

Rocky Mountain District—  
LCMS  
14334 E Evans Ave  
Aurora, CO 80014  
Office: (303) 695-8001  
Fax: (303) 695-4047



**THE MESSENGER**

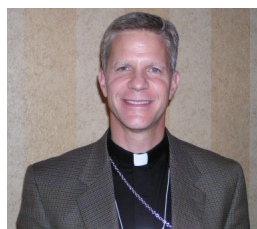
**SEPTEMBER 2011**

### **“I Shudder at the Thought of My Old Sermons”**

by  
**President Randall Golter**

*And His disciples came and begged Him, saying, ‘Send her away, for she is crying out after us’ (Matt. 15:23b).*

I am getting older, and so are you. It is my twenty-sixth year in the ministry, eighteen in the parish and now eight serving the church at large.



Time has flown, which is probably a good thing. We are all getting closer to our real home, awaiting by faith in the promise of the “new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells” (2 Pet. 3:13).

We are still here by our Lord’s grace. He is using us as His hands, mouth and feet. We are hitched at the hip to Him through baptismal splashing.

And yet, I marvel at His generosity and patience liberally acted upon toward you and me. I see the disciples in the four Gospels and their lack of “get-it,” and it amazes me. The Canaanite woman, for example, understood the divine nature of the Father’s mission, centered in this Jewish man called Jesus, far more deeply than did the disciples. And she had not had the privilege of a daily catechism class from the supreme Teacher!

She believed even though she brought nothing to the Savior, as if she had anything to bring but her sin. She came and by the Father’s revealing of His Son to her, she believed that Jesus is both Lord and the Son of David, the man both divine and human. Jesus was the Messiah sent by the Father to redeem the world.

I shudder to think about my understanding of the Lord’s Word years ago. I don’t want to even look at my old sermons! Oh, the Lord is patient with me. “Golter, don’t you get it? O you of little faith!”

Lately I have been approaching the Sacred Text as if reading it for the first time. Here are some things I have discovered:



*“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*



**Continued on next page ...**

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The Lord is ever on the move toward sinners, seeking to rescue them.

The Lord is ever speaking to sinners, and by that speech He causes mighty things to happen, namely, faith in Himself.

Sin isolates sinners into little silos, left alone for the Devil to attack. Churches too can become islands unto themselves, forgetting about the body of Christ. They too are fodder for the Devil.

The Spirit gathers sinners to the Father's Son, bringing them into community with others who are forgiven.

The Church is that assembly of the redeemed, and she simply enjoys being in His presence.

The Lord is ever working angles to cause His Church to make confession of His name, before Him and others.

The Church absolutely loves God's speech, that is, His Word, preached, sung, repeated, and pondered. God's speech brings the joy of the forgiveness of sins in Christ.

A simple definition of faith: Jesus.

I desperately need His grace every day, as do all of us.

And, this is exactly what the Lord wants me to know, believe, and share.

Each day the Lord unveils more of His marvelous love. By the Spirit's teaching, we are given an ever deeper understanding of how deeply He loves us, that we are the apple of His eye.

We are on a marvelous journey, encouraging others to come along with us, as many as are given to us by the Father to hear His words.

## **Devotional for September**

What does it mean that the Church functions "in the Name of Jesus"? What does it mean to pray in the Name of Jesus? How much power does the Name of Jesus actually carry? Take a look at the emphasis the "Name of Jesus" received in the early church. See Acts 3:6, 16; 4:7, 10, 12, 17, 18, 30.

Now look at Matthew 28:18, "Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." The Name of Jesus carries with it the character and the authority of Jesus. God promises to hear us because of the completed work of redemption by His Son. Thus when we pray in the Name of Jesus we are telling the heavenly Father that we trust Him to hear us for Jesus' sake and that our purpose is to glorify Him and see His work accomplished through us on earth.

How is God's work "doing" as He works through you? Is it enhanced? Or do you, like me, recognize that your sinful nature too frequently impairs the work of God? Then join me, brothers and sisters in Christ. Repent. Then, standing firmly in grace, do His work! The Church is the Body of Christ on earth and so functions in His authority- by His Name and in His Name. The power that He has is limitless, and it's on the basis of that power that Christ sends His followers to do His work.

And what is His work? Therefore, go... (Matthew 28:18-19)!

