

Rocky Mountain District—
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THE MESSENGER

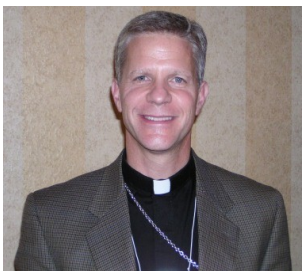
MAY 2010

The Lord Raises Up Pastors in Africa

by

President Randall Golter

"And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-12).



He's from Uganda, a seminarian attending the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pretoria, South Africa. Elizabeth and I visited with Frank Kainerugaba while visiting the seminary this spring. This is the seminary that the Rocky Mountain District has supported for the past four years, and continues to do so. Hear Frank's story in his own words. His English is broken, but you will be able to discern this modern-day Daniel and the Lions story:

For about twenty kms from home, looking water and pastures for cows. It was around midday - the Lions came and running after me -to kill me but I climbed the tree and I stayed there for three days; imagine that situation. The lions could not move as they waited for me. By God's grace and his protection He made those lions to sleep, and also remember I was on top of the lions up in the tree. Then early morning I was sleeping, even my heart was not normal in pumping beats.

Pastor I came down and fell on top of the two lions and the lions ran way and also me. But for me for one month I was not speaking well.

Frank kainerugaba a seminarian at LTS.

Can you imagine Frank falling down right on top of those lions! Both the lions and he were so scared that all ran away. And, by God's grace, Frank's life was spared.

Now, he is studying at the seminary in Pretoria so that he might become a Lutheran pastor back to his people in Uganda. His story is even more amazing in that his parents were killed in a war--only Frank and his sister were spared. But the Lord, however, had him pegged to be His preacher, a proclaimer of the one-saving Gospel.

The Lord of the Church provides men to fill the Office of the Holy Ministry so that His life-giving means of grace, the Word and the Sacraments, are distributed to His people.

"I am happy to be a Lutheran pastor." These are Frank's words as he ends his e-mail.

We're happy too, thankful to Jesus that He is providing pastors for the equipping of the saints in Africa.



"Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory." 2 Timothy 2:10



Rocky Mountain District—LCMS

www.ignitingchurchandcultureforchrist.org



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May Mission of the Month: India-Pakistani Lutheran Church



The spotlight this month is on the India-Pakistani Lutheran Church in Denver, our District's mission outreach to these immigrant groups from South Central Asia.

The May *Peaks and Valleys* (insert in the *Lutheran Witness*) will tell of Deacon Shakil Nizami's ministry. A presentation on India-Pakistani Lutheran Church will appear on our District website, www.ignitingchurchandcultureforchrist.org.

For use in your congregation, a bulletin/newsletter insert, a prayer for corporate worship, and a PowerPoint presentation, all sent to your congregation via email. (Please notify our District office if you are not receiving this monthly e-mailing.)

Deacon Nizami began his mission work through People of the Book-Lutheran Outreach (POBLO), an LCMS mission organization founded in Dearborn, Michigan, in the early 1990's. The primary focus of POBLO has been on reaching those of Muslim background with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Deacon Nizami largely supports his own work through a full-time job during the week. The District seeks to cover some of the church's operating expenses with an annual grant from the District budget.

To make a gift in support of the ministry of the India-Pakistani Lutheran Church, contact Rev. Thomas Schoech, District Development Director, at (303) 695-8001.

Igniting Church and Culture for Christ Correction

We apologize for any confusion in the April Messenger caused by the unclear presentation of funding goals for the *Igniting Church and Culture for Christ* campaign currently underway in the District. The goals are:

International Mission Work - \$765,000

Mission: Southern Africa: \$170,000

Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission: \$170,000

LCMS World Mission Unrestricted: \$425,000

National Mission Work - \$765,000

New Ministries: \$465,000

Healthier Ministries: \$100,000

Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute: \$200,000

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RMD SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE WELCOMES APPLICANTS FOR 2010-2011 ACADEMIC YEAR



The RMD has funds available to support the educational needs of students entering into full-time church work study (Lutheran teacher, DCE, DCO, youth ministry, lay ministry, pre-seminary, pastor, parish music, etc.). If you will be enrolled in one of these programs at an LCMS college, university, or seminary this fall, you are encouraged to apply. All grants are awarded on the basis of proportion of total need and total funds available. For an application, please visit <http://www.lcms.org/pages/internal.asp?NavID=5101>. Fill out the application and turn it in to your school's Financial Aid Department. If you have further questions, please contact Pastor Chris Matthis, chairman of the committee, at 303-781-5887 or csmatthis81@hotmail.com. The deadline to apply is May 31st, 2010.

