



# *This Ministry That We Share*

*Southern District - LCMS  
September 2, 2014*



## I COUNT EVERYTHING AS LOSS

*Indeed I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. (Philippians 3:8)*

Paul could make this statement. Can we? We may sing about it, even pray about it--but as most people know, including me, it may still be too bold a statement to make about one's own life.



The basis of Paul's statement can be traced back to his confrontation with the Resurrected Christ. Prior to that time, he, Saul (not yet renamed Paul by Jesus) had been busily defending the old faith and the tradition of the fathers. It was his pride and joy to be numbered among the most faithful. When he heard of people following this new Way (not yet identified by the name "Christian"), he turned his zeal to their extermination because it was polluting and damaging the faith of the fathers.

It was on Saul's journey to Damascus to find and bind these "wrongheaded," deluded souls that he was abruptly stopped by a bright light and an unfamiliar voice: "Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" Recognizing that he was being confronted by the Lord, Saul asked shakily, "Who are You, Lord?" And the answer came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting"! That did it for Paul. As soon as he regained his eyesight, he turned around 180 degrees. Jesus' gracious conversion included a new name "Paul" to mark his new life. From that time on, his tremendous zeal was devoted to making known the Good News of Jesus.

Being a Christian in those days was risky, dangerous business. This letter to the Philippians was written years later by Paul who was now imprisoned for his witness of faith. The people who had come to know Jesus Christ through Paul's preaching at Philippi had not forgotten their teacher. Paul, their spiritual father, wants these young Christians to know that God is still in charge, regardless of what happens to him or to them. "I want you to know that what happened to me has really served to advance the Gospel." Moreover, as he recounts the course of his own life, he can say, "I count everything as nothing compared with the excellency of knowing Jesus as my Lord."

Only those who have walked with Jesus over the hard ways, the rough roads, and the

dark times can make this assertion. The world has nothing compared to what the love of God brings to the human heart.

*We pray: O most loving Father, You will us to give thanks, for all things, to dread nothing but the loss of You, and to cast all our care on You, who cares for us; preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, and grant that no cloud of this mortal life may hide from us the light of that love which is immortal, and which You have manifested to us in Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

### IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOU!

~click on event for more information~

[Southern District 74th Convention](#)



June 4-5, 2015 at Concordia College,  
Alabama in Selma, Alabama

	<b>ADDITIONAL DATES FOR 2014</b>	
September 14	Rev. Dr. McNair "Tony" Ramsey Retirement Celebration	Immanuel - Vredenburgh, AL 3 p.m.
September 19	Southern District Board of Directors	The Mission Center Slidell, LA
September 28	Rosa J. Young Memorial Celebration	Christ Lutheran Church Rosebud, AL
October 3-5	"Build Up the Walls" Gathering	St. Paul Lutheran Church New Orleans, LA
November 7-9	Junior High Youth Gathering	Blue Lake Camp Andalusia, Alabama
November 14-16	Junior High Youth Gathering	Tall Timbers Camp Forest Hill, Louisiana
November 23-26	So. Dist. Annual Commissioned Ministers Conference	Atonement Lutheran Church Metairie, LA
November 27	Thanksgiving	The Mission Center is closed.

### "BUILD UP THE WALLS" Gathering

Based upon the Book of Nehemiah

Sponsored by the Association of Downtown Lutheran Churches

Friday, October 3-Sunday, October 5, 2014

St. Paul Lutheran Church

2624 Burgundy St., New Orleans, LA 70117

504-945-3741

Pastor Host: The Rev. Kevin Kieschnick

[www.downtownchurches@aol.com](mailto:www.downtownchurches@aol.com)

[www.downtownchurches.org](http://www.downtownchurches.org)

## THE ROSA J. YOUNG MEMORIAL CELEBRATION

**"WORSHIP, WORD, WITNESS"** Rom. 10:8-15

is the theme of the annual memorial commemorating Dr. Young to be held Sept.28.

### FILMING AT THE ROSA J. YOUNG MEMORIAL CELEBRATION



The annual Memorial Celebration commemorating the life of Rosa J. Young will be held at Christ Lutheran Church in Rosebud, AL, on September 28th. Rosa J. Young (1890-1971) is known as the mother of Black Lutheranism in Central Alabama. She was a strong advocate for the education of rural children.

Synod's Department of Communications with Mrs. Susan Hill and Mrs. Kaye Wolff will be filming scripts for the Rosa J. Young film **"THE FIRST ROSA"** in the area. The film project is based on the book: Light in The Dark Belt written by Dr. Young. [Click on this link](#) and read the history of Dr. Young written by our own [Rev.](#)

[Thomas R. Noon](#) of Birmingham.

