



THIS MINISTRY THAT WE SHARE

September/October, 2006

Dear Pastors and Wives, Pastors' Widows, Vicars and Wives, DCEs and Spouses, Principals and Spouses, and DCOs and Spouses and Deaconess,

KEEPING OUR MINDS ON THE THINGS OF GOD

*Finally, brethren,
whatever is true, whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,
if there is any excellence,
if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.*

Philippians 4:8

Paul is ardently appealing to the Philippians to train their minds to think about certain things. He exhorts them to focus their thoughts on the positive qualities of life, those qualities that characterize the Spirit of God. How easy it is these days to entertain negative thoughts, demeaning thoughts, even aggressively angry thoughts! How much we, too, need this exhortation!

Paul knows that the thought-life is one of Satan's prime targets. The devil is constantly injecting negative thoughts, or tantalizing fancies, or some discouraging distraction into our minds. If we allow our curiosity to be piqued, we find ourselves accepting these thoughts and nurturing them as if they were our own. Martin Luther suggested, "You cannot forbid a bird from flying over your head, but you can prevent it from making a nest in your hair." We need to keep Satan's harassing thoughts from finding fertile soil in our minds, because once a thought-pattern is established, it is difficult to dislodge. It wears a groove in our brain. We need to make sure that any groove is God's groove.

Disciplining our minds to think on things that are *true* means that we refuse to dwell on what is false, deceptive, or unreal. Thinking on things that are *pure* involves not allowing unclean thoughts to linger. Thinking about things that are *honorable* or *lovely* discourages us from spending time justifying ourselves, criticizing others, and planning to even the score with someone who has hurt us.

If we take this admonition seriously, we will continually make an effort to elevate our mind to positive, gracious, excellent, and praiseworthy thoughts. We will be careful about what we read, what we watch, what we listen to, and what we talk about. Earlier in this letter Paul exhorts us to "be blameless and innocent . . . in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world." In order to *shine* we must keep our minds as oases of God's reality, purity, and loveliness, so that our conversations will be uplifting and our lives reflect His light.

Prayer: O Holy Spirit of God, visit now this soul of mine. Inspire all my thoughts. Pervade my imagination. Suggest all my decisions. Lodge in my will's most inward citadel and order all my doings. Amen

REKNOWN THEOLOGIANS JOIN THEIR HEAVENLY FATHER

Dr. Kurt E. Marquart was called home September 19th. Dr. Marquart served as Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at Concordia Theological Seminary – Fort Wayne. He died peacefully at home after suffering from Lou Gehrig’s disease. Dr. Dean O. Wenhe, CTS President writes: “Earlier in the evening he had baptized his new great-grandson, Evan. Dr. Marquart is survived by his wife, Barbara, and children: Danny; Cynthia (Johnson); Barry; Angela (Hill); and Anthony. They have also been blessed with many grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Dr. Ed Westcott, former Executive Secretary of Foreign Missions, passed away September 12th from heart complications at age 83. His wife, Sylvia has been under hospice care for approximately two months now, following years of treatment for cancer. Former Southern District President, The Rev. Dr. Richard H. Meyer writes: “Ed Westcott grew up in the Southern District when his father was Superintendent of the "Alabama Field" for "Colored Missions" of the Synodical Conference. He lived in Selma until 1935 when he entered Prep School at St. John's in Winfield. After seminary he served in Nigeria and then as a successful pastor in the Southwest before becoming Exec. Sec. for the LCMS Mission Board. Though he was never a member of the Southern District, he had much to do with affairs of the District, especially the Black Churches.

