

Administrators' Notebook



November 2009

Saints and Sinners



In the Christian Church, November 1 is called "All Saints Day." Both in the Old and the New Testament the term "saints" at first meant nothing more than the people of God, whether living or dead. In the oldest sense all believers are saints. The Bible speaks of all Christians as sanctified people or saints. Christians are saints despite

the fact that they are still sinners. The word saint comes from the Latin word sanctus, which means holy, sanctified, consecrated, not because they are sinless but because by faith in Jesus Christ all their sins are forgiven and God declares them just and holy in His sight. Death brings pain, sorrow, questions, emotions, and in some cases, eternal separation from God. For the Christian, death also brings eternal life.

Within the last two months a student at one of our schools and a parent died. The time is short that we have to share the precious Gospel with our students and parents. Christ has conquered sin, so now sin doesn't have the power over us. According to Romans 6 we now have the power of Christ on our side. To God be all glory and praise

Volume 6 Issue 2

Special points of interest:

- ✓ Creation Instruction
- ✓ Thrivent Financial Changes
- ✓ Technology Challenges Us
- ✓ Camp Omega
- ✓ Hearts For Jesus

Creation Instruction Association

Many of our educators attended one of the three sectionals that **Brian Young** led at our Minnesota Lutheran Education Conference. Please note that he conducts a creation camp at Lutheran Island Camp near Henning, Minnesota to prepare students in creation science.

This summer will be his third annual camp. Brian will be leading the camp which is five days of fun and excitement as participants use sci-

ence to better understand God's Creation. Students will freeze things with liquid nitrogen, have various explosions, shoot off rockets, and participate in other great and fun experiments. Students will learn to respectfully defend their faith while learning that the Bible and science are not in conflict. All will be focused around creation presentations.

Dates: June 13th-18th, 2010 or June 27-July 2nd 2010

Ages: 10-15 year old

Cost: \$325 which includes room and board at camp.

To register or to receive a brochure you can contact Lutheran Island Camp at 218-583-2905.

You may also contact Brian at 402-519-0301 or check out his web site at

www.creationinstruction.org.



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2010 LEA National Administrators Conference

Theme: Transformers!

Administrators in Lutheran schools and early childhood centers must be transformers. They must morph into leadership roles beyond the run-of-the-mill administrator or manager. Among the challenges are transforming education programs into ministry programs, average schools into excellent schools, dead or dying schools into revitalized and energized education centers, and poorly managed operations into sleek, efficient, and powerful education "machines."

Romans 12:2 (NLT): "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect his will really is."

Where: New Orleans

Date: February 18-20, 2010

For more information go to www.lea.org

Pre-Conference Workshops, Keynote Presentations, Sectional Topics and Tours, and Worship.



Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Changes

By now you should have received information from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans as to significant changes to their Giving Plus matching fund program. Giving Plus will be eliminated and replaced by Thrivent Choice.

Because the Giving Plus program will end December 31, 2009, they have created a phase-out funding plan. The funding plan is available to organizations that participated in Giving Plus in 2008 and/or 2009 and received an average of \$2500 or more annually in sup-

plemental funds. Between January 15 and June 20, 2010, eligible organizations can apply for a one-time "challenge grant" of up to 20% of your annual averaged gift. To qualify, organizations will need to raise twice the amount of their grant amount through personal contributions from donors. Eligible organizations will be contacted by January 15 with information about how to obtain the phase out funding.

If you want more information about Thrivent Choice, please visit

www.thrivent.com/ThriventChoiceInfo to sign up for email updates. You can also watch a short video posted online at www.thrivent.com/gpvideo

Giving Plus will be eliminated and replaced by Thrivent Choice

MNS District "Hearts For Jesus" Project



Have you read and ordered the material that was sent to you on August 3 regarding the annual "Hearts for Jesus" Project for

The project is called "Giving Gardens" from Wheat Ridge Ministries. You will need to access the resources from the Wheat Ridge Ministries web site at www.wheatridge.org/givinggardens.

Your support of this project is greatly appreciated. Last school year contributions amounted to \$13,186 for "Telling the New Generation" Project. Can we top \$14,000 for 2009-2010?

2009-2010?

Administrators In-service—Perry Bresemann

Lutheran Schools and The 21st Century Learning!

Lutheran Schools are critical for today's children. To meet the needs of the 21st Century Learner we must understand the impact of technology on the teaching/learning process and work to integrate the use of technology in our schools. During our time together we will explore 21st Century Skills, focus on the role of the administrator in leading a faculty through this process and discuss the impact of technology on our curriculum. We will share feedback from the ETIA survey taken by over 600 Lutheran educators and the lessons learned. We will also address the needed infrastructure required to meet the challenge. The Lutheran school portal has added many new features to help our schools collaborate. They will be reviewed with participants.

Attendance:	Administrators are encouraged to bring a teacher or tech person to the in-service.
Location:	Trinity Lutheran Church – Fellowship Hall 530 4th Street Northwest Faribault, MN 55021
Date:	November 11, 2009
Agenda:	Registration: 8:30 – 9:00 (donuts, coffee, etc.) Opening & Devotion: 9:00 – 9:15 Program: 9:15 – Noon Lunch: Noon: 12:45 Program: 12:45 – 3:00 Closing: 3:00 – 3:15



You will find the registration materials on the District website at www.mns.lcms.org.

