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ALSO INCLUDED...

- Weekly Bible Study Inserts (4)
- Parish Paper



February 2010

Calendar of Events

- 6—Outreach Workshop, Faith, Council Bluffs
- 11-12—Pre-Retirement Workshop, Denison
- 13—Outreach Workshop, Gloria Dei, Urbandale
- 19-21—Confirmand Retreat, Camp Okoboji
- 20—Outreach Workshop, Prince of Peace, Fort Dodge
- 21—Outreach Workshop, First English, 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. Marcel Kohlmeyer, St. Paul, Ireton, to Orchard, NE.
Rev. Erland Asmus, Auburn/Lake City, to Afton, MN.

Personal Missions Information

Among non-Christians approximately 80% believe that both God and heaven exist. Nearly as many (70%) also believe that hell exists. By overwhelming numbers, people do believe in the existence of both a deity and life after death, but they either reject or are unaware of this god's identity and/or what separates those who spend eternity in heaven or hell. In these two questions, non-Christians do not disbelieve as much as they misbelieve. Often this misbelieve leads them to conclude that good people go to heaven and bad people go to hell or that everyone goes to heaven, except humanity's very worst. Often, times of death, sickness or tragedy, call these assumptions into question, and we as their Christian friends, family, and neighbors hold the hope they need, because we know that we are saved as a gift apart from our own works and that Jesus is the holy way to eternal life. He is the revelation of the One True God, and His cross alone is the source of heavenly peace for all people.

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."



Outreach Resources

The Oswald Hoffman Institute for Christian Outreach has released a four DVD set on Missional Leadership. The set includes presentations by Rev. Dr. Robert Newton and Rev. Jerry Kosberg. These dynamic leaders walk viewers through knowing and sharing the mission of God and the formation of spiritual leadership within the lives of Christ's disciples. More information is available from Mark Press at the Institute or by exploring <https://www.csp.edu/form/ohsco/wml/dvd/>

Haiti Assistance

Stories and pictures of the earthquake devastation in Haiti continue to touch our hearts and hopefully the sharing of our own bounty. The LCMS Web site (www.lcms.org) provides updates on the response of our church to the situation. Consider a congregational and/or personal financial gift to provide assistance.

Mission Support

Thank you to the congregations that faithfully and generously supported the mission and ministry of the District in the past fiscal year (Feb. 1-Jan. 31). Your gifts and prayers provide Gospel outreach to multi-ethnic communities, support of LCMS ministries and District service to your congregation. May God bless our stewardship life together.



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