



December 2009

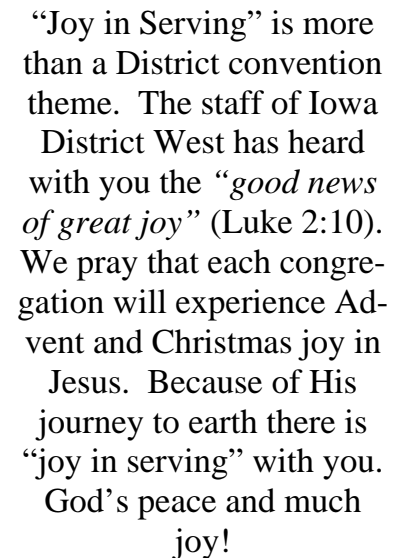
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9. Fan Into Flame Newsletter—Ruth Gerken
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ALSO INCLUDED...

- Weekly Bible Study Inserts (4)
- Parish Paper
- Pre-Retirement Workshop



“Joy in Serving” is more than a District convention theme. The staff of Iowa District West has heard with you the “*good news of great joy*” (Luke 2:10). We pray that each congregation will experience Advent and Christmas joy in Jesus. Because of His journey to earth there is “joy in serving” with you. God’s peace and much joy!



Calendar of Events

December

- 24-25—Christmas Holiday, District Office Closed
- 28-January 4—IOWAY Mission Trip
- 30-January 1—New Year Holiday, District Office Closed

January

- 9—Treasurers Workshop, Guthrie Center
- 16—Treasurers Workshop, Spencer

Please note: The inclusion of items from outside sources in *The Monthly* is for information purposes only. Inclusion of such items does not constitute District endorsement.

CALLS ACCEPTED

Rev. Paul Frank, Manilla, to Mesa, AZ.

Rev. Mark Hansen, Deloit/Kiron, to Rock Rapids.

CALL DECLINED

Rev. Jon Dunbar, Algona, to Manning.

CALLS RECEIVED

Rev. Jason Hoerth, Cabot, PA, to Manning.

Rev. Marcel Kohlmeyer, Ireton, to Orchard, NE.

“Thank you!”

Numerous District congregations have connections with Lutheran school teachers Gregg and Noreen Bohl. Noreen is on the staff of Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School, Spencer. The Bohls were injured in a June 2009 motorcycle accident. Noreen continues her recovery from several surgeries on her leg. A benefit was held for the Bohls on October 17. The Bohls share these words, “Thank you to all who attended the benefit or sent cards and other gifts. We will always remember your prayers and generosity on our behalf.”

Mission Invitations for Children and Youth

“Amigos en Cristo” (friends in Christ) is the focus of the Sunday school, Midweek, Lutheran School mission project. Children’s ministry groups are invited to be partners in this project during this school year. Invite the children to bring Jesus as the Friend of our Hispanic friends and neighbors. Information is included in this “Monthly.”

Stewards in all Seasons

As harvest concludes, we are reminded of the harvest of blessings. Consider “Consecrated Steward,” “Excel in the Grace of Giving,” “First Fruits Giving Week” or other resources that are recommended through the District Office. Iowa District West has six trained Consecrated Steward consultants ready to serve in any region of the District.

Weather-related Announcements

Now is the time to make connections with local radio stations and other media for service or event cancelations. Many systems are now Web-based. Information was received at the District Office from WHO news radio 1040. “WHORADIO.COM” guides one through the process.

Leadership Training

Concordia University, St. Paul is the site for an “Elders Retreat” on January 29-30, 2010. The featured presenter is Rev. Matt Harrison. Cost is \$35 per person. More information is available at www.bethlehem-eaststpaul.org. The event begins Friday evening at 7 p.m. and concludes by 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Mission Support

Thank you for your continuing support of District mission and ministry. Congregations are encouraged to fulfill (or exceed) their commitment to District. Contributions to the 2009 District budget can be submitted until late January 2010. Congregation commitments to District for 2010 should be submitted to the District Office by January 15.

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