



May 2010

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### ALSO INCLUDED . . .

- Weekly Bible Study Inserts (5)
- Pastors Golf Outing
- Parish Paper

## Calendar of Events

- May 11—District Board of Directors—Fort Dodge
- May 23—Vocation Celebration for Healthcare Providers, West Des Moines
- May 31—Memorial Day, District Office Closed
- June 13—Joy in Ministry Sunday
- June 13—Joy in Ministry Banquet, Boulders Conference Center, Denison
- June 17-19—District LWML Convention, Camp Okoboji
- June 29-July 12—IOWAY trip to California
- July 10-17—LCMS Convention, Houston
- July 17-21—“We Believe” National Youth Gathering, New Orleans

**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.

## COMMISSIONED MINISTERS

CALL RECEIVED—Jonathan Pickelmann, Midland, MI, to Zion-St. John, Paullina.

CALL ACCEPTED—Jeff Fick, Trinity, Boone, to Elm Grove, WI.

## Personal Missions Information

When new Christians are asked what influenced them to join a particular church, *doctrine and preaching* topped the list at 90%. *Friendliness of members* came in third at 49%. Fewer than a quarter mentioned *specific ministries* such as youth or elderly, and only one in ten mentioned *worship style*. When asked questions about the *church name or building style*, fewer than one in five say these would have been an obstacle to them. These facts remind us of one very important thing. **The message comes first!** As Lutherans, we have the pure message of Jesus preached by faithful and well-trained pastors, which is the very thing needed and desired by new Christians, so regardless of our congregation's worship style, physical appearance, or any other earthly thing, we are the place for people to hear about Jesus and gather with His people.

## RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- ❖ The Iowa District West “**Joy in Ministry**” Sunday is June 13. Every congregation is encouraged to pray for students preparing for ministry careers, recruit students for ministry careers, celebrate the Concordias which prepare church workers, and seek financial gifts for the District “Joy in Ministry” fund which provides financial assistance for District students. Information has been shared with congregations and is also available on the District Web site. The special day will culminate with an evening “Joy in Ministry” banquet at Boulders Conference Center in Denison. Dr. Dean Wenthe, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, will be the banquet speaker.
- ❖ **Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival** invites youth (grades 8-12) to use music as a catalyst for an exploration of personal faith and creativity. Students engage in individual instrument lessons; chamber ensembles; musicianship classes, symphony orchestra, choir and/or band; electives and a culminating Festival of performances. Applications for the academy and for financial assistance for the experiences are available at [www.lutheransummermusic.org](http://www.lutheransummermusic.org).
- ❖ **Lutheran Hour Ministries** is now available on satellite radio (Christian Satellite Network). A list of CSN stations is available at [www.csnradio.com/stations.htm](http://www.csnradio.com/stations.htm). The Hour's men's ministry “Men's NetWork” offers a variety of devotional materials and network experiences. Visit [www.lhmmen.com](http://www.lhmmen.com) for more information.
- ❖ The fellowship Committee of St. Paul's, Council Bluffs is sponsoring a **Fall Tour** to Michigan and Indiana (including St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth and Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne). Contact the church office (712-322-4729) or Ed Termuende (712-325-6984) for more information. Dates of the trip are September 16-22.
- ❖ The **Association of Lutheran Church Musicians** (ALCM) is hosting three mini-conferences for church musicians this summer. ALCM is a national organization formed over 20 years ago which serves church musicians by providing national and regional conferences. These mini-conferences are an attempt to have smaller presentations with less travel distance. Conferences will be held at Lindsborg, KS; Sioux Falls, SD; and Davenport, IA. For more information you may contact ALCM at [www.alcm.org](http://www.alcm.org).

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Synod Convention  
July 10-17, 2010