May God grant you and me, and the whole Christian Church on earth the confidence to call upon His Name in prayer, praise and thanksgiving, invoking His power, and then to go!

Paul Albers

## Circuit Counselors

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Zion, Brighton, CO

DNW (Denver Northwest)  
Rev. James Knapp  
Wheat Ridge, Wheat Ridge, CO

DSE (Denver Southeast)  
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Trinity, Genoa, CO

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Rev. Monte Gusewelle  
St. Paul, Durango, CO

LON (Longs Peak)  
Rev. Al Schroeder  
Immanuel, Loveland, CO

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Rev. Gary Piepkorn  
Faith in Christ, Portales, NM

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Calvary, Rio Rancho, NM

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Rev. Randy Bolt  
Trinity, Pueblo, CO

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Rev. Bror Erickson  
First Evang., Tooele, UT

WES (Western)  
Rev. Edward Schmidt  
Rifle, CO

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## **Peace in the Face of Tragedy** (Remembering September 11th)

By Pastor Gary Timm

I have to admit the month of August was sometimes very trying for me. I never had thoughts of throwing in the towel or anything like that; however, I believe we all encounter circumstances in which we find ourselves asking, “What is going on?”

From the Federal Government playing politics to our just trying to make ends meet, it seems circumstances are constantly against us. Just about the time we say, “Well, it can’t get any worse than this,” it always seems to do just that.

Ten years ago this September, my wife Dawn and I were preparing to fly back home to New York City. Before departing my parent’s house in Cedar Rapids, IA, I turned on the TV. Instead of the typical morning shows which broadcast from New York City, we saw the north tower of the World Trade Center on fire. I announced it to my family, and they came rushing into the living room to see for themselves. The newscasters were debating if a plane or a missile had caused the hole and fire. I said out loud, “How big of an aircraft was it? Those buildings are huge.” As we were discussing the high level of improbability that a jetliner could hit one of the towers dead on, we watched in horror as the second plane hit the south tower. I remember looking at my wife, who simultaneously looked up at me, and I said, “We’re not going to get to go home today.” We didn’t even bother going to the airport that Tuesday morning, September 11th, 2001.

As we watched, we kept thinking, “Surely it can’t get any worse than this,” and then we heard about the Pentagon. “Surely it can’t get any worse than this,” and then we heard about the plane crashing in Pennsylvania. “Surely it can’t get any worse than this,” and then we watched in disbelief as the south tower collapsed only to be followed by the north tower almost 30 minutes later.

Dawn and I did not arrive back in New York until Saturday morning. As we flew over the middle of Manhattan in a plane with passengers spread throughout (an apparent safety measure), it was eerie looking down over a sixteen-acre smoldering scar on the earth where the once tallest towers in the world had so proudly stood. The New York landscape was forever changed and not just the cityscape but the people themselves. For nearly a month afterwards, New Yorkers were in a daze. The normally incessant car horns were nonexistent, and people were not speaking as they walked. The city that never sleeps was eerily silent. When someone did speak, they were either angry or asked, “Where is God?”

It is ironic that when times get tough, we tend to assume God is not with us. In actuality God, the creator of the universe, does not move. God is omniscient (all knowing), omnipotent (all powerful) and omnipresent (present everywhere). The real question is: why do bad things happen? At the risk of giving a simplistic answer, September 11th is but one example of our sinful, messed up world. Whether it is a national or personal tragedy, the question we really need to ask is, “Where are we in relationship to the living God?”

There are thousands upon thousands of stories of people who experienced bizarre delays in arriving for work on September 11th. Either their alarm clocks did not work, or the subway stalled, or their car would not start—thousands of similar accounts. In the Twin Towers, where over 100,000 people worked on any given day, only 3,000 perished—over 300 firefighters and police, nearly 100 between the two flights, the rest were people who had gone to work that day just like any other day. We ask, “Where was God?” However, God provided in ways that we cannot imagine.

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We also think, "If God is 'all knowing,' then He should intervene," as though somehow there should *never* be tragedy in our world. God did create a world without pain, suffering, or death. It was called the Garden of Eden. Sadly, we (Adam and Eve) were the ones who messed it up. However, God still loves us and provides for our everyday needs, many times in ways we never see with our own eyes. Again, it comes back to "Where are *we* in relationship to Him?"

