



Christ • Community • Connect

Weekly Newsletter — May 10, 2018

New This Week

FALL PASTORS' CONFERENCE: SAVE THE DATE!

The Fall Pastors' Conference dates have been set. Please mark your calendar: **Sunday evening, September 23 through Tuesday night, September 25.** We will conclude with worship on Tuesday evening. The Conference will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Golf Resort Palm Springs, in Cathedral City, CA. Additional Information will follow in the next several weeks.

PATRIOTIC CONCERT

St. John's Lutheran Church, Orange invites you to join us for our "Patriotic Concert" held on **Saturday, June 9** at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. There is no charge, but a freewill offering will be taken. Childcare is available for children under age 5. Questions, call 714-288-4431, or visit stjohnsorange.org.

PRE-RETIREMENT WORKSHOP: IS YOUR RETIREMENT ON TRACK?

The Pacific Southwest District and Concordia Plan Services are offering pre-retirement workshops. These workshops are designed to help as you plan for that very important transition in your life: Retirement! Workers of all ages who are serving the Church (especially those age 50 or older) and their spouses are encouraged to attend to being understanding the process of planning for retirement and all that living in retirement entails. Cost of the workshop is \$15.00 per person (covers morning snack and light lunch).

Saturday, August 18, 9:00 am—3:00 pm at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Phoenix

Please register no later than Friday, August 3.

To register, contact Cristel Hoffman at 888-927-7526 ext. 6824 or at cristel.hoffman@concordiaplans.org

Saturday, September 15, 9:00 am—3:00 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, San Diego

Please register no later than Friday, August 31.

To register, contact Cristel Hoffman at 888-927-7526 ext. 6824 or at cristel.hoffman@concordiaplans.org

HEALTH MINISTRY FOCUS: ULTRAVIOLET AWARENESS MONTH

Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation is a major risk factor for most skin cancers. Sunlight is the main source of UV rays. Tanning lamps and beds are also sources of UV rays. People who get a lot of UV exposure from these sources are at greater risk for skin cancer. The sun's UV rays increase a person's risk of cataracts and certain other eye problems, too. They can also suppress the skin's immune system. Darker-skinned people are generally less likely to get skin cancer than light-skinned people, but they can still get cataracts and immune suppression. For more information on the sun's effect on eyesight, click [here](#). For additional information beyond this article, visit friendsforsight.org.

STUDENT AID

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Financial aid is available through the PSD for students that are preparing for full-time church work. 2018-2019 Scholarship applications are due June 1, 2018. All forms that need to be completed can be found on the District [website](#).

Previously Posted

CONVENTION PICTURE REQUEST #2

Presented during Convention will be slide shows featuring the members of our congregations. Pictures can be of worship, fellowship events, service projects, or any time your members are gathered together. Pictures should be sent to Aaron Lucas at aaron.lucas@psd-lcms.org or mailed to 1540 Concordia Drive, Irvine, CA 92612. Pictures will not be returned.

CAR SHOW

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Downey is hosting a Car Show on **Saturday, May 19**, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Attendance is free to view classic cars, trucks, hot rods and motorcycles. There will be delicious food, a raffle, 50/50, and live music. Call Fred Thies at 562-706-3704 for more information.

LUTHERAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Retired? Empty-nesters? Balancing children and work schedules? Enjoyed a Marriage Encounter weekend years ago? Take time out to enjoy your spouse without distractions! Refresh, re-energize, reconnect. Lutheran Marriage Encounter will be held **June 1-3** in Mesa, AZ. Go to godlovesmarriage.org for information and registration or contact Ted & Marty Hartman at tnmheart@gmail.com or 530-333-4628.

DEACON DOCTRINE DISSENT CONFERENCE

The 2016 synodical convention passed a resolution which both enabled some deacons to enter a fast track to become Specific Ministry Pastors and terminated the licensing of deacons. The resolution was a doctrinal statement, not just a policy statement, which declared that there is no office of deacon in the New Testament, there is no Lutheran office of deacon, and all congregational calls to be deacon in our district in the past were invalid because national synodical officials did not approve them.