Leadville Celebrates 50 Years of God's Grace

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, W. 8th and James St., Leadville, CO, will celebrate her 50th. anniversary on the Sunday after Trinity, June 6. Pastor Bernie Seter, a son of the parish, will preach at the 8:30 AM Matins. Pastor Dwight Hellmers, former pastor of the parish, will preach at the 4:00 PM festival Divine Service. A dinner will follow. Please call (719) 486-0480.

Faith, Craig, Celebrates 50 Years

Faith Lutheran Church in Craig, Colorado, will celebrate 50 years of Faith proclaiming the Gospel in Craig, Colorado, on June 19 and 20, 2010. We will have an open house on Saturday, June 19, from 10:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. and a Divine Service from 4:00-5:00 P.M. followed by a catered dinner from 5:00-8:00 P.M. We will have a Divine Service on Sunday at 9:00 A.M. and a potluck luncheon provided by the members of the congregation. Rev. Dr. K. Detlev Schultz will be our guest speaker, and Rev. Marion C. Hofman our guest preacher.

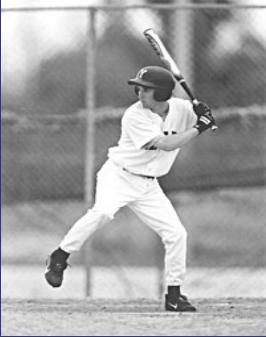
Rev. Piepkorn's Mission Trip to Indonesian

Rev. Gary Piepkorn, Circuit Counselor and pastor of Faith in Christ Lutheran Church, Portales, NM, on April 9 gave a stirring presentation on his trip last summer to Indonesia to the Senior Citizens of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Clovis, NM. After a delicious covered dish dinner (April 9), Rev. Piepkorn highlighted with captions and photos his mission trip to Jakarta where he mentored for a month an Indonesian man preparing for the Lutheran Pastoral Ministry. Much of the focus of this mission mentoring was translation of the Biblical languages and sermon preparation. While Rev. Piepkorn was there, a terrorist bomb went off (as reported in the international news) about a half-hour from where he was working. He also gave a summation of the Islamic religion and its contrasts to Christianity. Piepkorn had shared a similar presentation last fall at the LWML Zone Rally held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Carlsbad, NM.



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Hit a Homerun for Your Lutheran High Schools

The Colorado Lutheran High School Association Board of Directors invites you to join them for

LUTHERAN HIGH NIGHT AT THE ROCKIES

**Tuesday, June 8, 6:40 p.m.
Colorado Rockies vs. Houston Astros**

**\$24 for a \$38 face value ticket
Outfield Box Seat
Sections 145 – 147 on the left field line**

All proceeds benefit the CLHSA, supporting Denver Lutheran High School and Lutheran High School – Parker

**Limited number of seats / first-come, first served
Orders must be received by Friday, May 21 (no exceptions)**

Tickets will be mailed out the week of May 30.

Make checks payable to: **"CLHSA"**
Mail orders to: CLHSA – Rockies Tickets
3201 W. Arizona Ave.
Denver, CO 80219

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Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute receives \$100,000 grant for Mission Partner Recruitment and Expansion

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation grant benefits Lutheran Spanish-speaking Outreach.

APPLETON, WI (February 1, 2010) – The Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute (LHMI), 301 S Schutz Drive #7, El Paso, TX 79907, recently received a \$100,000 grant from the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation. The grant will allow LHMI to expand its Mission Partnership Program throughout the United States.



The grant is part of the foundation's Lutheran Grant Program. This program is designed to help Lutheran institutions and organizations take advantage of unique growth and service opportunities. It also supports the interests and needs of the Lutheran community. In 2009, the program distributed approximately \$2.3 million through 61 separate grants.