Sometimes we choose the doors of life, but other times we have no option but the one right in front of us. Some of those doors put the biggest smiles on our faces. Other times, they make us want to run away. Christ Jesus' goal for us is that, regardless of the good times or tragedy, we would experience God's love, God's forgiveness, and His strength in our everyday lives. Through Jesus' own suffering, death, and resurrection, God gives us a peace which is beyond comprehension and almost as difficult to explain to those who do not believe in Jesus.

My wife and I know several people affected by September 11th (e.g., a pastor who drove downtown so he could bless firefighters on the street before they ascended the towers, spouses and families who lost their loved ones, city workers who had no choice but to crawl into the smoldering ruins of the towers in search of survivors usually only to find victims and still other city workers who worked ten-hour days, six days a week for months to clean up). They all have one thing in common—because of Jesus Christ, they know the peace of God despite the horrors they have experienced.

Let us pray for our nation, for those who lost loved ones during the September 11th attacks, and for all of us that God would give us His Holy Spirit so that we too may be at peace in our good times as well as our bad.

In Jesus' everlasting name. Amen.

Pastor Gary Timm  
Gethsemane, Northglenn, CO

## County Fair Evangelism

Immanuel Lutheran Church once again hosted a booth at the Curry County Fair, Clovis, New Mexico, August 15 - 20. The booth's theme was "Countdown to the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation." About a dozen and a half volunteers manned the booth over the six days, handing out a total of some 450 CPH Arch books, 300 Reformation "Countdown" medallions (with info pamphlet in a Ziploc baggie), and numerous copies of the New Testament. Close to two hundred fair-goers registered for the grand prize give-away, a Concordia ESV *The Lutheran Study Bible*. Six "Jesus" DVD's were the daily drawing give-aways. Those indicating on their registration slips a "YES" that they were interested in learning more about the Christian faith were sent a letter with a copy of the LCMS "What About - the GOSPEL" along with an invitation to I.L.C.'s "Rally Day" Divine Service and Dinner on August 28 and an invitation to the Pastor's Class starting on Sept. 6.

Scott R. Blazek  
Immanuel, Clovis, NM

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## Ysleta Benefit Concert in Ruidoso on September 10<sup>th</sup>

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Ruidoso, New Mexico, has planned a community concert to benefit the ministry of Ysleta Lutheran Mission of El Paso, one of our District's Gospel outreach ministries.

With the partnership of several local sponsors, the congregation is underwriting the travel and lodging expense to bring Ysleta's Mariachi San Pablo to town for a concert at the local Senior Citizen's Center (501A Sudderth Drive) on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Mariachi San Pablo's music ministry, which serves as a publicity arm of Ysleta, provides a lively, enjoyable mix of both traditional and contemporary music. Admission to the concert is free and open to the general public, but contributions of clothing, canned goods, blankets, toys, and monetary gifts are encouraged in support of Ysleta's human care ministry on both sides of the border.

Mariachi San Pablo is believed to be the only Lutheran mariachi band in the world. The musicians will also help lead the worship at Shepherd of the Hills on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, at its 10:30 service, and the Rev. Stephen Heimer, who has served alongside his father, the Rev. Karl Heimer at Ysleta for many years, will be the guest preacher that day. The church is located at 1120 Hull Road in Ruidoso.

Rev. Thomas Schoecht

## "Pastor, Thank You!!"...

Such words are good words. They are spoken to our pastor following a funeral, a wedding, or a counseling session. Every once in a while they are spoken following a sermon that he preached that spoke wonderfully to you. It is a timely event when you can express thanks to the man that God has called to serve in His name in your congregation.



October has been designated as "Pastor Appreciation Month." We on the Debt Assistance Committee of our District encourage you to voice or show your appreciation to your pastor or pastors during this coming month.

We even have another way to suggest to you to show your appreciation to them—make a gift in honor of them to the Debt Assistance Program. A gift in honor of them will be used to help pastors who are assisted by the Debt Assistance Program. The Debt Assistance Program of our District makes annual gifts to pastors within our District who carry educational debt. Dozens of pastors within our District annually have some of their debt reduced because of the generosity of others. This reduction of debt is a blessing to them and to their families.

If you are so led, and so blessed, please send a check to the Rocky Mountain District for the Debt Assistance Program. Let us know that this is being done in appreciation for your pastor, and we will contact him to let him know that other pastors in the District are also being blessed by his ministry through this gift in honor of him.

