

Summer 2013

AUGUSTANA DISTRICT

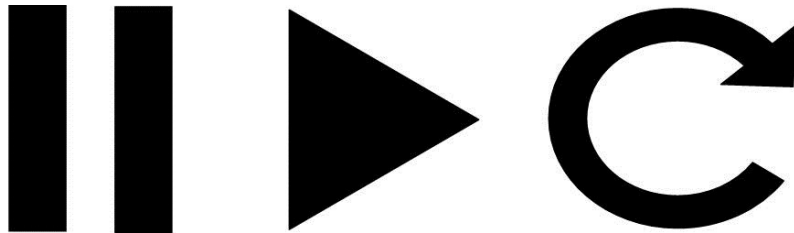
Augustana District Confirmation Retreat

This District-wide confirmation retreat will be held at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, Minnesota. The retreat will begin after lunch on **Saturday, February 15, and end before lunch on Monday, February 17.** Our theme is "Pause Play Refresh," and will look at the integration of Law, Gospel, and Life. Cost will be below \$100 per participant. Don't miss this opportunity to gather our youth together for learning, worship and fun! This retreat is open to any LCMC or NALC congregation that wishes to attend.

Pastors: as you plan your confirmation programs for this next year, consider adding this retreat as part of the curriculum.

Save the Dates:

Sat. Feb. 15 through Mon. Feb. 17, 2014 (Presidents' Day Weekend)



PAUSE PLAY REFRESH



Living Word Lutheran Church, Alexandria, Minnesota, raises its bell tower. The dedication for their new church building was on July 28, 2013.

This and more District announcements on page 3.

A Quote Worth Quoting

"Jesus lamented that the religious leaders of his day were like children playing the funeral game and the marriage game, but they could neither mourn over their sins when John the Baptist came, nor dance in celebration at the arrival of the Son of Man (Matt. 11:16-19). Similarly today, the preaching of the law in all of its gripping judgment and the preaching of the gospel in all of its surprising sweetness merge into a confused message of gentle exhortation to a more fulfilling life. Consequently, we know neither how to mourn nor how to throw a real party...."

(Michael Horton, *Christless Christianity*)

Augustana District, LCMC
335 Main Street South
Hutchinson, MN 55350
320-587-2093



www.AugustanaDistrict.org



[Augustana District](#)

The Augustana District is leading a mission trip to Ethiopia! See page 2.

One Bread, One Body

Miles Apart, Members of LCMC Work Together for the Great Commission

When a devastating tornado struck the Moore, Oklahoma, area on May 20, 2013, members of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ jumped into action.

Information was publicized about the LCMC's new Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund. Assistance was provided to those affected by this natural disaster. Communication was made with the local LCMC pastor and his congregation who was directly affected by the tornadoes.

But members of LCMC churches are spread across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. How was this swift response coordinated?

The answer is just a click away. Members of the LCMC Missions Forum, an online discussion group, knew just where to go when disaster struck.

In the spring of 2012, the Augustana District of LCMC put together an

Internet discussion group for anyone and everyone who is passionate about missions and interested to learn what is taking place in the mission field.

"Our discussion group's response [to the Oklahoma disaster] was positive and immediate," said Jim Dix, moderator of the LCMC Missions Forum. "It was a heartwarming experience for both those who gave and those who received."

The LCMC Missions Forum serves as a place for prayer requests, mission ideas, information, networking, and sharing mission-related stories about projects and experiences.

Membership has grown steadily over the last year and now includes a great group of diverse people who share a common interest of being involved with Christ's Great Commission. There are now around 100 individuals, from approximately 65 LCMC congregations located in over 20 states, with two in Canada. The group is a good mix of

about 30% pastors, 60% lay people who are often key people on their congregation's mission committees, and 10% founders or key associates of established mission organizations.

Over time the discussion topics have expanded to include prayer requests for persecuted Christians worldwide, youth mission trip ideas, better ways to do mission, ministry to Muslims, book reviews, mission advocate teams, and upcoming meeting notices. Some examples of recent mission trips discussed by the forum include Haiti, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mexico, India, Belize, South Africa, Eastern Europe, South East Asia, Cuba, Detroit, Native American reservations, and Joplin, Missouri. The group also discusses mission efforts that anyone could become involved with like Operation Christmas Child.

To take a small step in helping out with the Great Commission, simply join the LCMC Missions Forum. Most of the members quietly monitor the forum posts, which are sent to their email accounts. Occasionally, some are moved to participate in the discussion as the Holy Spirit may guide them. Whatever your situation may be, both you and our Internet discussion group would benefit from you becoming a part of our mission-minded Christian family.

Check out this web link to read an informational letter describing the purpose and goals of the forum. www.augustanadistrict.org/lcmc-mission-forum/

You can also contact the forum's moderator for more information or to request joining the group: jdix501@gmail.com

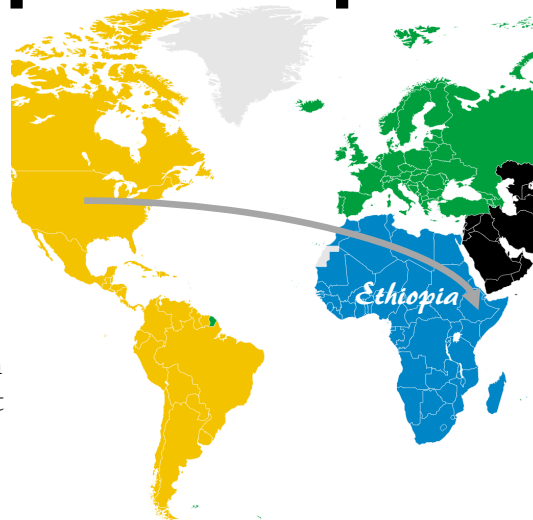
Jim Dix is a lay person at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Hubertus, Wisconsin, an Augustana District member congregation.