Technology Challenges Us

At our Minnesota Lutheran Education Conference we were challenged by Leonard Sweet:

1. To become engaged with technology to better understand the culture we live in.
2. Technology is changing fast and it may create some anxiety and fear.
3. Technology should cause us to rethink how we teach.

The MNS District is in partnership with Ministry Technology Mentor (MTM) program to provide professional development opportunities for our educators. This program is designed to help those schools that are prepared to embrace new models of learning within their schools but are not sure how to best make this happen with existing technologies. MTM is structured to be adaptive in best meeting the needs of educators in Lutheran schools as they seek to make

sense of the rich technological resources with which we have been blessed by our Lord and to study the resources that might best make a difference in the lives and learning of His children. More and more of our educators are participating in the MTM project. Since we are in partnership with MTM, the cost of technology classes is reduced for our educators. For more information contact Frank Wegner at fwegner@charter.net or 715-526-2932.

Camp Omega Support



Congregations and schools in the MNS District are blessed to have our own Lutheran camp. Camp Omega provides outdoor education experiences, retreats for your leadership

team, summer camp experiences, and many other opportunities for growth and learning. Please also remember Camp Omega as a possible chapel offering recipient. Mr. Bob La-Croix, Camp Director, would be

happy to share information about Camp Omega and how the camp can serve your needs. You may contact him at 507-685-4266 or e-mail at bob@campomega.org

School Statistical Reports NOW Due

The **School Statistical Form** was due **October 5th**. Those of you who **are members** of the Lutheran School Portal can enter the statistics on the Portal. If you do this, you do NOT need to send a copy to the District office. We can print it from the Portal. **This is the preferred method.**

If you are not a Portal member you will need to complete the form that was mailed to you in August. Please complete and send to the District Office. We will send the form to the School Ministry department in St. Louis.

Many have already completed this and either mailed it to us or entered on the Portal. Thank you.

The schools below HAVE NOT sent in their statistical report. Please check for your school. If you need a new form, please contact Gae Ash at gae.ash@mnsdistrict.org or 952-223-2156

Bloomington, St. Michael	Hudson, Trinity	St. Charles, St. Matthew
Brownsdale, Our Savior	Mankato, God's Yound Minds	St. Paul, Hand in Hand
Columbia Hgts, David's Christian	Morristown, Cannon Valley LHS	St. Paul, Open Arms
Cottage Grove, Rose of Sharon	New Ulm, Kinder Haus	Watertown, Christ Community
Eagan, Christ	Northrop, Martin Luther HS	Winona, Redeemer
Golden Valley, Loving Shepherd	Prior Lake, St. Paul	Woodbury, Woodbury PS
Good Thunder, St. John	Shakopee, Christ	



Lutheran Educators Call Update - as of November 2, 2009

Accepted	From	To
None at this time		
Pending	From	To
None at this time		
Declined	From	To
None at this time		
Calling Congregations		For
Faribault Lutheran School, Faribault		Principal
Zion Lutheran School, Mayer		Administrative Director
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Prior Lake		DCE
St. John's Lutheran School, NYA		Principal

A Thanksgiving Prayer

*Dear precious Lord,
 We bow our heads in heartfelt, thankful prayer;
 For all the ways You've blessed our lives
 And for Your loving care.
 We thank You for the hands
 That have prepared this special treat
 And pray that You will bless all those
 Who have no food to eat.*

*We're thankful for Salvation's plan
 and for Your Holy Word;
 And pray we'll help to spread
 Your love to those who've never heard.
 We're thankful for our freedom
 And for churches that are near;
 Where we can meet to praise Your Name
 And worship without fear.*

*But still our hearts are saddened
 By our brothers who aren't free;
 Who suffer death and torture
 For their Christianity.
 We pray You'll give them strength*

*And courage as their cross they bear;
 And let them know God's family
 Remembers them in prayer.*

*We thank You for heroic troops
 Who fight for liberty;
 And daily risk their lives
 And limbs to keep our country free.
 Forgive us of our many sins
 And keep us close today;
 And bless this food You've given us,
 In Jesus Name, we pray.*

*Amen
 (author unknown)*

I thank the Lord everyday for you and our ministry together? To Him be the Glory always!



Minnesota South District

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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:

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Important Dates & Events

- Nov. 2 - School Visit – Ham Lake & Blaine
- Nov. 3 – School Visit – Windom & Slayton
- Nov. 5 – School Visit – Winona (Redeemer)
- Nov. 6 – School Visit – Luverne & Pipestone
- Nov. 11 – Administrator In-service (Trinity-Faribault)
- Nov. 17 – Region 4 Lutheran Principals, Truman, 12:30 PM
- Nov. 24 – High School Administrators @ Northrop, 9:30 AM
- Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving
- Dec. 1 – MNS District BOD, Burnsville, 10:00 AM
- Jan. 7 – Region 1 Principals, CSP, Noon
- Jan. 9 – District Accreditation Commission, 9:00 AM
- Jan. 11 – Region 3 Lutheran Principals, Rochester, 1:30 PM
- Jan. 14 – Early Childhood Consultants, Burnsville, 10:00 AM
- Jan. 19 – Region 4 Lutheran Principals, Fulda, 12:30 PM
- Jan. 21 – Region 2 Lutheran Principals, NYA, Noon