Because this was a doctrinal resolution, everyone is supposed to accept this doctrine (or at least not disagree out loud). However, synod allows members to express theological dissent to doctrine we believe is not true. Two detailed and lengthy expressions of theological dissent will likely be submitted to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations sometime this year, one by the Northwest district board of directors and another by a Southern California pastor.

What points of theology do they dissent from, and how good is their case against synodical doctrine on deacons? Everyone is invited to attend the Deacon Doctrine Dissent conference on **Saturday, June 2** at First Lutheran Church, Fontana. Come at 8:15 am for fellowship and breakfast or 9:00 am -11:45 am for the conference. You can hear what points the dissents make and help evaluate how accurate they are. (They address some of the same doctrines in different ways.) There is no cost. RSVP if possible; request additional info or abstracts of the dissents in advance from messiah7@empirenet.com - John Juedes

BBQ FOR WAYMAKERS YOUTH SHELTER

Please join Faith Lutheran Church, Huntington Beach Church at our BBQ to raise funds for Waymakers Youth Shelter on **Saturday, June 2** from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Everyone who makes a donation will receive a delicious pulled pork sandwich with chips, drink and a dessert. There will be activities for the kids including a bounce house. The Fish Christian Radio Station, FM 95.9, will be streaming live! Waymakers Youth Shelter, located in Huntington Beach, provides short-term intervention, "safe-haven", for runaway, homeless and at-risk youth. For more information, visit waymakersoc.org. We hope to see you there!

EARLY RESPONSE TRAINING

Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) training is being offered at First Lutheran Church, El Cajon on **Saturday, June 9**. Anyone can attend the training. LCMS members who are 18 years old or older receive certification as LCMS volunteers. For information, or to register, please contact sneff@youhaveaplace.com.

ONE MINUTE: MINISTRY CHALLENGES TODAY

Rev. Ron Rehrer, Counselor for Church Workers, 949-433-5182, ron@ronrehrer.com

"The State of Pastors" (The Barna Report), is a comprehensive report on how clergy see themselves in today's complex world. Among many findings is the fact that one in three pastors do not feel prepared for counseling or solving people problems. Another 27% report inadequate training in handling conflict. Nearly a third of clergy feel ill-prepared for administrative burdens in the ministry. These are the top three in a long list of reported inadequacies in ministry preparation. "I wasn't trained for that," is often heard among clergy. While seminaries do their best to train pastors, the challenge is for pastors to build their skill-set for the changing culture in which they live and work.

If for example, a pastor feels inadequate in his counseling skills, he can foster links to professional counselors for referrals or one-on-one mentoring. Or if he lacks training in handling conflict, he can take a course on the subject or reach out to someone with special training in this area.

One or two counseling courses at a seminary does not make a pastor skilled in every counseling situation. Counseling skills or conflict skills like many other skills in ministry require on-going education, training, and experience. Pastors should work on areas where they are less skilled and strengthen their gifted areas. While ministry is often overwhelming, complex, and exhausting, pastors can and will feel better about themselves as they continue to learn and grow.

PSALMS WORKSHOP

Come and join us on the Western Slope of Colorado for a Psalms Workshop led by Rev. Dr. Timothy Saleska from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis! The workshop is open to anyone. The dates are **August 9-11** in Grand Junction, CO. For more information Click [here!](#) Make this a part of your end of summer vacation!

BALTIC SEA TOUR

Cruise on the Norwegian Breakaway to Copenhagen, Tallinn, St. Petersburg, Helsinki and Stockholm with Guest Speaker, Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz, **September 22 – October 2**. Contact Host Deaconess Doris Snashall for more information at snashall@pacbell.net.

