

Administrators' Notebook

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Advent * Christmas * Epiphany—Waiting



As I prepare these words I am *waiting* for the weekend that will provide the time to put up our Christmas tree and decorations. *Waiting* is never easy for me. I am so task driven that I want to accomplish the task and check it off my list of things to do. **Advent** is about *waiting* and preparation for the celebration of the Savior's birth. The **Advent** liturgy resounds with the cries of the Hebrew prophets, the voice of Jesus, and John the Baptist preaching that the Lord is near.

Do you remember what you got for Christmas four years ago? Two years ago? Last year? We *wait* for **Christmas** and gifts, but very few of our gifts are memorable. Did you know that God wants to make His gift to you not only meaningful, but also memo-

orable? He gave His only begotten Son so that you could have the "whole Jesus," not just a small part of Jesus!

A way in the darkness,
A way in the light,
A way in the sadness,
A way in the joy ...
The Way, in a manger.

Some people *wait* for the New Year (2006) because of parties and football games. The New Year (2006) will bring the great words of **Epiphany**. "Arise, shine," says the prophet in the Old Testament Lesson on Epiphany. Why? Because, the prophet answers, "Your Light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." Are you ready to share the Light of Jesus Christ? A blessed **Epiphany** to all!

MNS District New Phone Numbers

The MNS District Office has a new phone system. This new system enables us to have direct numbers to each individual phone in our office.

Our general number (952) 435-2550 and our fax number (952) 435-2581 will remain the same. If you call (952) 435-2550 you will get a receptionist. If you call the direct numbers listed below you

will get Dave Roth or Gae Ash.

David M. Roth – (952) 223-2152
Gae Ash – (952) 223-2156



News From Concordia Publishing House

Concordia Publishing House has available on its Web site health lessons for all grades. These were developed in connection with the Discovery Works Science curriculum several years ago, but the publishing house was not able to include them in the texts for the various grades. Go to www.cph.org/sdw and click on the downloadable health units line to find the units for each grade level.



CPH is working on a Curriculum Guide that will be introduced over the next five years. The Curriculum Guide will help Lutheran teachers integrate Christ and Christian concepts into learning experiences through faith-connecting information, insights and activities. This resource will be especially helpful to teachers that are not Synodically trained. The first volumes to be

released are Social Studies, grades 1-8, and an Administrators Guide. The Administrators volume contains:

- A series of articles written by recognized leaders in education in the LCMS.
- Nine in-service activities that a principal can use for ongoing training on timely educational topics and to reinforce our Lutheran identity in these changing times. Reproducible articles that can be used in whole or in part in weekly school newsletters that deal with current issues.

Each subject listed will have a single volume for grades 1-8. The volumes for Infant/Toddler, Preschool and Kindergarten will be one all-inclusive volume. Please look for additional information in early 2006 on this Christian classroom essential.

Congregational Treasurer's Manual

Every congregation in the Minnesota South District received in the mail one copy of the Congregational Treasurer's Manual for 2006. The intent of the manual is to assist the congregational or school treasurer and any other person responsible for financial or administrative matters. A CD was also sent with the Treasurer's Manual and it is available on the Internet at www.lcms.org. The CD includes the following:

- Congregational Treasurers Manual

- Taxes and Ministries
- Synod Handbook
- Personnel Resources – Personnel Manual, Employment Resource , Volunteer Manual, and Human Resources Forms.

As you can see, the above resource would be of great value for any administrator.

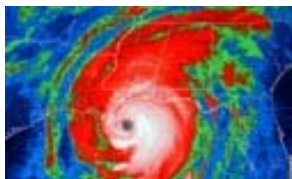
Minnesota State Tests & Implications for Nonpublic Schools

Please note that under a new law passed in 2005, the Basic Skills Tests (BST) will be "sunsetting" as a basic public school graduation requirement and replaced with a newly developed **Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment II** (MCA-II). This change will be phased in over the next five years. The new tests will require a higher level of proficiency for passage.

As in the past, these tests are NOT required of students in nonpublic schools. But, if a nonpublic student transfers to a public school, a diploma will not be issued until the student passes the tests.

..the Basic Skills Tests will be replaced with a newly developed Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment II

Update on Hurricane Katrina



At a conference that I attended recently, Gene Menzel, Education Executive for the Southern District, updated us on the situation with congregations/schools in the LA/MS coast.

Please note the following:

- Two schools are unable to open due to damaged facilities and families/students in the nearby area are still displaced.
- A minimum of \$1.1 million will be needed for the 2005-2006 school year for teacher salary support and student/family financial aid.
- Funds will be needed beyond the 2005-2006 school year since it will take several years for some of the

schools to rebound.

Financial aid and care will be needed for teachers who have no classrooms to return to after Katrina.