ILLNESSES AND INJURIES

- **George Schaetzle** (St. Paul – Shreveport, LA) was recently in an auto accident, but was not injured, nor was the other driver. He reports that, “the city's insurance company is thinking about totaling my car. That would be too bad. I had just paid it off. Even though it had over 100,000 miles on it, it ran just as smooth as the day I got it. And it had a cassette player on it, which is not available anymore nowadays.”
- **Cheryl Pitts** (Editor – *Spirit of Southern*) had outpatient knee surgery on September 8th to fix torn cartilage. The surgeon assured her that she'll "walk in and walk out - or at least limp out" and he was right!
- **John Ellermann** (Retired – Slidell, LA) is recovering from shoulder surgery that he had on September 14th.
- **Elinor White** (Principal, Grace – Huntsville, AL) is going on disability due to back surgery scheduled for September 27th.
- **Del Gremmels** (Retired – Gulfport, MS) is home and doing well after suffering a heart attack on August 2nd. He will return for heart stints the week of Sept. 25th.
- **Kristin Breaux** (Second Grade teacher – Baton Rouge Lutheran School) has received confirmation from her doctors that she has cancerous cells as a result of a cervical biopsy. She awaits seeing an oncologist to determine the stage of the cancer and what treatment approaches may be recommended.
- **Mindy Schrader** (Wife of Steve who serves Prince of Peace – Ft. Payne and Trinity – Scottsboro, AL) underwent cancer surgery on August 29th. Steve reports that “the surgery went well, and her recovery is progressing. We didn't get the pathology reports we were hoping for, and she may not be completely out of the woods. But we'll deal with that later on. All in all, we're doing okay.”
- **Ken Wegener** (Teacher, St. Paul – New Orleans, LA) remains in Minnesota at the home of his brother, still hoping to return to his teaching position at St. Paul – New Orleans the beginning of October.

- **Carol Stier** (Wife of VA Chaplain Larry Stier – Shreveport, LA) spent a month in the hospital including two weeks of rehab to regulate the blood thinner drug, coumadin, levels. She has been home and going to outpatient rehab and to her doctor for periodic checks on her blood levels. We encourage continued prayers for her blood thickness/thinness levels, Larry requests.
- **Dick Thompson** (Retired – Diamondhead, MS) will be scheduling his left elbow replacement in November. Dick wrote, “I am trying to give my body as much time as possible to fully heal and recuperate... I want to be up and about again before Christmas. The pain is controllable with medications. Doris, didn't get the professorship; the other candidate did.”
- **Sue Schiller** (Board of Directors member, Principal, St. Paul – New Orleans) had her second “new” chemotherapy treatment on September 12th. She reports that she does not feel ill after the treatment, just simply “wiped out.”

May these friends be led by the Spirit to know they are held in nail pierced hands and are being lifted up in prayer by their fellow saints throughout the District.

2007 SYNODICAL CONVENTION DELEGATE NOMINATIONS DEADLINE!

The 2007 Synodical Convention will be held July 14-19 in Houston. On or before **October 14, 2006** all of our Electoral Circuits must choose a pastor and a layperson to represent the congregations of the circuit as voting delegates to the convention. Watch for your Circuit Counselor's call for delegate nominations and his announcement of an election meeting. A letter from District Secretary, The Rev. Dr. James A. Ertl, was sent to all congregations on August 8th regarding this important task.

RETIREMENT CELEBRATED

On Thursday evening, August 17th, Pastors of Circuit #9 gathered for dinner to celebrate the retirement of Chuck Pieplow from Trinity Medical Center in Birmingham, Alabama. Chuck has spent most of his ministry in the Southern District. In 1967 he was called to Christ Lutheran Church in Tuscaloosa, where he served for seven years. He began



clinical pastoral training in Tuscaloosa. Following a year of clinical training in the Baptist Medical Centers in Birmingham, he served as interim pastor for Our Redeemer – Florence, and Christ the King – Muscle Shoals. Then, he went to the Ohio District to serve as pastor to Grace – Thompson, Ohio. When he returned to Birmingham he served on Certification and Accreditation Committees for the Southeast Region, A. C. P. E. Following endorsement from the Lutheran Council, he began a ministry of twenty-five years at the Baptist Health Systems. He also was endorsed for this ministry by the Southern District. He also preached regularly during vacancies at Prince of Peace, Pilgrim, and University Lutheran Churches. The attached picture is a photo of him and his wife of thirty years, Jill Hoogstra. Jill is Executive Director of Episcopal Place, an independent living center for seniors and the physically limited.

