

President's Newsletter



Office of the President

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Dedication of School in Florida

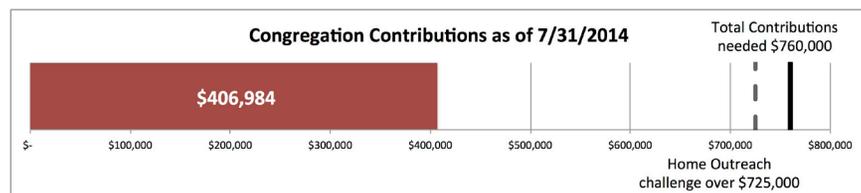
On August 24, 2014, the members of Peace, Kissimmee, Florida, celebrated the dedication of a new 4-room school building on its property. The sermon for the afternoon worship service was based on Proverbs 22:6 and preached by our synod president. Children of the school also sang, and an evening meal was served in the fellowship hall. A number of guests from our neighboring ELS congregations were among the 185 in attendance. We are happy to report 100 students are enrolled for the year. Pictured here in front of the new structure are Pastor Matthew Moldstad and Principal Jason Draeger.

Prayers requested

- We ask God to be with Prof. Mark Harstad of our Bethany Lutheran College who is undergoing treatment in Rochester, Minnesota, for leukemia.
- We pray also for the family of Rev. Wilhelm Petersen, whose wife Naomi passed away on August 24, 2014. The funeral for Naomi, age 84, was on Friday, August 29, at Mt. Olive Lutheran in Mankato, Minnesota.

President's Schedule

September 3 – Meeting of the Three Chairs for BWO
September 5 – Committee for Communication
September 9 – Informal meeting with CLC pastors
September 11 – Staff meeting at the synod office
September 18 – Synod Review Committee
September 22 – BLC Women's Auxiliary Day
September 23 – Mission Advancement Project (MAP)
September 25 – Preach at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College
September 29-30 – Board for Lutheran Schools of America
October 1-3 – ELS General Pastoral Conference in Bloomington, MN
October 3 – Board for Youth Outreach



September 2014

Dear Fellow Workers in Christ's Kingdom:

We provide another brief update on news throughout the synod. Knowing how September marks an upswing in activities for our churches and schools, we pray God gives guidance and blessing especially to our pastors, teachers and leaders. The words of Paul to the Thessalonian believers come to mind: "May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word" (2 Thessalonians 2:16, 17).

Blessings in Christ our Redeemer,

John A. Moldstad

Auxiliary Day at BLC

The Bethany Women's Auxiliary will be holding its annual meeting on Monday, September 22, 2014, on the Bethany College campus. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. in Old Main, followed by a chapel service. Speakers will include Dr. Doyle Holbird on the prospect of a nursing major at Bethany and Seminary Student Daniel Ruiz on how Bethany helped to prepare him for seminary. Also, the group will have a chance to determine which projects it will support with its donations.

The Bethany Auxiliary was created to raise funds for non-budgetary items on campus. In the past several years it has tried to focus on projects that will directly impact the students both in and outside of the classroom.

School Opening in Oregon

On Sunday, August 24, Bethany Lutheran Church in The Dalles, Oregon, dedicated Columbia Lutheran School. The school will serve both for the education of children in the congregation and for outreach into the community. Pastor Jesse Jacobsen was installed as principal and Mr. Doug Radliff as teacher. We wish them God's blessings as they work to feed Christ's lambs.



Anniversary for Sister Church in Sweden

The Lutheran Confessional Church of Sweden (LBK–Sweden) celebrated its 40th anniversary from July 11–13, 2014. The meeting occurred at Hjälmargården, near Stockholm. Rev. Timothy Hartwig represented our ELS in bringing greetings to our Scandinavian brothers and sisters in Christ and also presented an essay entitled, “How Do We Engage Non-Christians in the World Today?” The LBK is one of the founding members of the CELC, the worldwide confessional conference with which we enjoy doctrinal fellowship.

EMC Call Accepted



Rev. Larry Wentzlaff, who until recently has served as pastor of Faith Lutheran in Clara City, Minnesota, has accepted the call from our synod’s Board for Home Outreach to serve as Evangelism–Missions Counselor (EMC). Rev. Wentzlaff has served on the board in the past, has assisted with the “Engaging Others With Jesus” retreats and has served a home mission. Your prayers for him and wife Stephanie and family are greatly appreciated.



ELS Teachers’ Conference 2014

The ELS Teachers’ Conference was held at the Marriot Inn near the Reagan Airport in Washington, D.C. Mr. Allen Labitzky was the organizer of the conference. Two professors from our Bethany Lutheran College, Dr. Polly Browne and Dr. Jennifer Wosmek of the Education Major made presentations. The dates of the convention were August 7–10, 2014. Ample time was given for visiting historic sites and museums in our nation’s Capitol. On Sunday, August 10, a Communion service was held where about 100 attended. ELS Pres. J. Moldstad preached on Matthew 14:22–33 and Rev. Alex Ring, chairman of the Board for Lutheran Schools of America, served as the liturgist.

Installation of Teacher at Peace

Report from Rev. Herb Huhnerkoch, Circuit Visitor of Circuit 1:
Kristin Schroeder was installed as the preschool (K/4) teacher at Peace Lutheran School in Kissimmee, Florida, (one-year call) on August 17 at the regular morning service. Rev. Matthew Moldstad, the pastor of Peace Lutheran Church of Kissimmee, Florida, performed the rite of installation. A reception followed the service.

Projects for the Women’s Mission Rallies

Cross-stitch is the unifying network, coordinating offerings for maximum blessings to our missions—both world missions and home missions. This year’s projects have been identified as \$10,000 for orphans in India (LMSI); \$2,500 for women’s scholarships in Peru; \$5,000 for home mission and evangelism outreach; \$2,500 for food for the Amazon Lutheran High School; and \$2,500 for English-as-foreign language program in Chile. For rally schedules and contact info, see the current edition of Lutheran Sentinel: http://issuu.com/lutheransentinel/docs/lutheran_sentinel_july_august_2014

Installation in San Antonio

On August 3, 2014, Rev. David Thompson was installed as the new pastor at Faith Lutheran, San Antonio, Texas. Pastors participating in the service were: front row: John Sullivan (WELS), Micah Ernst, David Thompson, David Schneider (WELS); middle row: Michael K. Smith, Jerry Gernander; back row: Brad Kerkow, and Eric Hartzell (WELS).



“Ministry Area Profiles” (MAPs) - Still Available!

If you attended one of the “Engage Others with Jesus” retreats, you heard about the availability of a MAP for your area. The Board for Home Outreach (BHO) continues to make this study available to your congregation for the very reasonable price of \$50, half off the price the BHO pays. MAP is a thorough demographic study of an area of your choosing, completed by the Percept Group. You are able to establish the boundaries of a study in four ways: (1) with a radius reaching out so many miles from a midpoint, (2) by ZIP codes (multiple ZIP codes must be contiguous), (3) by county (multiple counties must be contiguous), and (4) by creating your own boundaries on a map in any shape or form. The area chosen should be an area “reachable” by your congregation. Please contact BHO chairman Prof. Michael K. Smith (mksmith@blc.edu) for more information.

LSA Website



Our Board for Lutheran Schools of America, in cooperation with the Communication Director of the synod, has re-engaged the website for our synod’s schools. The site is up and running but will have more materials added by the board as we move forward. www.lutheranschoolsofamerica.org