e NEWS LCMS MINNESOTA SOUTH DISTRICT

DEVELOPING MISSIONAL LEADERS IN CONGREGATIONS AND SCHOOLS

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December 14, 2010

NEWS

MILEAGE RATE CHANGE effective January 1, 2011. IRS has increased the standard business mileage rate **to 51¢ per mile.** (from 50¢ in effect since January 1, 2010). The standard medical and moving mileage rate has likewise increased to 19¢ per mile (from 16.5¢). These new rates apply to mileage reimbursements paid to an employee on or after January 1, 2011 with respect to transportation expenses paid or incurred by the employee on or after January 1, 2011. The rate used for charitable deduction purposes, set by statute rather than IRS, remains at 14¢ per mile.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED in expanding the reach and effectiveness of the Minnesota South District e-News. We would like to be able to include in our circulation, pastors, commissioned workers, congregational leaders and church members. **Please forward additional e-mail addresses to the Minnesota South District**

Each year, **Minnesota non-profit corporations (including churches) are required to renew their status with the Secretary of State.** Failure to do so results in the administrative dissolution of the corporation. To retain good standing, your renewal must be filed (no fee required) **by December 31, 2010**. Renewing online takes only a few minutes. To do so, go to online.sos.state.mn.us/abr and enter your file number and entity type. Steps to find your file number or entity type, if you don't know them, are located on this website. You may also file by mail. To do so, download a form from the Minnesota state website at www.sos.state.mn.us. Click on "Forms," then "Business and Non-Profit Forms," then your entity type. If you have questions, you may call the Secretary of State's Office at: 651-296-2803, or toll free at 1-877-551-6767.

FLOOD RECOVERY. To volunteer for cleanup, sheetrocking, and other rebuilding, contact Dan Kastabakken, Lutheran Social Service, cell phone 1-612-741-7234, or via Email dk.lssmn.drt@gmail.com. **Specify that you are an LCMS volunteer**. Another "sheetrock event" is being planned. Further questions? Contact Dan or Vicki Strong, 651-730-5049, **strongv@woodburylutheran.org**. Flood Relief donations may be sent to the Minnesota South District, 14301 Grand Ave. So., Burnsville, MN 55306. Please mark your check "flood relief".

2011 MNS District Theological Convention, Saturday, February 26, 2011, Hosanna Lutheran, Mankato. Dr. Joel Lehenbauer, Exec. Dir. Of CTCR, keynote speaker. *"The Creator's Tapestry: Scriptural Perspectives on Man-Woman Relationships in Marriage and the Church."*

Synod Leaders to Discuss "harmony" report.

Concordia University Saint Paul NCAA Division II volleyball champs…**AGAIN…**

Networking Resources. Check out stories and events in and around the MNS District. Christmas, Epiphany, youth events, Single Clergy/Educator retreat, LCMS Vacancy report, mission opportunities.

LCEF UPDATE, November/December 2010 is available at the MNS District website. See the beginnings of a new church home for Messiah, La Crescent and more.

Weekly Classifieds. Employment, & other good stuff. Would you like to get an item included?

Change of address? Change of e-mail address? A new staff member? Change of Contact information? Additional e-mail addresses? Contact the Minnesota South District

Resources

Free audio Bible.

LWML Offers Free Christmas Mustard Seed devotions.

Minnesota South District Operation Barnabas counselor, Chaplain John A. Meyer is available to assist military service members and their families. John.a.meyer@us.army.mil

Lutheran Counseling Center, (LCC) has closed. Contact information for counselors is available at www.lutherancounseling.org

A free e-mail devotional on leadership is available from Lead Like Jesus. **Sign up now.**

Health (New)

This week's focus: Stress Management

Stress, Depression, and the Holidays: 10 Tips for coping.
Need Stress Relief? Try The 4 A's.

Upcoming Events

Networking with Congregations *(as of 12/10)* **Camp Omega Events** **District Calendar**

Mission News

The **Mission Prayer List for December 2010.** Use it as a prayer guide.

Read about GEO Missionary and Mayer Lutheran High School grad Katie Lane's work in Peru.

Serve Now Spotlight: Kenya 3 people needed to serve LCMS missionary children.

Do you have a brief story of a new ministry in your church? An event happening? We would love to hear about it. **Information@mnsdistrict.org**

"Unless we make Christmas an occasion to share our blessings, all the snow in Alaska won't make it "white"." Bing Crosby.

Read: Luke 2:10-11. There is good news for whom? The good news is whom? With whom will you share?

In Our Prayers

Please join us this week in praying for the congregations of Circuit 24, Pipestone, Rev. Evan Schiller, circuit counselor. Please click here for maps of the District and all Circuits.

Call Update Information

Commissioned Ministers *(as of 12/03)* ***Ordained Ministers*** *(as of 12/10)*

Past Editions of the MNS Weekly e-News may be viewed on the District Web Site.
E-news Submissions should be brief and sent to debra.connolly@mnsdistrict.org