

# YES NOTES



May 2009  
Iowa District West

**Youth, Education, and Stewardship Ministries**

Please share generously with volunteers and professional leaders in “YES” ministries. Additional information on YES and other District ministries is available at the District Web site: [www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org)

*“Humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.” James 1:21*

Praise God for planters. Praise God for those who go to large fields or small garden plots to place the seeds in the ground that will yield the harvest months from now. Praise God for pastors, teachers, parents, youth leaders, and others who sow the seed of the Word in the hearts of God’s children of all ages. They will be part of growing an eternal harvest!

### Praise God for the Seed of The Word

To instruct congregations in the “Joy in Serving” District Convention theme, District staff has prepared a three week sermon/Bible study series. While the series may be used anytime, pastors are invited to use the series the first three weeks of June. The series will be posted on the District Web site by May 1. Bible study inserts exploring the weekly Gospel readings are again included.

### Praise God for Stewards of Seed and Soil

Spring is a great time for stewardship education in Iowa. As we plant the seed in the rich soil, we celebrate that it is God who gives us seed, soil, rain, and sunshine. Historically the fifth Sunday of Easter (Rogate Sunday) was a time when seed and soil were dedicated. A special Rogate Sunday rite of dedication is available on the District Web site in the “stewardship” category. Those wishing a “hard copy” are invited to contact the District Office. The special dedication is a gift to congregations from the District Stewardship Committee.

“Stewardship 360” encourages congregation leaders to participate in monthly Biblical stewardship conversation. Rev. Wayne Knolhoff (LCMS Stewardship) and Stu Brassie (Missouri District) will lead the training at St. Paul’s, Fort Dodge on Saturday morning, May 2. Registrations are limited. Contact the District Office to register your congregation.

Congregations are encouraged to contact District Stewardship Assistant, Bob Riggert, or LCEF vice-president Carole White to schedule “Consecrated Stewards” for this fall.

### Praise God for Youth Ministry Planters

“Message Sent” is a mission event for youth and youth leaders. Mission Central near Mapleton, Iowa will be the site for the second event. Missionary to Indonesia, Dr. Lo and his family will be keynote presenters. Guest band is Rough Draft. The event begins at 2 p.m. and concludes by 6 p.m. A meal is provided. Youth groups are asked to register with the Iowa District West Office. Groups are also encouraged to find creative (and generous) ways to support the mission work of Dr. Lo, and to bring their gifts to the “Message Sent” event.

DCEs Cindy Storm and Amy Schmidt are representing our District at a national gathering orientation meeting early in May. Cindy and Amy will be hosting information meetings around the District this summer. Plan now to be part of the July 2010 “We Believe” event in New Orleans.

#### Praise God for Children’s Mission Leaders

Congregations still seeking resources for summer ministries (vacation Bible school, summer Sunday school, etc.) are invited to consider The District’s Camp VBS “Solid Rock” curriculum. It’s Christ-focused, Bible-centered, child-friendly, and includes original music, crafts, and dramas and is inexpensive. Contact the District Office to place an order (or to request a set for previewing).

#### Praise God for the Soil of Lutheran Schools

+ Lutheran schools and preschools continue to accept enrollments for the coming school year. Contact the school administrator in your community. Several District schools will be participating in the Funding Academy hosted by Concordia Lutheran High School in Omaha. The academy developed by LCMS school ministry will be held on June 8-10.

+ The District Early Childhood Conference “Keys to the Future” will be held on Friday, August 7 in Denison. Early childhood educators, board members, and pastors are invited!

#### Praise God For The Call to Plant

Applications for student financial assistance for District students enrolled in a synodical university or seminary and preparing for full-time ministry careers are due by June 15. Rev. David Loeschen, District financial aid director and pastor of Our Savior, Denison is processing applications. The application is posted on the District Web site.

The sixth annual “Joy in Ministry Banquet” will be held on Sunday evening, June 15 at Boulders Conference Center in Denison. Dr. Dale Meyer, President of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis will be the keynote speaker. An information poster is included in this “Monthly.” Reservations are made with the District Office ([sue.light@idwlcms.org](mailto:sue.light@idwlcms.org)). There is no cost for the event.

