newsletter please call Donna at the District Office (618-234-4767).



Back row l-r: Pastor Fred Campbell, Pastor Armand Mueller, Pastor Ernest Wentzel, Rev. Dr. Al Kollmann (former District President), Mary Preuss, Edgar Roth, Pastor Elmer Schwartzkopf, Frank Voelker, James Rohe, Deloris Bramstedt, Pastor Paul Bramstedt, Kathleen Bohnet.  
Front row l-r: Mary Hard, Doris Mueller, Shirley Wentzel, Diana Karlen, Jackie Kollmann, Betty Roth, Shirley Schwartzkopf, Carolyn Voelker, Linda Rohe, Arlene Klitzing.

## Lutheran Faith and Prayer Breakfast

You are cordially invited to attend the third annual Lutheran prayer breakfast at Concordia Seminary on October 31, 2008, hosted by Dr. Dale A. Meyer. The doors to Koburg Hall on the Seminary campus will open at 6:30, with breakfast served at 7:00 a.m. Speaker at the breakfast will be LCMS Chaplain Jonathan Frusti of the Pentagon, who is Executive Director for the United States Armed Forces Chaplains Board. Among his many experiences, Chaplain Frusti served as the personal Chaplain for President George H. W. Bush and his family while President Bush was in the White House. The cost of \$20 per person provides \$6.00 for the student aid fund at the Seminary. Individual tickets and tickets for tables of 8 can be purchased. Deadline for ticket purchase is October 17. Ticket order forms are available at [www.csl.edu](http://www.csl.edu), or by calling 314-505-7362.



*Mission Prayer's  
Newsletter  
Southern Illinois  
District  
Fall 2008*



**Welcome!** To this occasional publication of the Southern Illinois District Mission. We have a number of mission prayers just like you who are committed to pray regularly for the mission work of our District and Synod. You are receiving this because you have requested it or because you subscribe to our InSiDe Word. Please, just put this newsletter into your Bible and then, as a normal part of your devotion, keep these prayer needs in your individual prayers. We don't report to anyone. We just pray, for God has promised to hear, for Jesus' sake. The Lord, by His prophet makes this flat out promise, *"I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for wholeness and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me. When you seek me with all your heart, I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations..."* (Jeremiah 29:11-14 ESV). We know that all these promises are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. He brings them to fruition. "I will hear you!" He says. Indeed, Jesus personally promises, *"Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son"* (John 14:13 ESV). Trusting His promises, then, let us pray!

**Prayer List** – There is much more to pray for than we can list here, but this is a beginning:

We continue to pray **for our brothers and sisters in the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa**. They have many decisions before them and many challenges. May God grant wisdom and courage to them as they seek to be faithful.

Pray that **the students at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pretoria** will be blessed by their studies and prepared to serve in the various Lutheran churches in Southern Africa. Recently we raised money to help the students with scholarships. Pray that this money would be for God's glory and the blessing of His people.

Pray for **direction** for the **Hispanic ministry** of the Southern Illinois District. We have been working with the Missouri District and others to seek what can be done to bring the Gospel to people who speak Spanish. Not much is happening at the moment, but we continue to seek the Lord's will on this.

Thank God for **many years of faithful service** on the part of Pastor Maurice Alms as our district's prison ministry coordinator. Maurice has now entered retirement. Pray for him and his family. Pray as well for **the three pastors** who make up our Prison Ministry Coordinating Committee to lead our district prison ministry: Pastor James Rivett, Chairman, together with Pastors Jeff Nehrt and Jon Smithley.

Pray for our **new prison ministry chaplains**, Pastor Stephen Manz at Anna, Pastor Kevin Cook at Livingston, Pastor Thomas Kramer at Mt. Carmel and soon to be Pastor Scott Niermann at Ferrin. Pray that God would continue to help them make a good beginning in their work that it may be abundantly blessed by the Lord in His Word (hopefully we have remembered everyone new). Pray for all of our prison chaplains!

Pray for **Our Redeemer, Golconda**, together with Pastor Rivett and new vicar, Terrence O'Brien, to plant a new church in Harrisburg, Illinois. Regular Bible Study has begun from which we pray God will gather new people around His Word to receive the only life that is truly real – life in Jesus Christ.

Pray for **the mission efforts of our Synod**, that our missionaries would scatter the seed of God's Word faithfully and with abandon, that our missionaries would be protected from the onslaughts of the evil one, whatever form they might take.

## *SID Mission Prayer's Newsletter* *Fall 2008*

Pray for our district **mission school**, Unity Lutheran Christian Elementary School in East St. Louis. We have a great problem and a wonderful opportunity. The opportunity is that God has brought us 88 students this year to learn and to grow in the Lord Jesus. The problem is that we have 88 students, but not enough space, realistically speaking. We have a working group seeking solutions. Pray that God would give this group wisdom, unity and courage to move forward with the plan that will be the best for all – teachers, students and congregation. To that end, pray also for **A Time to Build**, the building campaign for the mission school. Pray that in all this Christ may be glorified and His Gospel proclaimed clearly.