MILITARY PRAYER REQUEST

Military Chaplain Timothy E. Sowers returned from Iraq with his unit last spring. He is currently at Ft. Benning, GA, where he serves as a base chaplain. Pastor Sower's unit is expected to redeploy to Iraq sometime next spring.

OVERDUE FAREWELL

Pastor Marv Otto and his wife, **Marlene**, moved to Kingsport, TN, this past February. Marv had retired from Zion – New Orleans, LA, in 2002. Marlene continued to work at the *Times-Picayune* newspaper in New Orleans until her retirement. In preparation for their eventual move from New Orleans, they sold their home and boat and rented an apartment, which was quite fortunate, as they lost no property from the hurricane disaster. They join their daughter and twin granddaughters in Kingsport. Pastor Otto served Zion – New Orleans as Pastor and served area congregations in pulpit supply; was editor of the *Spirit of Southern*; and, District archivist. Many thanks, Marv, for all of your service to the Southern District. May retirement years be full for you and Marlene!

WELCOME

Pastor Blair Clark and his wife, Kim, are traveling to Huntsville, AL, from Shelby Township, MI, where Blair served at Shepherd's Gate as Associate Pastor / Director of Small Group Ministries. Blair and Kim have three children: Jason, Ashley, and Austin. Grace – Huntsville called Blair to serve them as their Minister of Christian Outreach. Rev. Kevin Arndt is the Senior Pastor of Grace. Pastor Clark's installation is set for October 22nd.

SIGNIFICANT DISTRICT AND CHURCH EVENTS

INSTALLATION

Rev. Jesus "Jesse" M. Gonzales was installed as Sole Pastor of Monte de los Olivos – Metairie, LA on September 10th. Jesse served Monte de los Olivos, our Spanish congregation, under the umbrella of St. John – New Orleans, LA, for a number of years.

ROSEBUD MEMORIAL SUNDAY

Retired Pastor James Wiggins, Sr., Chair of the Rosebud Memorial Committee, shares that the Annual Celebration of the Legacy of Dr. Rosa J. Young will be observed on September 24th. The theme for this year is: **Recommitment To Resolve, To Resources, To Results** (St. Luke 24:13-33). Rev. Dr. James B. Marshall (Retired from Faith – Mobile, AL) will be the guest pastor for this event.

CHURCH REDICATION

ST. PAUL – NEW ORLEANS

On October 8th, **St. Paul – New Orleans** will rededicate their sanctuary, which was severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina. The Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, President of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, will be the guest preacher. A reception in their basement, where they have been conducting worship services until now, will follow. St. Paul was featured in a recent article in the New Orleans newspaper, the *Times-Picayune*, regarding the restoration of their building. A crumbling turn-of-the-century fresco was revealed after the hurricane-damaged zinc ceiling was peeled away. Local artisans have painstakingly restored this fresco, which was originally painted in the late 1800s.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

◆ **Trinity Lutheran Church – Scottsboro, AL**, (Rev. Steve Schrader, Pastor) will celebrate its **40th anniversary** the weekend of October 6-8, 2006. The festivities will begin with the annual Oktoberfest on the evening of the 6th ◆, at a residence in Scottsboro. October 7th, the men will bar-b-que and the ladies will prepare side dishes at the church for the meal on the 8th. Sunday morning worship will be at the normal 8:00 AM time, and then there will be a meal at noon, with a worship service after the meal. Most of the former pastors of Trinity will be in attendance, and all former members are invited. RSVP to Rev. Steve Schrader possumcop@earthlink.net or Duncan Wilkinson weethree2@mindspring.com

◆ **Grace Lutheran Church – Houma, LA**, will be celebrating its **50th year** under God's grace beginning Reformation Sunday, October 29th during 9:00 AM worship. Rev. Dr. John Brunner, President of The Eastern District-LCMS, will be the guest preacher. Following this inaugural worship service for their anniversary year will be a special program and luncheon. Grace's pastor, Rev. Kelly Bedard asks that you join them in celebration with your prayers of how God has blessed the mission and ministry of this congregation from 1956 to the present. Also, *Fall Festival 2006* is on *Saturday, October 28* from *9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.* Once again Grace has the joy and privilege of sharing God's love with four local charities that will benefit from all of the Festival proceeds.