#### Praise God for the Soil of Camp Okoboji

Iowa District West supports children and youth events at Camp Okoboji by offering financial assistance for those whose family situations (medical, financial, etc.) warrant assistance. The application is available through the church office and must be supported with the explanation and signature of the pastor or other ministry professional. Koepke Endowment grants are limited to 60% of registration costs and must be submitted by the registration deadline. Local congregations (budget, organizations, individual support) are also encouraged to provide assistance for these special faith-nurturing experiences.

*“On what has now been sown the blessing Lord, bestow*

*The pow’r is Thine alone to make it sprout and grow*

*Do Thou in grace the harvest raise, and Thou alone shalt have the praise!” LSB #921*

Rev. Bob Riggert, YES Executive Assistant

[bob.riggert@idwlcms.org](mailto:bob.riggert@idwlcms.org)

Iowa District West  
JOY IN MINISTRY  
Celebration Banquet



Celebrating Ministry Careers  
and Ministry Partners

ON

*Sunday, June 14, 2009*

*Registration begins at 5:30 p.m.*

*Dinner at 6:00 p.m.*

AT

*Boulders Conference Center*

*Denison, Iowa*

*(Denison Country Club, 1215 Donna Reed Rd)*

WITH

*Dr. Dale Meyer, President*

*Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO*

AND

*YOU—Our “Joy In Ministry” Partner*

RSVP by June 1 to Sue Light (515.576.7666 or [sue.light@idwlcms.org](mailto:sue.light@idwlcms.org))

**Dr. Dale A. Meyer**  
**Biographical Information**

Dr. Dale A. Meyer currently serves as the tenth President of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri. He served as the Gregg H. Benidt Memorial Chair in Homiletics and Literature at Concordia from 2001-2005. He is the author of “The Meyer Minute,” a weekday internet commentary. He serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Bible Society. From 1989 to 2001 Dr. Meyer was speaker on the radio program “The Lutheran Hour” and until 2003 he was the host of the television show “On Main Street.”



From 1984 to 1988, Dr. Meyer served as senior pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Collinsville, Illinois. He previously served on the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, from 1981 to 1984 as an assistant professor teaching classes in New Testament and homiletics and director of Resident Field Education. From 1974 to 1981 he served as pastor of St. Salvator Lutheran Church in Venedy, Illinois and St. Peter Lutheran Church in New Memphis, Illinois.

Meyer was born in Chicago Heights, Illinois. He is a 1973 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, earning a Master of Divinity degree. He earned a M.A. (1974) and a Ph.D. (1986) in classical languages from Washington University in St. Louis. In 1993 Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, awarded him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Dr. Meyer served as third vice-president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod from 1995 to 1998. He was a charter board member of ALOA (Association of Lutheran Older Adults), has served as an honorary director of God’s Word to the Nations Bible Society and as a member of the Standing Committee on Pastoral Ministry for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. He was pastoral adviser for the Southern Illinois District of the International Lutheran Laymen’s League and has served as first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary and circuit counselor of the Southern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Meyer has written numerous sermons and columns for Lutheran Hour Ministries, including the booklets “Coping with Cancer” and “Real Men.” He co-authored The Crosses of Lent, in-depth Bible studies of Matthew and Prophecy in the LifeLight series and authored “The Place of the Sermon in the Order of Service” in Concordia’s book Liturgical Preaching for Concordia Publishing House. He has contributed to the Concordia Journal and Issues in Christian Education.

He resides in St. Louis, MO with his wife Diane. They have two grown daughters, Elizabeth and Catharine.

Mission Central presents:

# msg sent

**Here it is in a nutshell:**

A rockin' conference for senior high teens to launch us into the reality of God's love. We receive the msg. of God's love—then God sends us as a msg. to our friends and family.

**And it is free!**



Dr. Lo, missionary,  
will be the featured speaker.

**Schedule:**

**Servant event**  
12-2 p.m.  
**Interactive**  
**Conference**  
2-6 p.m.

No admission cost,  
but donations for  
missionaries  
will be collected.

featuring  
**Rough Draft**

Sunday, June 7 • 2-6 p.m.  
Mission Central, Mapleton, Ia  
Register by Sunday, May 17 by e-mailing  
[Sue.light@idwlcms.org](mailto:Sue.light@idwlcms.org)

*Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. John 20:21*