Eligible grant applicants include Lutheran congregations, regional divisions of the three largest church bodies, small church bodies, high schools, colleges, universities, seminaries, camps, campus ministries, social ministry organizations and other independent Lutheran organizations or institutions.



The Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute was founded in 2007 through the efforts of a committed Board of Directors, the Rocky Mountain District of the LCMS, and the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod (LCMS) World Missions. The vision of the Institute is "Training Workers to Multiply Healthy Hispanic Ministries." Primarily created to train vocational Christian workers for service in the United States, the Institute has already extended its influence to three additional countries through its online, real-time, internet classes available in the US as well. For more information, visit the Institute's website at:

www.missionaryinstitute.org.

The Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation is a private foundation funded by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. As a 501(c)(3) organization with its own board of trustees, the foundation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, religious, scientific, literary and educational purposes and makes grants and gifts to 501(c)(3) exempt organizations. The foundation does not provide grants to individuals. To learn more about the foundation and its Charitable Gifting Program, visit: www.thrivent.com/foundations/tflfoundation/lutherancommunitygrants/charitablegifting/index.html.

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Roster Reports

CALLS EXTENDED

Mt. Calvary, Estes Park, CO to Rev. Wayne Riddering, Hope, Westcliffe, CO
Zion, Farmington to Candidate Sarah Andrews, Concordia, Seward, NE as DCE

CALLS ACCEPTED

Brain Horning, Grace, Sandy, UT to Peace, Hewitt (Waco) TX as Director of Family Life Ministry
Daniel Cattau, Candidate, Concordia, Mequon, WI to Colorado Lutheran High School Association, Parker, CO

CALLS DECLINED

Rev. Charles Ransdell, Our Father, Centennial, CO to Luth. Church Our Redeemer, Evansville, IN

CHANGE OF STATUS

LuAnn Larrabee, Trinity, Franktown, CO to Non-Candidate Status
Kathy Keogh, Candidate Status to Emeritus
Krista Hwang, Candidate Status to Non-Candidate Status
David Meineke, Beautiful Savior, Broomfield, CO to Candidate Status
Mary Bergman, Christ the King, Los Lunas, NM to Emeritus
Britt Villarreal, Candidate Status to Non-Candidate Status
Russell Brockmeier, Candidate Status to Non-Candidate Status
John Elmshouser, Epiphany, Castle Rock, CO to Candidate Status
Rev. Richard Holz, Candidate Status to Emeritus

RESIGNED FROM ROSTER

Darcy Schipporeit, Non-Candidate Status

Upcoming Events – Rocky Mountain District

May

- 13 LACHAIM Meeting at St. John's Lutheran Church, Denver, CO
- 17 Board of Directors Meeting

June

- 11-13 Rocky Mountain Dist. LWML Convention, Grand Junction, CO

July

- 8-17 LCMS Synodical Convention, Houston, TX

August

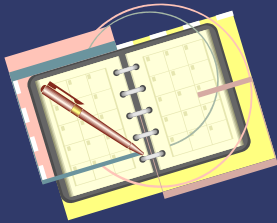
- 9-10 RMD Board of Directors' Meeting

September

- 14-16 Rocky Mountain District Older Adult Gathering Theme: "*Cultural Challenges for Christians*"

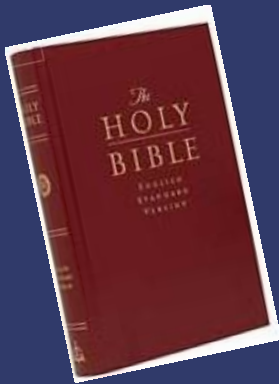
October

- 5 Administrative Conference
- 6-8 Professional Worker's Conference





We Encourage your Prayers



Dearest Jesus, thank You for putting death's dark shadows to flight. Grant an awareness of Your presence to those who loved **Dorothy Reiss** so that their hearts are at peace in knowing that she is now with You. Amen. (Dorothy is the widow of **Rev. Harold Reiss**. She entered her heavenly rest on April 5, 2010. Rev. Reiss served Mt. Hope, Boulder, CO from 1966-1988. He was called home in October 2005.)