Please continue to gather your chapel offerings and other funds as Lutheran schools throughout the LCMS raise \$1,000,000 for immediate needs of Lutheran schools located in the areas affected by Katrina. The collected funds can be sent directly to the Southern District and earmarked to support South District Teachers or to LCMS World Relief and Human Care earmarked in the same manner and sent to P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO, 63166-9810. We are confident that God can accomplish so much more than we ever ask or imagine—all to His glory!

Reaching Out In Love—Hurricane Relief

In December we sent an e-mail to our schools about a special effort by the School Department in St. Louis to raise additional funds for hurricane relief.

Our Lutheran schools in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas, and Florida have been the most directly affected by these storms. Many of these schools still have buildings to repair or replace. In addition, there are schools in Louisiana where students have not returned since being evacuated or where families who have returned are without jobs and cannot afford tuition. Some of these schools have also reached out to the community to offer their services to families even though many of these families are unable to afford the cost of tuition. Scholarships are needed in these schools so they can continue to serve their community.

These Lutheran schools and the families they serve continue to need our help. Would you consider helping by

purchasing a “Reaching Out in Love” wristband for these schools? The proceeds from the sale of these wristbands will go directly to help Lutheran schools affected by this season’s hurricanes.

The proceeds from the selling of “Reaching Out in Love” wristbands will go to help Lutheran schools affected by the hurricanes. Lutheran World Relief/ Human Care is covering the cost of the wristbands so 100% of what you collect will be used for hurricane relief. Please note the order form on page 5.

“... proceeds from the selling of “Reaching Out In Love” wristbands will go to help Lutheran schools affected by the hurricanes.”

Minnesota Early Childhood Educators’ Conference 2006

It’s not too early to mark your calendar to attend the Minnesota Early Childhood Educator’s Conference scheduled for March 3-4, 2006. The Conference will be held at Concordia University in St. Paul. On March 3 the

Keynote Speaker is Dr. David Bredehoft a noted author researcher and licensed psychologist. The Keynote presenter on March 4 is Penny and Pals. Conference registration materials will arrive after Christmas.

MNS District Administrator In-service #2



Please note the information concerning the second in-service for the 2005-2006 school year on pages 6-7. Ask almost any Pastor or Principal the question: "Why do you have a Lutheran school?"

and the answer will almost certainly include: "To serve

as outreach to the community." The community we serve is changing, even in the rural areas of Minnesota.

Our second in-service will address key questions and offer helpful strategies to assist Lutheran schools to be more intentional in their response to cultural diversity in the communities they serve. Check out the attached details and plan to attend on February 23, 2006.

LEA National Administrators Conference

The 2006 LEA National Administrators Conference will be held March 27-29 at the Pavilion Hotel in downtown St. Louis. (The Pavilion is a Hilton property and was formerly the Marriott. It is located by Busch Stadium.) The featured speaker is Dan Webster—Rhythms of Leadership Development.

Room rates at the Pavilion are \$109 per room per night, single-quad. Online registration (credit card only) is

available at www.regonline/26473. Brochures will be mailed to all LCMS schools and early childhood centers. For more information go to <http://www.lea.org/nac2006.htm>.

**LEA National
Administrators Conference
will be held in St. Louis."**

Spirit of Love

Spirit of love, born from above,
Bring Your peace, send Your dove;
Blanket the earth with Your angels of care,
Scatter the words of Gods' love everywhere;
Wrap our hearts with Your peace,
Wrap our hearts with Your peace.

Spirit of grace, show us Your face,
Sent to sleep, Come to weep;
Blanket the earth with Your laughter and song,
So we feel loved and believe we belong.
Wrap our hearts with Your peace,
Wrap our hearts with Your peace.

(Dr. Herb Brokering)

REACHING OUT IN LOVE - HURRICANE RELIEF

WORLD RELIEF/HUMAN CARE is making available to schools and churches the wristband as pictured below.

Cost of a wristband is \$1.00 with all proceeds going to Lutheran schools affected by the hurricanes.

Please make these available to students and members as a gift or by selling them to individuals.



Complete and send form and check as noted below

Please send _____ bracelets for a total of \$ _____ to:
(number of bracelets)

School/Congregation: _____

Attention: _____

Address: _____

Please make check payable to: LCMS World Relief

Send to: Bracelets
LCMS World Relief
1333 S Kirkwood Road
St Louis MO 63122

For office use: WR06Dislo2-4-2107080140045

Date received: _____ Check #: _____ Check Am't: _____ Order Filled: _____

Minnesota South District
2005-2006 Administrator In-service #2

***Equipping Lutheran Schools for Ministry to
Diverse Communities***

Presenters: Deaconess Sally Hiller, Southeastern District, LCMS
Rev. Lloyd Gaines, Southeastern District, LCMS

Date: February 23, 2006

Time: Registration - 8:30 – 9:00AM
Program – 9:00 – 2:30PM

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, 530 4th Street NW
Faribault, MN, 507-331-6579

The in-service will address key questions and offer helpful strategies to assist Lutheran schools to be more intentional in their response to cultural diversity in the communities they serve.