## ANOTHER PASTOR RETIRES ...

On September 14th at 3:00 p.m. [Rev. Dr. McNair "Tony" Ramsey](#) will retire from his ministry at **Immanuel Lutheran Church** in **Vredenburgh, AL**. But, knowing Tony, he will not retire from ministry! [Rev. Aubrey Watson](#) of **Holy Cross Lutheran** in **New Orleans** will preach and [Rev. Dr. James P. Brown](#) (**Emeritus - Pensacola, FL**) will serve as the Liturgist. Other pastors will assist as readers and prayer leaders. A dinner will follow the celebratory service.

Pastor Ramsey will have served Immanuel for 32 years; nineteen of those years as a Certified Lay Deacon, thirteen years as an ordained Pastor. All Pastors are asked to bring their robes and red stoles.

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES  
celebrating the ministry of pastor and people.

**90th ~ Augustana Lutheran Church in Alexandria, LA**  
[Rev. William H. Vogt](#), Pastor

- **Celebratory Worship Service September 7th at 3 p.m.**
- **Reception immediately following at Mt. Triumph Baptist Center/Robert Perry Family Life Center**

**90th ~ Trinity Lutheran Church in Selma, AL - Fall of 2014.**  
[Rev. Steven Washington](#), Pastor

## 175th ~ St. Paul Lutheran Church in New Orleans, LA - 2015

Rev. Kevin Kieschnick, Pastor

### APPRECIATION IS A GIFT. . .

On September 21st the members of **Bethel Lutheran Church** in **Point Clear, Alabama**, will rejoice in celebration of their Pastor, **Rev. Dr. Ulmer Marshall, Jr.** and his thirty years in the ministry. "It is indeed a milestone, for him to have journeyed with a determined spirit to be a pillar within our church and the Point Clear community."

### OUR STEWARDSHIP OF HIS RESOURCES

District and Synod Mission Support Trends	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Total Budget	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000
Budgeted Income through 8/15	\$ 641,700	\$ 641,700	\$ 641,700
Actual Income through 8/15	\$ 596,054	\$ 606,069	\$ 537,591

### news around town

**St. Paul Lutheran Church** in **Birmingham, Alabama**, now offers food assistance in the Titusville and UAB communities of Birmingham. As of July 21st St. Paul Lutheran opened a fully stocked Food Pantry. The congregation partnered with the Community Food Bank of Central Alabama, with area Lutheran churches and with other local businesses. "We know that there are many just in our own back yard who suffer from malnutrition. We can now do something about it." - **Rev. R. Daniel Carlson**, Senior Pastor of St. Paul. "Not only is this a great service for those who struggle with hunger, but it is also a service to UAB students who need personal care products, detergents, extra food, and other necessities while in college."

**University Lutheran Church** in **Tuscaloosa, Alabama**, is jumpstarting the new school year at UAB by advertising themselves as "Your Lutheran Connection on Campus." Posters and postcards were prepared to invite any student for fellowship. August 17th is designated as their *Welcome Sunday* followed by a *Student Kickoff Supper* on August 20th. The congregation will host a *Student Supper* every Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. (You can never go wrong offering food to college students!) **Marie Parsons**, a member of University Lutheran, is the driving force in recognizing the mission field of a campus and "thinking outside the box" in developing relationships. **Rev. Charles Pieplow** is serving University as their Interim Pastor.

### REALLY, WHAT'S ONE MORE FORM???

#### OR TWO OR THREE. . .

Forms soon to be mailed from Synod's Office of Rosters and Statics to you to be completed are the following:

**School Lutheran Annual Form (8/12) ... School Statistical Form (9/1)  
Congregation Youth Form (8/13) ...**

**LUTHERAN ANNUAL FORMS** were mailed to congregations and churchworkers the first week of June. If you haven't received one, email Janice Spink in Synod's Rosters and Statistics Department at [janice.spink@lcms.org](mailto:janice.spink@lcms.org). If you are a church worker and forgot your password to complete this form online, Janice can provide a password to you.



**WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER. . . .**

**IN CELEBRATION!!** Rev. Aaron Fenker (Immanuel-Bossier City) and wife Sarah announce the arrival of Eva Marie Fenker ( 8 lbs. and 21 in.) on August 13, 2014! She was baptized into Christ on August 17, 2014. Welcome, Eva!

~ ~ ~

.....the family of Rev. Kenneth Buth , of Gainesville, Florida, who was taken peacefully to his heavenly home on August 24, to be with his Lord. Rev. Buth was most recently Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Sulphur, Louisiana. A Memorial Service will be held at Trinity, date and time to be announced.

