



DEVELOPING MISSIONAL LEADERS IN CONGREGATIONS AND SCHOOLS

14301 Grand Avenue South, Burnsville, MN 55306 (952) 435-2550 [information@mnsdistrict.org](mailto:information@mnsdistrict.org)

**December 6, 2011**

**NEWS**



**Saint John Lutheran, Hammond, MN  
sanctuary re-dedication, November 6, 2011.  
THANK YOU to all who assisted in this flood recovery.**

**Recovery Help is needed in Joplin, MO.** If you could help or send a crew, please contact Trent David, Director of Disaster Response Immanuel Lutheran Church- LCMS; [tdavis@immanueljoplin.com](mailto:tdavis@immanueljoplin.com) or 417-624-0333;

**New DCE Colloquy cohort begins July, 2012.** For more information [click here](#).

**MN [un]Paved – Courage 2012, Jr/Sr. High event. Jan. 27-28, Mayer Lutheran High School.** [Register here](#). Or contact [Traci Kohls](#), 952-442-4165 x274. Nearly 300 already registered! Sign up today!

[Networking Resources](#). (Refreshed 12-01-11) [Weekly Classifieds](#). (Refreshed 12-01-11)  
Would you like to get an item included? [Debra.Connolly@mnsdistrict.org](mailto:Debra.Connolly@mnsdistrict.org)

[District website](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[Camp Omega Events](#)

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER- (CAN BE INCLUDED IN YOUR SUNDAY BULLETINS OR NEWSLETTERS)**

Again we come to the time of year when we mark the great miracle of Christ becoming one of us. The Apostle John wrote, *"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us"* (John 1:14). Jesus came to Earth; He bore humiliation and ridicule; He died that we might live; He was raised that we, too, might rise again and live forever with Him. *"From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another"* (John 1:16). How can we thank Him but to give ourselves and our lives in service to Him!

["Overjoyed By The Star"](#) -A stewardship newsletter article is available for you to use.

## Resources

[How Christmas Can Help Your Church Grow in 2012.](#)

[Top Five Ways To Mess Up Your Christmas Opportunity.](#)

### **Lectionary Illustration: The Third Sunday In Advent; John 1:6-8; 19-28**

A story from Soren Kierkegaard, the famous Danish philosopher from the mid 1800s.

A prince wanted to find a maiden suitable to be his queen. One day while running an errand in the local village for his father, he passed through a poor section. As he glanced out the windows of the carriage, his eyes fell upon a beautiful peasant maiden. During the ensuing days he often passed by the young lady and soon fell in love. But he had a problem. How would he seek her hand? He could order her to marry him, but even a prince wants his bride to marry him freely and voluntarily and not through coercion. He could put on his most splendid uniform and drive up to her front door in a carriage drawn by six horses, but if he did this he would never be certain that the maiden loved him or was simply overwhelmed with all of the splendor. The prince came up with another solution. He would give up his kingly robe. He moved, into the village, entering not with a crown but in the garb of a peasant. He lived among the people, shared their interests and concerns, and talked their language. In time the maiden grew to love him, because of who he was and because he loved her first. This very simple, almost childlike story is what John is describing here--God came and lived among us. He had to reveal Himself to us in an understandable way, and this is precisely what Jesus did--became flesh just like you and me. He made Himself understandable.

[Santa Claus Jesus.](#) What does God look like? How would you recognize God if or when God showed up?

[MNS Lutheran Witness](#)

[The Lutheran Witness](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions.](#)

[Mission Prayer List for Dec. 2011](#)

[Mission Vision News Fall 2011](#)

[Reaching Rural America](#)

## Health & Ministerial Helps

[Stress, Depression, & The Holidays: Tips For Coping;](#)

[How To Be Happy: Tips for Cultivating Contentment;](#)

[Relaxation Techniques: Try These Steps To Reduce Stress](#)

## Educators and Administrators Notebook

**National Lutheran Schools Week 2012, March 4-10.** [Click here](#) for the Proclamation.

["Information for Private School Families: 2011 K-12 Education Tax Credit & Deduction/Subtraction."](#)

[2012 LEA National Administrator Conference](#), Jan. 13-15, 2012, Orlando, FL.

**Administrators' In-service #2 will be on Jan. 24, 2012.** Dr. Bernard Bull, speaker.

Church workers without positions- Find help at [Crown of Compassion Ministries](#).

## IN OUR PRAYERS

-Please join us this week in praying for Circuit 23, Worthington, Rev. Paul Sabjan, circuit counselor. [Please click here](#) for maps of the District and all Circuits.

-Stephanie Benson (Rev. Steve, Eastern Heights Lutheran), at the death of her dad Dr. Herb Arkebauer.

## CALL UPDATE INFORMATION

[Commissioned Ministers](#) (as of 11-25-11)

[Ordained Ministers](#) (as of 12-01-11)

**Change of address, e-mail address, contact information?** [Contact the Minnesota South District](#)

Do you have a brief story of a new ministry in your church? An event happening? We would love to hear about it. [Contact the MNS District.](#) Attach your story to your e-mail.