



## MNS WEEKLY e-NEWS January 20, 2009

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THE WEEK OF EPIPHANY 2

Items in **Bold Red Underline** are linked to websites – *simply click!*

### WORD FOR THE WEEK

*I will praise You [O LORD], for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. Psalm 139:14 NKJV*

### NEWS

#### **Fan into Flame update as of Friday, January 9:**

LCMS National Campaign - **\$40,692,041.00**

Minnesota South District - **\$1,817,208.00**

*MNS Congregation Phase: \$1,657,108. - MNS Major Gifts: \$160,100.*

**Do Christians respond differently during an economic downturn?** Hear from LCEF President Merle Freitag and LCMS President Dr. Gerald Kieschnick in this latest issue (Jan., 2009) of the **Upper Midwest LCEF newsletter**.

**RETIREMENT – Glenn Thiel**, who has served the LCMS Foundation as Gift Planning Counselor at the Minnesota South District office for 25 years, announced his retirement effective January 1, 2009. If you are in need of Gift Planning and/or Endowment Services as an individual or congregation, you can contact Terry Gerdts, Vice President of Gift Planning Services of the LCMS Foundation in St. Louis at 888-838-2898.

**CAMP OMEGA** Mother/Daughter or Grandmother/Granddaughter Retreat on Feb. 27-Mar 1.

**Minutes from the Dec. 2, 2008 Board of Directors Meeting** (subject to approval at the Feb. 5, 2009 meeting) as well as minutes from past meetings are available on the MNS District Website: **www.mnsdistrict.org / About Us / Board of Directors**.

**Important Dates 2009 District Convention: Transformed For His Mission - Romans 12:2**. All other **Convention Documents** are available on the MNS District website. The next date to keep in mind is **Jan. 31, 2009** to submit the **form naming Pastoral Delegate, Lay Delegate and Alternate Lay Delegate** from each congregation.

**Used Computer Equipment Available** View list of items for sale from the Minnesota South District.

[Networking with Congregations](#) The purpose of these pages is to offer information regarding future events sponsored by District congregations. Visit it each week for the latest information on events sponsored by other entities.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Ethnic Leadership Training Institute** for ethnic missionaries, leaders and mentors meets **THIS Sat., Jan. 24** at CSP. Contact **Rev. Peter Meier** for more information.

[District Calendar](#)

## MISSION NEWS

Please visit the **updated** [Center for U.S. Missions](#) web site for resources you might use.

[Christianity Is No Longer America's Default Faith](#) according to George Barna. What does this mean for your church and school? Click on title to read this challenging report.

Multiple resources from [Lutheran Hour Ministries](#) are available to assist your outreach efforts. Check out the just-launched [Men's NetWork](#) for men and men's groups!

The Minnesota South District, together with Lutheran Inter-City Network Coalition, Twin Cities (LINC-TC), is working to facilitate [Volunteer Mission Opportunities](#). We want to encourage involvement of our people and congregations in mission trips and volunteer service/mission projects within the District, as well as through LCMS World Mission.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Join the MNS District Staff this week in praying for the **Congregations of the Carver County Circuit**: Trinity, Carver; Christ Victorious, Chaska; St. John's, Chaska; Zion, Cologne; Saving Grace, Delano; Emanuel, Hamburg; Zion, Mayer; St. John, New Germany; St. Mark, New Germany; St. John, Norwood Young America; Trinity, Waconia; St. Paul, Watertown; and St. Peter, Watertown.

Download [MNS Mission Prayers](#) for January.

## CALL UPDATE INFORMATION

[Commissioned Ministers](#)

[Ordained Ministers](#)

## CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY

**The Rev. Bernie Becker** (emeritus) was summoned by the Lord to his eternal rest Thur., Jan. 15. The funeral was today, Tue., Jan. 20 at Eastern Hts. Lutheran Church. Please remember his family in your prayers. *Blessed is he whose hope is the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus, is one forevermore!*

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Rev. David & Ruth Seabaugh** (Bethel, St. Paul) announce the birth of their third child, **Elijah Eberhard**, born on January 11, 2009. Praise the Lord for His abundant blessings!

*Please assist us in keeping our information current.  
Send e-mail address changes to the District Office.*