~ ~ ~

**These brothers and sisters in Christ coping with cancer:**

- Rev. Jack Betz (Emeritus - Miramar Beach, FL)
- Rev. Jerry Conley (Emeritus - Marianna, FL)
- Mrs. Gloria Moritz, wife of Rev. Victor Moritz (Emeritus - Metairie, LA)
- Rev. Sidney Ponseti (Emeritus - Baton Rouge, LA)
- Rev. Ed Rogers (Emeritus - Ozark, AL)
- Mrs. Doris Taglauer, wife of Rev. Jim Taglauer (Emeritus - Folsom, LA) diagnosed
- Mrs. Evy Weier, wife of Rev. Gary Weier (Emeritus - Gulfport, MS)
- Rev. Bill Wise (Emeritus - Destin, FL) recently diagnosed

**These brothers and sisters in Christ coping with various health issues:**

- Rev. Rory Hermann - Good Shepherd - Gulf Breeze, FL

*May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed. Thessalonians 2: 16-17 (NIV)*

**CALLS AND VACANCIES**

**CONGREGATIONS IN THE CALLING PROCESS  
FOR A PASTOR**

**ALABAMA**  
First - Birmingham

**LOUISIANA**  
Atonement - Metairie

## COPYRIGHT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### Provided by Christian Copyright Solutions (CCS)

#### **Question:**

I understand that we cannot change the words of a song without permission, but what about the music arrangement itself? For example, can we take a song that was written for a solo artist, and arrange it for an SATB choir?

#### **Answer:**

When you create a new arrangement, you are creating a "derivative work," which is one of the exclusive rights of the copyright owner. Before you create a new arrangement, you must have the copyright owner's permission, except in the case of songs that are in the Public Domain.

#### **Question:**

So, since our church has an internet performance license which allows us to legally stream our services online, can we include new "arrangements"--- like adding extra choruses or a guitar solo-in our performance that will appear online?

#### **Answer:**

Musical changes to an arrangement happen on the fly all the time, either by mistake or intention. Taking an author's original, written musical representation of a song and performing a repetition of the chorus or letting your guitarist ad lib for several measures is not considered to be copyright infringement. However, creating a new written arrangement without the copyright owner's consent is infringement.

To help draw the distinction, here are a couple of examples:

- You may have a talented group of singers who are able to add harmonies to a solo piece, without using a new arrangement that includes the written harmonization. Performing the harmonies is fine. However, if your singers do require a written representation of the harmonies, you must get the copyright owner's consent to put it in writing.
- You may have a really talented worship band that can hear a sound recording and then play it with no written reference. Performing the song without written reference is fine. However, in order to have some talented individual listen to the song and write it down for the band to play from, you would need the permission of the author.

If you have the CCS WORSHIPcast License, you are legally covered to *perform* the song (i.e. lyrics and melody) over the internet. In reality (depending on talent level and the extent of your performers' ad-libbing), it may not be obvious to the listener whether you are playing from memory, from the author's original work, or from a new arrangement. However, be aware that, if the performance you stream sounds like an intentional, new arrangement, you could raise a red flag and you could find yourself and your church in court.

When you need a new, written arrangement, it's always simplest to purchase one that is already being distributed with the permission of the copyright holder. Otherwise, you'll need to contact the copyright holder directly to secure permission.

*This document provides information and not legal advice. For more information and resources, including fact sheets, videos and idea kits, visit our page at [http: www.christiancopyrightsolutions.com/](http://www.christiancopyrightsolutions.com/).*

## LOOKING FOR BARGAINS? LOOK NO MORE! CPH SALE!

CPH's Annual Warehouse Sale CPH is now online! It will take place November 3-10, 2014. Customers will be able to access the sale by visiting [cph.org](http://cph.org).

## THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY-Electronic Giving



A definition of generous includes this phrase: *freely sharing valuable things. Freely sharing . . .no strings attached. . .no tit for tat. . .nothing expected in return. Valuable things: your child. What is more valuable than a life of someone you love beyond measure?*

As we reflect on this message, remember *Those Who Don't Yet Know Jesus*. Your continued support for the mission and ministry of the Southern District is requested.

If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings, we encourage you to look into our electronic online giving options.

Visit [here](#) or contact Ronnie Giaise at the Southern District office for more information --- [r.giaise@southernlcms.org](mailto:r.giaise@southernlcms.org).

Illustration by Patti Miller, Member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fairhope, Alabama.

[Southernlcms.org](http://Southernlcms.org)

Southern District -LCMS

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