Key questions and concerns to be addressed are:

- How is your Lutheran school viewed by your community?
- How can our Lutheran school be more welcoming?
- What design changes are needed in programming, curriculum and instruction to better position our Lutheran schools for future ministry?
- What paradigm shifts need to occur in our schools and congregations if we are to be effective in reaching out beyond our traditional boundaries?
- How can we better communicate our enthusiasm and joy in the Lord that draws others in?

**Minnesota South District
Administrator In-service
2005-2006**

Registration Form – In-service # 2

Name(s): _____

School: _____ Location: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone: _____

February 23, 2006 _____ attending @ \$35 = \$ _____

***Send registration form and check payable to Minnesota South
District Principals' Conference to:***

Mr. Bob Kuhlman
Central Lutheran School
775 North Lexington Parkway
St. Paul, MN 55104

Phone: 651-645-6649
Fax: 651-645-8640
E-mail: stpaulcls@hotmail.com

Lutheran Educators Call Update - as of December 13, 2005

Accepted	From	To
Dean Galvin	Gardnerville, NV	Jehovah Lutheran Church, St. Paul DCO
Pending	From	To
Heidi Evanson (Graduate)	Concordia Portland, OR	Redeemer Lutheran Church, Owatonna DCE
Bill Zuelsdorff	Lakefield, MN	Mt. Olive Lutheran School, Milwaukee, WI Principal
Joel Landskroener	Seymour, IN	Mayer Lutheran High School, Mayer Executive Director
Declined	From	To
None at this time		
Calling Congregations	For	
Mayer Lutheran High School, Mayer Zion Lutheran Church, Mayer Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Francis St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Chatfield Concordia Academy, Roseville Zion Lutheran Church, Hopkins Redeemer Lutheran Church, Owatonna	Executive Director Director of Family Ministry Administrator for LHS Teacher (Kdg.) Chief Administrative Officer DCE DCE	

MINNESOTA SOUTH DISTRICT, LCMS

14301 Grand Avenue South
Burnsville, MN 55306
Phone: 952-435-2550
Fax: 952-435-2581



We're on the web
www.mns.lcms.org



The mission of the Schools/Commissioned Ministers of the Minnesota South District is to encourage, support, and promote the ministry of Lutheran schools/congregations and to nurture and equip those who carry out that professional educational ministry, so that Christ is proclaimed and the body of Christ may be built up.

Served in the Minnesota South District by:

David M. Roth-

Assistant to the President in Education

david.roth@mnsdistrict.org

Gae Ash—Administrative Assistant

gae.ash@mnsdistrict.org

Important Dates and Events

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| Jan. 5 MNS District Schools/Commissioned Ministers Committee, 10-3PM | Jan. 31 High School Administrators, Mayer, 10:00AM |
| Jan. 7 MNS District Accreditation Commission, 9:00AM-Noon | Feb.3 School Visit-Cologne |
| Jan. 9 Region 3 Administrators, Rochester, 1:30PM | Feb. 6 School Visit – NYA |
| Jan. 12 School Visit - Watertown | Feb. 7 MNS District Board of Directors, District Office, 10:00AM |
| Jan. 17 Region 4 Administrators, Northrop (St. James), 12:30PM | Feb. 9 Region 1 Administrators, CSP, Noon |
| Jan. 19 Region 2 Administrators, NYA, Noon | Feb. 13 Region 3 Administrators, Rochester, 1:30PM |
| Jan. 21 Marketing Seminar, 9-1PM, Mt. Calvary, Richfield | Feb. 16 School Visit – Excelsior |
| Jan. 23 School Visit – Waconia | Feb. 21 School Visit – Gaylord |
| Jan. 24, School Visit – Gibbon | Feb. 23 Administrators In-service # 2, Trinity Lutheran Church, Faribault, 8:30 AM |
| Jan. 26 Education Conference Program Committee, District Office, 1-3PM | Feb. 24-26 Minnesota State Lutheran Basketball Tournament, Bloomington |
| Jan. 27 Region 1 Teachers Conference, Spring Lake Park | Feb. 28 School Visit – Wayzata |
| Jan. 30 School Visit—Glencoe | Mar. 1 Ash Wednesday |
| | Mar. 3-4 Minnesota Early Childhood Conference, CSP |
| | Aug. 1-3 Administrators' Retreat, Trego, WI |

For Unto Us



A Child is Born