Mission Trip to Ethiopia

A partnership is forming between the Augustana District and the Spirit-driven Tabor Congregation of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. Join us in January 2014 as we journey to support this active congregation. Your life will be enriched as we seek to be a blessing to our partners in Ethiopia.

Have questions about the mission trip? More detailed information about the trip will be available in mid-August. Contact Pastor Paul Knudson, Chair of the Augustana District Board of World Missions, if you have any immediate questions.

paulk@faithlc.com
320-587-2093



Travel with the Augustana District on the upcoming mission trip to Ethiopia:

When: January 9-19, 2014
Cost: \$2,200-\$2,400 (estimated)

District Announcements

Welcome

Welcome St. Petri Lutheran Church in Garfield, Minnesota, into the Augustana District.

Welcome New Creation Lutheran Church in Perham, Minnesota, into the Augustana District.

Congregations in the Call Process

Word of God Lutheran Church
Canby, Minnesota

Christ's Victory Lutheran Church
Redwood Falls, Minnesota

Peace Lutheran Church
Nevis, Minnesota

Christ Lutheran Church
Blair, Nebraska

Faith Lutheran Church
Hutchinson, Minnesota

Milestones

Congratulations to Peace Lutheran Church in Nevis, Minnesota, for breaking ground for their new facility on April 14.

Congratulations to Living Word Lutheran Church in Alexandria, Minnesota, for the dedication of their new church building on July 28, and upon celebrating an Open House Event on August 25.

Congratulations to First Lutheran Church in Clear Lake, Wisconsin, for the dedication of their new church building on August 25.

Installations

Pastor Randy Freund was installed on May 26 at New Creation Lutheran Church in Perham, Minnesota, as pastor. Pastor Freund is also serving as Interim Sr. Pastor at Atonement Lutheran Church in Fargo, North Dakota.

Pastor Culynn Curtis was installed on June 23 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Maple Lake, Minnesota, as lead pastor.

Pastor Mark Reiff was installed on July 7 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Howard Lake, Minnesota, as an interim pastor.

Pastor Rob Krajewski was installed on July 14 at Salem Lutheran Church of Oxford in North Branch, Minnesota, as pastor.

Call Committee Video

A video will soon be available on DVD to introduce Call Committees to the call process. It features Dr. Steven Paulson from Luther Seminary giving both good theological and good practical advice. The video will accompany the district's Simplified Outline of the Call Process as an additional resource.

Theological Conference DVD

The Augustana District and the Institute of Lutheran Theology presented a theological conference for pastors last February. Entitled "Proclaiming the Word with a Lutheran Voice," the conference featured Dr. Steven Paulson and Dr. Mark Granquist. With the help of a grant from Thrivent Financial, a DVD of this conference is available for \$10 and makes an excellent adult education resource. Email Julie Guggemos at julieg@faithlc.com to request a copy.

College Students

Is your church near a college campus? If so, please let us know your worship times, contact information, and location. Our next newsletter will publish locations of LCMC churches near colleges in the upper Midwest.

LCMC Annual Gathering

As you register for this year's LCMC Annual Gathering (Oct. 6-9, 2013), be sure to check the box "District Dinner," and join us for an evening together in Dearborn, Michigan!

Affirmation of Marriage

A well-written ecumenical statement defending traditional marriage has been prepared by a number of churches, including our friends in the NALC. It is worth reading and can be found at: <http://ow.ly/nhXFg>

How Augustana Enhances LCMC

LCMC, by design, cannot and will not do certain things, leaving them up to congregations and districts. To see how the Augustana District enhances life within LCMC, view this important PowerPoint on our website: <http://ow.ly/nhXVn>

Women of the Word Gathering

Sat. Sept. 21, 2013, in Watertown, South Dakota: This gathering will include worship, card making, presentations from Ethiopia and India missions, and fellowship with women in the Augustana District. Participants arriving the day before are invited to a historic tour of Watertown via trolley. <http://ow.ly/nhY3G>

Augustana District Council

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Pr Craig Werling, Chair

Board of World Missions

Pr Paul Knudson, Chair

For more information about the Augustana District, please feel free to contact either of the following:

Pr Mark Richardson

mjrichardson@AugustanaDistrict.org
715-417-1317

Pr Randy Freund

rfreund@newcreationperham.org

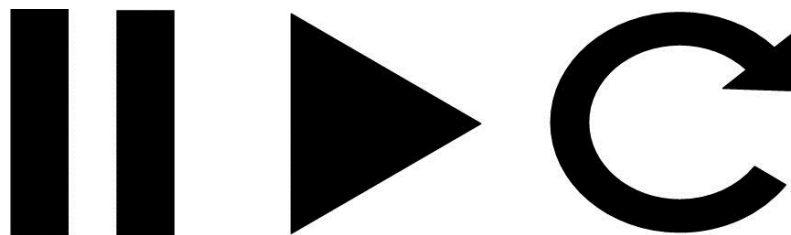
or visit www.AugustanaDistrict.org
for more information, including a roster of Augustana District Churches.

AUGUSTANA DISTRICT
335 MAIN STREET SOUTH
HUTCHINSON, MINNESOTA 55350

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PAUSE PLAY REFRESH

The Augustana District Confirmation Retreat
Feb. 15-17, 2014
Spicer, Minnesota