ISRAEL: A JOURNEY OF FAITH TOUR

Led by Pastor Kurt Onken, **November 7-15**, 2018. Book Now & Save: Double \$3,999; Single \$4,799; Triple \$3,969 . Highlights: Jaffa, Caesarea, Nazareth, Cana, Tiberias, Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Golan Heights, Caesarea Philippi, Tel Megiddo, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Mount of Olives, Mount Zion, Ein Karem, Western Wall, Garden Tomb. For more information contact Michael & Linda Parrish at 909-987-9000.

TOUR TO ISRAEL

Join Rev. Toby Joeckel for an educational tour to Israel! 10 days, **November 27 to December 6, 2018!** Cost from New York is \$3,399 .00 or meet us there for \$2,699, including first class hotels and 2 meals/day. This will be Pastor Joeckel's 4th trip. For information email pastortoby@outlook.com.

JR. HIGH DYG - SAVE THE DATE

We are excited to announce that we will be returning to the [Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center](#) for the Jr. High DYG next year. So, mark your calendars at your church and school and let your families know to set aside **March 22-24, 2019** for all your 6th, 7th, and 8th graders to joins with groups from around the district for a weekend of fun and learning. Watch in the coming months for announcements on the theme, speaker, and other related details for the event at psdyouth.net. The Jr. High DYG is a great addition to your church/schools Jr. high, middle school, or confirmation ministries. Questions contact Kyle Saleky at ksalesky@abidingsavior.com or Dave Rueter at david.rueter@psd-lcms.org.

Convention News



CONVENTION WORKBOOK

The Convention Workbook has been posted on the Convention Website.

Delegates, please download and review prior to Convention.

Questions regarding the Workbook should be directed to Barbara Farley at barbara.farley@psd-lcms.org.

DISTRICT PRESIDENT CANDIDATES

Profile and Vision Statements for each of the District President Candidates are available for review on the [Convention Website](#).

CONVENTION PICTURE REQUEST

During Convention we would like to feature the many nations that our District represents through slide show presentations. Please send us pictures of your congregation that represent the multi-ethnic makeup of our District. Pictures should be sent to Aaron Lucas at aaron.lucas@psd-lcms.org or mailed to 1540 Concordia Drive, Irvine, CA 92612. Pictures will not be returned.

PRESIDENT STOTERAU'S RETIREMENT

As you have probably heard, President Larry Stoterau will retire at the end of his term following the 2018 District Convention. President Stoterau has served faithfully in this capacity since he was first elected in 2000. President Stoterau has spent his entire ministry in the Pacific Southwest District. He did his vicarage at Emmaus, Alhambra and received his first call there. After spending almost 10 years in California, he accepted a call to Epiphany, Chandler. He served there for 17 years before becoming District President.

Retirement Celebration Dinner

As part of this year's District Convention, we would like to honor God and give Him thanks and Glory for the Leadership that His Servants President Larry and Linda Stoterau have given to our district. There will be a dinner on **Thursday, June 28 at 6:00 pm** following the conclusion of that day's business meetings. This dinner will be held at the same location of the Convention, the Hotel Irvine, in the Pavilion area. There will be limited seating, and it is open to anyone in the District. Reservations will be available on a first come first serve basis. We are thankful that the Pacific Southwest District Board of Directors will be covering part of the cost of this event. Dinner tickets may be purchased online. Each ticket is \$50, and you will have your choice of steak, chicken or vegetarian. Order tickets [here](#). If you have questions, please contact the Barbara Farley at the District Office at 949-854-3232 ext. 201 or at barbara.farley@psd-lcms.org. We look forward to seeing you at this special dinner.