◆ **GOOD SHEPHERD – Biloxi, MS** is very actively involved in attempting to finish up repairs to their sanctuary before October 29th, the date on which President Kieschnick will be present to celebrate their **50th Anniversary**. How many of you know that Good Shepherd – Biloxi was President Kieschnick's first parish call? He served Good Shepherd from 1970 to 1973 under Southern District President John Ellermann.

REFORMATION SERVICE

On October 29th, commencing at 4 PM a joint Reformation Service will begin at Christ **Our Savior Lutheran Church – Panama City, FL**, Rev. Robert Lydick, Pastor. The four LCMS churches of Bay County will come together to celebrate the historic Reformation of the church catholic. The guest preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Robert Kuhn, former First Vice-President of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. If you are able to attend please notify me and bring your red stole, cassock and surplice. A German style meal will follow.

OVER 750 GATHER AT CIRCUIT COUNSELORS' CONFERENCE HELD IN MILWAUKEE

Under the theme "Strengthening the Spirit", Circuit Counselors, District Presidents, Officers of the Synod, Synodical Program and Service Boards and support personnel met in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 12th-14th for the first of such meetings in more than 15 years.

The purpose of this combined meeting of over 750 individuals was to acquaint or reacquaint the audience with the **One Mission, One Message and One People** focus of Synod through the **Ablaze** program: the programs and services Synod offers to congregations; and, to help guide circuit counselors with their responsibilities with a revised manual and discussion sharing.

Sessions consisted of speakers, introductions, power point presentations and worship. Synod President Gerald Kieschnick highlighted the **One Mission, One Message and One People** theme, while Synodical Program and Service Boards talked about how their divisions were supplementing this effort.

One important highlight for the 17 circuit counselors of the Southern District was the sharing sessions in groups of 8 or less led by a designated facilitator. Much like Synodical Conventions, the groups were made up of counselors in different Districts of Synod, which made for some interesting comparisons as to how the work is done in different areas, what was the same and how they could improve.

Another highlight of the three-day conference was Wednesday evening communion worship at Old Trinity in downtown Milwaukee, just a few blocks from the meeting center, and introduction of the LSB Hymnal. Free copies were available to all who attended.

The conference gave usual opportunity for fellowship and reunions, followed a tight guideline for time allotment and was complimented with first rate meals and service provided by the Hyatt Hotel personnel.

The Conference was underwritten by a generous \$500,000 grant by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and gratefully acknowledged by the gathering.

Rev. Tom Noon, Circuit #9 Counselor

DON'T MISS THESE OPPORTUNITIES!

NEW WORKER'S ORIENTATION

OCTOBER 4-5

The Southern District Office will host its annual New Workers' Orientation **October 4-5** in New Orleans at The Lutheran Center. Participants will travel to New Orleans on October 3 to attend the orientation, which begins at 9 AM the next day. Anyone who entered the district since the Fall of 2005 is invited. *Anyone who entered the district since the Fall of 2004 is ALSO invited.* The orientation scheduled for 2005 was canceled because of Hurricane Katrina. Details have been sent to attendees individually through their e-mail address.

LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOPS

The first LSB Introductory Workshops are only a month away. The excitement is "in the air" and people are anxious to learn more about the *Lutheran Service Book*. We believe there may be many people that still don't know about the workshops in their "neck of the woods" so please continue to publicize the workshops' locations and dates.

