

# YES NOTES

November 2009  
Iowa District West

Youth, Education, and Stewardship Ministries



Please share generously with volunteers and professional leaders in “YES” ministries.

*“Let us come before him with thanksgiving . . . for the Lord is the great God, the great king above all gods” Psalm 95:2-3*

## **Impact on HEARTS**

Because the Lord made an impact on His creation, we give thanks. Because Jesus makes an impact through His death and resurrection, we give thanks. Because the Spirit gives us responsive hearts, we give thanks. Thanksgiving is a celebration of God’s impact.

## **Impact with YOUTH**

“ImpACT” is the theme of the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Iowa Youth Gathering. Youth from across Iowa will gather Nov. 27-29 at the Embassy Suites to celebrate Christ’s impact on their lives and to consider God’s callings to make an impact for Him in church, family, school and community. Youth are again invited to bring new toys (\$5-\$10) that will be shipped to Los Angeles for the annual Nehemiah project Christmas outreach.

Over 400 junior youth considered the impact of the words “I forgive you” as they gathered over Reformation weekend at the annual Junior Youth Gathering. Their mission gifts had an impact on the Des Moines homeless.

Registrations for the “We Believe” LCMS national youth gathering (July 17-21 in New Orleans) can now be submitted. Visit the gathering Web site ([www.lcmsgathering.com](http://www.lcmsgathering.com)) for updates. District coordinators DCEs Cindy Storm and Amy Schmidt will be providing more information on District transportation and other details at the District gathering. They can be contacted at [coordinator.cindy@idwyg.org](mailto:coordinator.cindy@idwyg.org) or [coordinator.amy@idwyg.org](mailto:coordinator.amy@idwyg.org).

Youth are missionaries. The summer “Message Sent” event at Mission Central teaches youth about the mission fields and trains them to be missionaries in their schools, communities, and beyond. The summer 2010 event will be held August 29. At the 2009 event youth heard Missionary Lo (serving in Cambodia) and committed themselves to support this mission field with their prayers and with \$5,000. Fall youth gathering offerings will be designated to this field. Local groups are also encouraged to send a gift through Mission Central (check to LCMS world missions).

## **Impact in FAMILY**

Men are to be Godly leaders in the home. The Iowa District West Men’s Ministry breakfast has been giving “encouragement” to men for over a decade. The fall breakfast will be hosted by

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sioux City on Saturday, November 14. An information poster is included in this "Monthly." Registration information is posted on the District Web site ([www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org)). Reservations can be made with [sue.light@idwlcms.org](mailto:sue.light@idwlcms.org).

"Parenting Principles" includes thirteen Biblical principles for Christian parenting. The principles can be presented and discussed in a Sunday morning Bible study, special Christian parenting event for the church or community, or other contexts. Contact Executive Assistant Rev. Bob Riggert for more information.

### **Impact as STEWARDS**

Congregation gifts through Iowa District West have an impact on mission fields in the District and around the world. Thank you for your regular and sacrificial offerings. As the harvest is gathered, congregations are encouraged to keep (and perhaps exceed) their projected commitment to District. Congregations will soon be requested to share their 2010 commitment to District/Synod.

Sixteen of Jesus' thirty-eight parables and one out of ten verses in the Gospels refer to money and possessions. The word "give" appears in the Bible 2,172 times. Christian stewardship is always Bible based. It is always Gospel powered. The District has numerous options for stewardship education including Consecrated Stewards. How can we resource your congregation?

Church workers considering retirement have special challenges as stewards of their resources now and in the future. Partnering with Concordia Plans, the District is offering a pre-retirement workshop on Thursday evening and Friday, Feb. 11-12, 2010 at Boulders Conference Center in Denison. More information will be shared.

### **Impact on LUTHERAN SCHOOLS**

Last year generous donors from across Iowa helped raise over \$300,000 for the Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization. Over 330 families and 500 children received tuition assistance for the 2009-2010 school year. With your support we seek to raise over \$400,000 prior to December 31. Donors can receive a 65% tax credit as well as a federal charitable contribution credit (and a Thrivent "match" if they are an eligible Thrivent member). Please consider being an ILSTO donor. Contact your local Lutheran school principal or District coordinator Dewey Torkelson ([Torkelson@iglls.org](mailto:Torkelson@iglls.org) or 712-260-2991). Lutheran schools in Iowa Districts East and West appreciate your support.

### **Impact on future CHURCH WORKERS**

While District financial assistance is typically given to our church work students in August, special gifts are welcomed throughout the year. If your congregation or individuals would like to "adopt" a District student, contact Rev. Dave Loeschen or the District office for suggestions. Also consider an end-of-year gift to the "Joy in Ministry" fund so that these students might continue to receive generous financial support.

YES with praise and thanksgiving!

Rev. Bob Riggert, Executive Assistant  
[bob.riggert@idwlcms.org](mailto:bob.riggert@idwlcms.org)

Iowa District West  
Men's Ministry Breakfast

“God in My Worlds”  
Men as Spiritual Leaders



Saturday, November 14, 2009—8 a.m. to noon

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sioux City  
(3204 South Lakeport; Exit 1 20/75 bypass)

Featuring:



**Richard Cohrs**, Lutheran Hour Ministries; Manager, District and Congregational relations  
Theme: “Men as Spiritual Leaders in the Worlds of Family and Church”

Note: The Lutheran Hour Ministries Men's NetWork ([www.lhmmen.com](http://www.lhmmen.com)) provides connections and resources to equip Lutheran men as spiritual leaders.



**Rev. Paul Sieveking**, President, Iowa District West  
Theme: “Men as Spiritual Leaders in the Community”

Additional information is available at your church office or at [www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org).  
Note: A free (thanks to a Thrivent grant) chartered bus will be available from Fort Dodge.

Cost \$10 - payable at the door  
Register by Monday, November 9  
(515-576-7666 or [sue.light@idwlcms.org](mailto:sue.light@idwlcms.org))