



# Human Care

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OCTOBER—2009

**Iowa District West**

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## ***LCMS Rural Ministry Conference—Nov. 5-7, 2009***

Future cultural values, education, transforming congregations, partnerships, church planting, and stewardship will be topics discussed at the “Reaching Rural America for Christ Conference” - Nov. 5-7, to be held at the Arbor Lodge Lied Conference Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska. This conference, co-sponsored by the LCMS National Mission Rural Small Town Committee and SPIFE (St. Paul Institute for Education) is designed for professional workers and lay leaders in congregations of communities with fewer than 15,000 population, or are economically supported by agriculture. The conference will feature the following topics:

- FUTURE RURAL CULTURAL VALUES—Dr. Randy Cantrell, University of Nebraska School of Agriculture
- CHRIST-CENTERED EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN/YOUTH IN RURAL/SMALL TOWN SETTINGS— Rev. Bob Riggert, IDW Exec. Asst.—Education; Terry Schmidt, LCMS Board for District & Congregational Services.
- TRANSFORMING RURAL/SMALL TOWN CHURCHES— Rev. Richard Boring, Exec. Asst. NE District; Rev. Terry Tieman, Director of the Transforming Churches Network.
- REGIONAL MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS— Rev. Tim Renstrom (MN) and Rev. Gary Griffin (MO).
- OUTREACH AND CHURCH PLANTING— Rev. Scott Snow, LCMS Board for Mission Services.
- BIBLICAL, PERSONAL, AND CONGREGATIONAL STEWARDSHIP—Dr. Stuart Brassie (MO Dist.) and Rev. Wayne Knolhoff (LCMS Board for District & Congregational Services)

The conference begins at 1:30 pm on Nov. 5 and concludes at 1 pm - Nov. 7. Registration is \$325 which includes two nights lodging, six meals, a banquet, and all materials. Registration is limited to 130 participants.

To register, call SPIFE at 888-463-5127. Deadline for registration—Oct. 2.

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### ***Health Care in America—An Ongoing Debate...***

With congress on recess, our representatives are holding town hall meetings around the country in order to discuss health care in our nation. Somewhat surprisingly, there is a great deal of interest and emotion generated within these gatherings. Many do feel that health care in America is hurting. Some express: “We’re not getting our money’s worth; what about people who can’t afford private health insurance?; Medicare is broken and will fail to meet projected future health demands; insurance rates for health care are rising at rates that go far beyond affordability.”

Common consensus agrees that we need a health plan in our country. We just can’t go on the way we’re heading. But just what kind of health plan is best? How can we demonstrate good stewardship of our technology, finances in a way that not only provides a high level of patient care, but also one that shows compassion in acknowledging our human limitations regarding life, longevity, and quality? Keep listening. Keep our leaders in our prayers. (1 Timothy 2:2)

## Life Quotes from Lutherans for Life

The horror of abortion hap-  
pening over 3,000 times each  
day in the U.S. should make  
Christians angry. The silence  
and indifference among pro-  
fessing Christians is discourag-



ing, and should also  
make us angry. But anger must  
not lead us to sin (Ephesians  
4:26). Screaming, yelling, and

returning evil for evil is not the  
way of the Body of Christ. Vio-  
lence, hatred, bitterness, and  
wrath can never bring peaceful  
results (Eph. 4:31). We must  
uphold the truth of the creative  
and redemptive value God has  
placed on all human life, but  
not by using destructive means.  
“Rather, speaking the truth in  
love, we are to grow up in every  
way into Him who is the head,  
into Christ, from whom the

whole body, joined and held  
together by every joint with  
which it is equipped, when each  
part is working properly, makes  
the body grow so that it builds  
itself up in love” (Eph. 4:15-16).

We face complicated issues in  
today’s world, issues about  
which we need to be knowl-  
edgeable. Learn more by calling  
888-364-LIFE, or by visiting  
LFL’s website at  
[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org).

## “Learning to Forgive” ... (from LFS of Iowa)

Having faith and being a Chris-  
tian doesn’t mean we will never  
make mistakes. It means that  
through our mistakes, we ex-  
perience God’s grace, mercy  
and forgiveness, which are ours  
in Christ. Because we have re-  
ceived mercy from God, He  
enables us to grant it to others  
when they hurt us. You will  
make mistakes; so will the peo-

ple you love. Forgive yourself;  
forgive others too.

This little “Building Healthy  
Families” note is from:

Lutheran Family Service of  
Iowa ...with offices in Des  
Moines, Cedar Rapids, Fort  
Dodge, and Sioux City.

Toll free phone #: 800-622-  
7285

**FOR YOUR QUESTIONS  
OR COMMENTS,  
CONTACT:**

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**LAKE CITY, IA 51449**

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## A table prayer for you



Our thanks to Thee for love that’s shared,

Our thanks to Thee for food prepared.

Bless Thou the cup, bless Thou the bread.

Thy blessing rest upon each head.

Lord, bless us one and all we pray,

as we are gathered here today.

In Jesus’ holy Name, Amen.