October 7	Concordia College – Selma, AL
October 14	Trinity – Mobile, AL
October 21	Christ – Jackson, MS
October 28	Trinity – Baton Rouge, LA
November 4	St. Paul's – Cullman, AL
November 11	Our Savior – Shreveport, LA

- Each workshop will be three hours in length and will be held from 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM on Saturday mornings. See this site for registration information: <http://lsb.cph.org>. When you register, you will receive your own copy of the new hymnal and a resource guide at the workshop!
- An easy-to-print bulletin insert has been prepared. You can download this resource at: <http://lcms.org/LSBWorkshopInsert>. Be aware that at the bottom of the first page of the insert, there is a place for the church secretary to type in the location and date of the workshops in her/his area **before she/he makes copies**.

CONFERENCE – LUTHERAN EMERGENCY SERVICES CHAPLAINS

Lutheran emergency services chaplains are invited to a first-time conference offering support, training and networking, **November 13-14**, in St. Louis, sponsored by LCMS World Relief and Human Care. An LCMS World Relief and Human Care grant enabled coordinators to make the conference as affordable as possible. The \$50 registration fee includes one night's lodging and three meals. **Registration must be completed by October 1** and is limited to the first 150 participants. Contact Judy Ladage, (800) 238-1930, Ext. 1388, or judy.ladage@lcms.org.

MONEY MATTERS

	<u>DISTRICT INCOME/BUDGET</u>	
BUDGET	2005 (\$1,060,000)	2006 (\$1,075,000)
Budget through September 15 th	\$706,667	\$716,667
Income through September 15 th	\$618,522	\$647,249

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.lcmsdistricts.org/southern

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE ADDRESS AND NUMBERS

PLEASE ADDRESS YOUR MAIL TO OUR LOCATION ADDRESS:

2240 Lakeshore Drive / New Orleans, LA 70122.

Use our main phone number for all staff, 504-282-2632.

Our fax number is 504-283-4885.

NOTE: *Southern District Disaster Relief Phone number remains 225-752-5590.
They have no FAX.*

PASTORS PIFS AND SETS

A number of pastors have asked about updating their personnel information. Our office welcomes those requests. Some of our pastors have never completed the electronic Self-Evaluation Tool and their material is quite old. It is to your advantage to update your material at your convenience instead of waiting until a request has been made by another district for your material.

To update your PIF and SET you can find the forms with instructions on the web site of the Minnesota South District. The District President of Minnesota South, The Rev. Dr. Lane R. Seitz, designed these forms using the software, FileMaker Pro. The forms are "housed" there to maintain their quality.

For PIF information go to <http://www.mns.lcms.org>

Click on **Resources**, then **Forms**.

For SET information cut and paste this link into you web browser.

<http://www.mnsdistrict.org/Resources/COP/tabid/119/Default.aspx>

If you do not have in your personal files copies of what the President's office has in their office files, e-mail Marion at MLCKenne@aol.com for a copy to be mailed via postal service to you.



THIS HOPE THAT WE SHARE – DISASTER RELIEF

The Rev. Dr. Robert C. Preece, Texas District Area B Vice-President, will be bringing volunteers to **Lutheran Church of the Pines – Waveland, MS**, to work mid-November. Specifically, they hope to complete the youth ministry space so that it is once again usable by the youth and the community. Circuit #13 of the Texas District has chosen to direct their circuit-wide 2006 Reformation Service offering for the purchase of construction supplies.

We are currently asking for updated information on those congregations most affected by last year's storms. It will be posted on our Web Site

Ablazing Grace DVD's Available for Purchase - The Southern District hosted a family gathering in 2005 in Panama City Beach, FL. Three DVD's are being offered for sale: one includes a gathering summary/devotionals/worship and two DVD's feature Pastor Greg Finke of Messiah - Bullock Creek, MI speaking on the topic: "From a Spark to Ablaze: Igniting Your Church Toward Kingdom Growth." For information or to order, contact Alison at alcampolcms@aol.com or by calling 504-282-2632.