Pray for the efforts of the **Acts 1:8 Mission Society**, a new mission society headed by Pastor Randy Wilken, to do mission work and works of mercy in East St. Louis and St. Louis.

Pray for our new worker at **Unity Lutheran Church** – DELTO Vicar Dr. Willie Stallworth, who is working with both congregation and school to strengthen Unity in the Word of God and in their work to reach out with the Gospel to their community.

Pray for our **campus ministry at Edwardsville** that those involved will be strengthened and encouraged in their work, especially as Trinity now has a new Senior Pastor, Martin Springer.

Pray for our **campus ministry at Carbondale**, that God would use Our Savior Lutheran Church and her pastors, Robert Gray and Eric Wood, and vicar Ben Smith, to draw students around the Word of God and Christ's Sacraments so that they might be more deeply connected to Jesus, in whom alone is life.

Praise God for **ten years of Chinese ministry** at Our Savior, Carbondale (to be celebrated November 2<sup>nd</sup> with a special service at 4 PM). Pray that the saving Word preached in the Chinese language will find receptive hearts.

Pray for our **seminaries in St. Louis and Fort Wayne**, that they might form faithful, Christ-centered, cross-focused pastors. Pray for the new "Specific Ministry Pastor" program approved by the Synod in 2007 (as the seminaries now enroll the first SMP students) that it may be a blessing for the church.

Pray for **Freed in Christ** – pray for this possible new venture on the part of our district's prison ministry. What is it? We are developing a program (modeled after a successful program in Indiana) whereby churches might receive non-violent offenders after their release from prison to help them re-enter society through regular Bible study and prayer groups. Our deaconess for prison ministry, Sandy Bowers, is working diligently on this. Pray that God would show us the way to bring it from dream to reality.

Praise God that **Lee and Pat Hoffmeier**, members of Good Shepherd in Collinsville, returned home safely from a six month tour as volunteer missionaries to Southern Africa. Lee and Pat served as our liaison with the Seminary in Pretoria and with the LCSA. They hope to be returning to South Africa sometime within the next year on another volunteer mission.

Praise God that **Jacob Mueller**, who also spent six months in South Africa as an exchange student at the Lutheran Seminary in Pretoria, has returned home and has begun his studies at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Thank God for all His blessings to Jacob during this exciting visit. Both Jacob and Lee and Pat would be happy to speak to your group about their mission experiences.

Pray that the **designs of the devil may be thwarted**, for where Christ is building His Church, Satan always tries to erect a temple for something else. Pray that our people may be constantly **telling others of Jesus** and drawing people into the worship of the Holy Trinity, in whom alone is life!

Continue to pray for our **pastors and lay leaders** in our congregations, that they may work together as a team to serve God's people and to reach out with the love of Christ to others.

**Thank You for Praying**, since God promises to hear – and answer! – with more than we can expect. *"Whatever you ask the Father in my name, He will give it to you... Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be full"* (John 16:23-24). Blessings to all in Jesus!

Pr. Herbert Mueller  
Southern Illinois District

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## SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS & EVENTS IN AND FOR THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT 2008

### OCTOBER

- 2 S.A.M.T.F. Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 2-3 Teachers Conference in Springfield, IL.
- 6-8 SID Fall Pastoral Conference, Pere Marquette
- 11-13 Jr. High Youth Gathering at Camp Wartburg
- 15 Finance Committee Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- 16 LWML District Board, 9:00 a.m.
- 18 Family Convocation at Messiah, Carlyle
- 20 Fund Advisory, 4:30 p.m.
- 20 Nominating Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 22 District Presidium—Noon
- 23 Board of Congregational Support, 4:15 p.m.
- 25 SID Board of Directors, 9:00 a.m.
- 30 Mission Staff, 9:30 a.m.
- 31 Concordia Seminary Prayer Breakfast, 7:00 a.m.

### NOVEMBER

- 3 Board of Spiritual Care and Supervision, 9:00 a.m.
- 5 Older Adult Advisory Meeting 6:15 p.m.
- 6 S.A.M.T.F. Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 “Carload” Conference, St. Mark, Steeleville
- 10 SID Convention Planning Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 13-14 Lutheran Older Adult Retreat at Pere Marquette
- 15 SID Mission Board, 9:00 a.m.
- 27 Thanksgiving Day—District Office closed
- 28 District Office Closed

### DECEMBER

- 4 S.A.M.T.F. Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Celebrate Jesus birth!

### JANUARY 2009

- 8 S.A.M.T.F. Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Mission Staff Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 17 MissionBoard Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
- 26 Convention Planning Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 31 SID Board of Directors, 9:00 a.m.

### FEBRUARY 2009

- 2 Board of Spiritual Care and Supervision, 9:00 a.m.
- 5 S.A.M.T.F. Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 19-21 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT CONVENTION