

YES NOTES

September 2010
Iowa District West

Youth, Education, and Stewardship Ministries



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

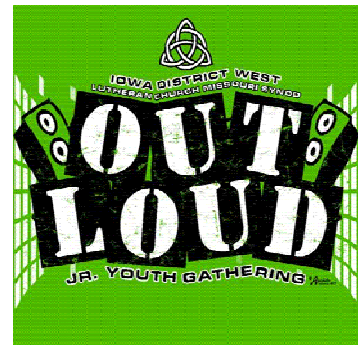
YES to Beautiful Feet

“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” (Romans 10:15; Is. 52:7)

Traveling on the mission team through East Asia we were reminded that the feet were considered “dirty” in that culture. Experiencing where the feet traveled and stepped one could understand their concern. Our feet (and hands and tongue and heart) are all dirty because of sin. But Jesus whose perfectly beautiful feet were nailed to the cross has washed our feet with His blood. We have cleansed feet. As we step into the contexts of our lives with the message of our Savior’s love, Jesus notes that have beautiful feet.

Beautiful Feet of Youth Leaders

Youth leaders are encouraged to share the registration information for the Iowa District West Junior Youth Gathering “Out Loud.” Registration form and payments are due to DCE Cindy Storm by September 24. Limited financial assistance is available for those youth whose family situations warrant assistance. Congregations are encouraged to also provide financial assistance for youth to attend. The “Out Loud” Gathering will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in West Des Moines on October 30-31. The focus of the gathering will be the articles of the Apostles’ Creed continuing with the tradition of a catechetical emphasis. Registration materials have been sent to all congregations. They are also available at www.idwlcms.org or www.idwyg.org.



Registration information for “The Text” Iowa Youth Gathering will soon arrive at congregation offices. The youth gathering moves to the weekend before Thanksgiving (Nov. 19-21) this year. “The Text” will emphasize a message far more important than the latest phone “text.” God speaks to youth (and adults) through His Word. Read His Text and experience “The Text” with hundreds of Iowa youth.

Youth leaders seeking assistance in organizing or refocusing youth ministry are invited to contact Pastor Riggert or Youth Services Committee chairman Rev. Steve Hayden.

Thanks to Gary Thies and the Mission Central volunteers and the partners of Peace, Rock Rapids for assisting with the “Message Sent” youth mission event.

Beautiful Feet of Teachers

One hundred and thirty early-childhood educators from thirty-four District early childhood centers attended the August 6 “Building Blocks” conference. Kim Marxhausen provided the attendees professional and spiritual perspectives on change dynamics. The District has 49 early childhood ministries.

Eight District Lutheran elementary schools began classes in mid-August. We welcome Jon Jenks as principal of Zion-St. John, Paullina and we commend Teacher Jan Moeller who will serve as lead teacher at Trinity, Boone during an administrative vacancy. Lutheran schools continue to be blessed through the Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization tax-credit contributions. Contact Dewey Torkelson (deweytorkelson@hotmail.com) or visit the ILSTO Web site (www.iowalutheransto.org) for more information.

Sunday school teachers and other parish educators will be blessed by viewing the “Sowing Seeds of Faith” workshop (shared across the District last spring). The workshop is available directly on the District Web site or by requesting a workshop CD from Jason Fuller (jason.fuller@idwlcms.org).

Beautiful Feet of Children

While the church’s first concern is the spiritual health of children, we also minister to their physical and emotional needs. The Iowa Department of Human Services has designated Sunday, September 18 as “Cover the Kids Day.” Working with their local DHS office the church can share enrollment forms for the hawk-i program through which needy families may obtain free or low-cost health care coverage.

Over 2500 children in more than 50 congregations across the District and the country rode “The Truth Train” this past summer. The Camp VBS curriculum continues to be available for special Sunday school or other emphases. The Camp VBS Committee is exploring a summer 2011 resource.

Beautiful Feet of Stewards

The recent “Stewardship School” sessions provided those in attendance with information on the “Lifestyle of Faithful Stewards” (a four week stewardship emphasis with Bible studies, sermons, newsletter articles, children’s lessons and more.) To receive a sample of this resource and additional stewardship education pieces, contact the District office. In partnership with Lutheran Church Extensions Fund “Consecrated Stewards,” an in-depth, Bible-based stewardship education and commitment process is available through the District. Contact Bob Riggert or Carole White for more information.

Beautiful Feet in Families

The Bible study insert (weekly focus on Gospel lesson) contains “For Family Reflection” questions. Encourage the family to converse about the worship service: What did you hear the pastor say? What was your favorite song today?

Iowa District West Men’s Ministry encourages men in their roles as Christian husband, father, citizen, and churchman. This fall’s breakfast will be held on Saturday, November 6 at Our Savior, Denison. Dave Riddell, Omaha, Nebraska (and formerly of Denison) will share the “Band of Brothers” ministry model with the group.

Yes to beautiful feet!

Rev. Bob Riggert, Executive (bob.riggert@idwlcms.org)