Parish Services Congregation Partnership/Connection Project - Four congregations to date have applied to participate in this special project. The goal is to serve a minimum of eight congregations through this pilot project over the next year. For details or more information, contact Gene Menzel at 504-282-2632 or by e-mail at gwmenz@aol.com.

EXPLORE What a Way!

You are encouraged to review and obtain a copy of **What A Way** resource! **What a Way** has partnered with Concordia Publishing House and a team of experienced educators to develop a curriculum for both Sunday Schools and Day Schools. By providing creative lessons and activity ideas, it will hold up and encourage opportunities to serve Jesus in your children's daily lives and future careers. Building on the theme "What a way to make a difference!," the curriculum will emphasize Christian caring (grades K-2), Christian living (grades 3-5), and Christian growing (grades 6-8). The resource is available for order! Learn more by going to: <http://whataway.lcms.org/>



2007 NATIONAL LCMS YOUTH GATHERING – Did your congregation receive the 2007 Gathering Registration Book? If not, please call 1-800-248-1930, ext. 1155. The booklet contains your congregation's ID# which must be noted on all registration forms. The dates for the Gathering are July 28 – August 1 in Orlando, FL. Cherie Endrihs and Cindy Namanny serve as district coordinators to help you with questions and training. Their e-mails are cendrihs@aol.com and dce@orlcms.org.

Actions to take now:

1. Pray for the success and blessing on the 2007 Gathering!
2. Appoint a congregational contact person for the 2007 Gathering. This contact person can be the primary point person for communications.
3. Everything you need to know about registering for the gathering is in the Gathering registration book. **Registration opens October 25, 2006 with the priority window running through November 8, 2006.** Online registration can be accessed at www.lcmmsgathering.com Participants opting to register online will print their completed online registration form **and mail** it to the Gathering Office along with their group's completed signature forms, found on page 14 of the Registration Book. **All forms for online registrants must be mailed on or after October 25, 2006.** Any forms arriving at the National Gathering office postmarked before October 25, 2006 will be returned and your group registration will be delayed.

Benefits of Online Registration

- a. Allows participant information to be entered with a greater degree of accuracy.
- b. Saves the National Gathering Office valuable resources of time and money, all of which helps keep dollars working for great Gathering programs and not expensive data entry.
- c. Enables a faster turnaround time between registration and housing confirmations for all gathering participants.
- d. Participants using online registration may begin entering information now. They still may not mail completed online forms and signature forms prior to the priority window (October 25).
4. Identify Family Group Adult Leaders (FGAL's). The FGAL is a vital component for a successful Gathering experience. **It may be necessary that several congregations combine groups since there are specific adult/youth ratios. No youth in the District should be denied the opportunity of a Gathering experience.**
5. Keep updated by making regular visits to the Gathering website at: www.lcmmsgathering.com
6. Consider whether the scholarship grants for youth/families displaced by hurricanes can help any of your youth to attend.

Scholarship grant monies for youth participation in the 2007 Gathering are being allocated on the basis of need due to hurricane impact. Efforts have been made to assign a predetermined level of support to congregations on the basis of known severity of the hurricane(s). Grant monies may be used toward payment of NYG registration fee, hotel, or travel costs. We accept that not all families were affected in the same way and therefore the grants will be of varying amounts. Our preliminary thought is that the maximum grant available will be \$600 to the youth of a family most adversely affected by the hurricanes. The size of the grant is subject to the number of youth we are asked to support. The application form must be completed and returned to the Southern District Office **by October 1, with registration monies being sent to the congregation by October 15, 2006** if we have received a listing of youth gathering participants. Congregations scheduled to receive grant monies **for travel and hotel costs, these funds will be sent to the congregation by July 1, 2007.**

Young Adult Volunteers - Young Adult Volunteers will assist in a variety of ways at the Gathering. They will be matched to different program teams (such as Servant Events, Experiential, Interest Centers, etc.) depending on the team's needs and the Young Adult's interest and experience. The YAVC is designed to offer young adults meaningful tasks that will develop their leadership abilities as well as "get stuff done." **Eligible young adults must be 19-24 years old at the time of the Gathering (at least one year out of high school).** Go to www.lcmsgathering.com to learn more about the costs and commitments to serve as a young adult volunteer. Registration is now open. Young adults interested in serving in the YAVC can log-in at this Website, complete the online YAVC application, print it, and mail it in with the covenant. Young adults can also download, copy off, and give a reference form to their pastor, DCE or youth leader to complete and send in to the Gathering. Two references are required.