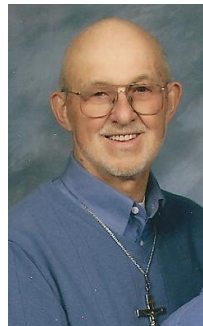
Almighty Lord, the warfare and strife in our world remain as constant reminders of our sinfulness. We yearn for peace as we journey to heaven. Protect those who defend our nation and keep them safe in Your care. Assure these men and women that they are never alone, for You watch over them. Strengthen their families with Your love as they await the safe return of their loved ones. Bless our nation and keep her strong that we may always be free to worship You. Amen.

Lord, our Shepherd and Guardian, use us to bring the lost into Your fold. Enable us to be Your words and Your feet to share the Gospel message with those who do not know You as the Way, the Truth, and the Life. The world is filled with many who would lead the lost ever further away from Your teachings. Send Your Holy Spirit into the hearts of the lost so that they hear about and trust in Your grace. Thank You that we can ask this in Your precious name. Amen.

Lord Jesus, Lord of the Church, thank You for granting faithful pastors to serve in Your kingdom in the Rocky Mountain District. Your Spirit fills them with the faith and courage to preach Your Word in its truth and efficacy so that believers are strengthened in their faith and unbelievers are brought to faith. Enable us to support our pastors with our prayers in their work as Your under-shepherds. Thank You for these laborers in Your kingdom who provide us with food for our spiritual well-being. Amen.

Lord God, Father of all, thank You for Jesus' rest in the grave. He thus sanctified the graves of all who rest in You. Grace the family, friends, former parishioners, and former colleagues of **Rev. Bob Allen Barnes**, emeritus, with Your peace as they mourn his death on April 18, 2010.

May they be comforted in looking forward to that day when all the saints are reunited in the Kingdom of Glory, singing praises to You, O Lord God. Amen.



(Rev. Barnes retired May 2003, having served his Lord as a pastor since 1965. His first call was to serve the Lutheran Student Fellowship at Utah State University and the congregation at Holy Trinity, Logan, UT. In January 1978 he was called to serve the people of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Stevens Point, WI, where he served until his retirement. For more information check the website of the Boston Funeral Home of Stevens Point.)

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Risen Savior, Broomfield, Puppeteers

On the Saturday before Easter, the Risen Savior Volunteer Puppeteers (RSVP) presented their congregation with "He's Alive" adapted from the Bible Skit Book by Tom Boal. RSVP performed several songs including "Christ Arose," "Let God's Love Open the Door," and "He's Alive." This Easter Family Worship Service had more than 400 adults and children in attendance. The RSVP is a group of 18 kids and adults from 5th grade and above. The puppet ministry at Risen Savior has been in existence for over three years. They lead us in worship on Christmas, Easter, and other times during the year. We are always interested in performing our skits for other churches. If you would like to have RSVP visit your church, please contact Terri Miller, Director of Children's Ministry at Risen Savior Lutheran Church, 303-469-3521 x19 or tmiller@rslc.org Check out our video on www.rslc.org RSVP will be attending the One Way Street Puppet Ministry Festival at the end of April and competing with the song "Christ Arose."



*Terri Miller, Director of Children's Ministry
Risen Savior Lutheran Church
Broomfield Colorado
303-469-3521 x19
tmiller@rslc.org*

Series Note: Over the next few months, we will be featuring profiles on a few of the students at the Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS) in Pretoria, South Africa. The series is written by Pastor Joe Burnham who is serving as a guest professor at LTS from February to June of 2010.

Let me introduce you to Matthew Tokpah, a 27-year-old first-year student at LTS who, like the previously profiled Gemah Ballah, is from Liberia. One of the interesting facts about the Lutheran Church in Liberia is that, until recently, there were four distinct groups in a very small country. However, they have now unified and have elected Concordia Seminary St. Louis graduate and native Liberian Amos Boley as their bishop.

Like so many of the students at LTS, Matthew misses his family back home, and yet, the call to be a pastor and help fill the extreme pastoral void in Liberia has proven irresistible. So, for the sake of the Gospel, both he and his family make the necessary sacrifices for him to study in South Africa. The extent of the sacrifice is somewhat reduced by LTS providing its students full-ride scholarships. Matthew is very thankful for the gifts given by others so that the hardship placed on his family can be reduced while he is at LTS.

Shalom,
Joe Burnham