Words of Thanks, Love & Appreciation

While it is impossible to recall all the ways in which President Stoterau and his dear wife Linda have affected our lives, congregations and schools, our committee would like to give you an opportunity to express your thanks, love and appreciation of his ministry. We invite you to submit one-page letters of remembrances and stories by individuals, your congregation or school to reflect on the ways God has used President Stoterau and Linda over the years to serve you. We know these remembrances will serve not only as a thank you but as a reminder of God's blessings during their service to our District. If you would like to include a monetary gift for the Stoteraus, please mark your check "Stoterau Retirement." This gift will serve as a small token of gratitude for their faithful and loving work. ***Please direct letters and gifts to Barbara Farley at the District Office on or before May 31.***

Prayer & Praise

Submit Prayer Requests to Kelly DeJongh at kelly.dejongh@psd-lcms.org

Prayer Requests

Rev. Johnny Lopez, has been diagnosed with cancer. *"About three weeks ago I was examined and after Xrays and a CT scan, I had a biopsy for a swelling of my lymph glands on the right side of my neck. The biopsy showed squamous cancer cells and more tests were conducted by an ENT. I trust in the Lord and know that I am in His hands, and only ask for your prayers. Neither Sarah nor I really have the time and energy (with work, appointments, etc.) to answer calls and questions so I have asked my daughter, Gina to keep everyone updated. Thank you for understanding and know that I covet your prayers."*

Rev. Paul Jacobs; prayers needed for upcoming surgery and recovery

Karina Lindsey von Hindenburg, wife of Rev. Bruce von Hindenburg, battling breast cancer.

Praise Reports

We rejoice with the students who learned of first call placements as pastors and deaconesses, and assignments as vicars and deaconess interns during Call Day services. We are blessed that the following have been placed in the Pacific Southwest District.

Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne:

Vicar Keith Emshoff; Pastoral Candidate William Maggard Jr.;

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Vicar Joseph Highley; Deaconess Intern Rachell Highley; Pastoral Candidate Nicholas Duerr; Pastor Candidate Matthew Knauss-Behel; Deaconess Maria de Carmen Cabrales

Ordination & Installations

Reverend William Maggard, Jr. will answer the Call of the flock at Grace Lutheran Church, Rialto, on **Sunday, June 24** at 3:00 pm to serve as their Pastor. The Saints of Grace joyously and warmly welcome you to join with them in thanking God for providing them with His under-shepherd to feed and tend the sheep. This is his Ordination into the Holy Office of the Ministry and Installation as Grace's pastor. A celebratory dinner will follow the Divine Service. Pastors, please wear your red stoles. Please RSVP by calling 909-875-3163 or e-mail to erickawai@yahoo.com. Thank you and God bless.

Continued Prayers

We pray for all congregations and schools currently in the calling process.

Rev. Edward Ambrose – vascular/orthopedic issues

Jo Ambrose – fighting bone cancer

Dora Collins - chronic pain due to auto-immune issues

Randy & Kim Francisco – both fighting cancer

Rev. Roy Gesch – macular degeneration and dementia

David Hendry – suffering from dementia

Rev. Ray Kibler – fighting immunodeficiency disease and cancer

Jenny Lawson - fighting cancer

Phillip Taylor - fighting cancer

Rev. Hal Teuscher – fighting cancer

Rev. Gary Trickey - fighting cancer

Contact Us

Subscribe to eNews: Keep up-to-date on happenings in the Pacific Southwest District as well as resources for congregations; installations and ordinations; and prayer requests.

Send an email to psdenews@psd-lcms.org with the words "subscribe" in the subject line.

Job Site: Access information on jobs available in PSD congregations and schools. The Job Site can be accessed on the PSD [website](#). Subscribe to bi-weekly email notification by sending an email to psdenews@psd-lcms.org noting "Job Site subscription" in the subject line.

Submit News, Information & Job Postings: Email psdenews@psd-lcms.org with the 'who, what, when, where, and why' of the news item or job posting. Items must be received by 2:00 pm Wednesday.

The Pacific Southwest District will NOT sell, give or otherwise transmit your email address for any reason other than its intended purpose.