2007 LCMS Adult Gathering

2007 marks 30 years of LCMS National Youth Gatherings. This year's Gathering will include a track for an Adult Gathering. The Adult Gathering is for any LCMS adult (ages 25 or older). Whether you are a Gathering alumnus or an adult who has always wanted to experience a National Gathering, make plans to join in CHOSEN: The 2007 LCMS Adult Gathering. Registration opens simultaneous to the Youth Gathering registration and will accommodate up to 2,000 adults. Go to www.lcmsgathering.com to learn the particulars of the Adult Gathering.

UPCOMING DISTRICT EDUCATOR CONFERENCES

- October 5-7** **Southern District Principals'/Directors' Conference**
(Sheraton Four Points in Metairie, LA)
 Presenters: Dick Weniger on Branding
 Dan Krause on Marketing
 Rev. Dr. John Nunes on Vision and Leadership
- November 19-21** **Southern District Teachers' Conference**
(Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, AL)
Theme: Powerful Words
 Presenters: Rebecca Fisher – Bullying
 Terry Schmidt – Ablaze & NLSA Training
 Dave Widenhofer & Ross Stueber – Leadership
 Mary Widenhofer – Early Childhood

Educator of the Year Nominations - The deadline for nominations to be mailed is September 27. Please reference your teachers, board members, and parents to our website which has all of the information and the forms. The address is www.lcmsdistricts.org/southern and click on "Schools" in the left panel and then click on "Educator of the Year."

CHECK IT OUT – DO YOU NEED ANY OF THESE ITEMS!

Trinity Lutheran – Leesville, LA gives thanks to God for a new organ! The congregation has the old organ available to provide to another congregation. Pastor Gary Archbold is the pastor. He shared that Trinity also has a couple of smaller organs available to congregations. If interested in learning more about the organs, please give Rev. Archbold a phone call at 337-462-6204 (home) or 337-239-2457 (church).

Trinity Lutheran – Panama City, FL has 18 - 7/8 X 12" and 8 - 1 1/8 X 15" 51% Beeswax Candles available. Contact Brenda Ammerman at 850-763-2412 or trinitypc1@knology.net.



BUILDING NOTES
WHAT'S GOING UP AND WHAT'S COMING DOWN!

Good Shepherd – Panama City, FL – is expanding their narthex and adding bathroom facilities upstairs in the sanctuary area for the sake of convenience.
St. Mark's – Elberta, AL – Pastor Keith Ringers reports, "The building is progressing well, somewhat ahead of schedule. Completion date could be mid-to-end of September but, more likely, sometime in October. Meanwhile, temporary offices are set up in the Sunday School rooms and Bible classes are held in the church."



FINAL PAYMENTS DUE OCTOBER 6!!!

2007 LCMS District Cruise ~ Feb 5-10, 2007

Cruise questions may be directed to Ginger Kramp at 334-881-0959 (home) or 601-991-1109 (cell) or sdpastorscruise@yahoo.com

VACANCIES/CALLS AS OF September 18, 2006

CONGREGATIONS IN THE CALLING PROCESS FOR PASTOR

Lillian, AL – Shepherd of the Bay
 New Orleans, LA – St. John
 New Orleans, LA – Zion
 Sulphur, LA – Trinity
 Columbus, MS – Our Savior
 Gulfport, MS – St. Matthew
 Meridian, MS – Trinity

PAX (sleeping peaceful in Christ),
 Kurt