Gifts should be sent to the Rocky Mountain District LCMS, 14334 E. Evans Ave., Aurora, CO 80014, (Attention: Debt Assistance Program). Please tell us who your pastor or pastors are!! Funds received in this special appeal will be distributed this year to help our pastors to reduce their educational debt.

Thank you for remembering the one who leads you faithfully into the hands of your Savior, Jesus.

**"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?" Romans 10:14**

Robert Borgstede

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## Concert of Gospel Music

"Worship the LORD with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs." (Psalm 100:2)

"Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs." (Ephesians 5:19)

Such an opportunity to praise and proclaim our LORD in song was granted Colorado's Arkansas River Valley on August 13, at La Junta's Otero Junior College, and on August 16, at Rocky Ford's Grand Theatre, through the vibrant Gospel music of Blackwood Legacy from Nashville. This dynamic trio carries on the spirit of the Blackwood Brothers,



who ministered through music to the nation from the 1930s through the 1990s. Under the leadership of Rick Price, the last lead singer of the Blackwood Brothers, along with Daniel Childs and Luke Yates at his side, Blackwood Legacy offers churches in the western United States the opportunity to listen to good Gospel music and to share it with the community, without fee.

All of their expenses of ministry and life are covered through freewill offerings.

The two Arkansas Valley Concerts brought together a total of 600 attendees. And, the public-relations activity before (from Pueblo to Lamar), along with the word-of-mouth testimonies after, provided some very worthwhile notice for our three little local congregations: St. Peter Lutheran of Rocky Ford, Trinity Lutheran of La Junta, and Grace Lutheran of Sugar City. And, we even had the chance through the concerts to collect a few canned goods for the local food banks.

If your congregation is looking for an opportunity to listen to some great Gospel music (and have a few laughs in the process), to praise the LORD through that music, and to proclaim Him through it to your community, please consider a Blackwood Legacy Concert. And, if you are in the Arkansas Valley in August of 2012, look us up. They just might be playing here again ... Praise the LORD!

Pastor Rick Miller  
St. Peter, Rocky Ford, CO

## 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Bethesda Golf Tournament, Silent Auction and Lunch Banquet,

Friday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> at the Buffalo Run Golf Course in Commerce City. Your participation is a hole-in-one to benefit people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Rocky Mountain Region of Colorado. For details and to register: [www.bethesdalutherancommunities.org/golf](http://www.bethesdalutherancommunities.org/golf). Questions: Contact Sue Hart at 303-304-9657 or [susan.hart@mailblc.org](mailto:susan.hart@mailblc.org).

Donations are being sought for the SILENT AUCTION at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Bethesda Golf Tournament on Friday Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> at the Buffalo Run Golf Course in Commerce City. Contact Jeff Zielke at 303-795-2061 ext. 16. Proceeds from this event directly support the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Colorado.

Susan A Hart, DCE

Ministry Consultant, Rocky Mountain Region

Bethesda Lutheran Communities

Cellular Phone 303-304-9657

[susan.hart@mailblc.org](mailto:susan.hart@mailblc.org) [www.bethesdalutherancommunities.org](http://www.bethesdalutherancommunities.org)

"To equip the Church to minister with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities."

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## Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Gunnison, CO celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary

*Thus far has the LORD helped us* (1 Sam 7:12 NIV). With these words, the prophet Samuel erected an “Ebenezer” (stone of help) as a memorial to mark the Lord’s glorious help toward His people Israel in times of trouble and need. On August 13 and 14 of this year, Mt. Calvary did the same in spirit. The Lord has been faithful to His people here in this place for many years, and so God’s people of Mt. Calvary in Gunnison celebrated His goodness with a two-day event.

Although an LCMS circuit rider by the name of Rev. Knippenberg had served Lutherans in Gunnison as early as 1928, it was on January 16 and 23, 1961, that the congregation of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church was formally constituted and organized as a member of the LCMS. Those dates served as the basis for calculating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the congregation in 2011, though Gunnison’s severe winter weather encouraged the congregation to move the date of celebrating the anniversary into August.

The Rev. Dr. K. Detlev Schulz, head of the graduate studies program at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN, served as the main guest speaker for the celebration. In his address, he joined the congregation in celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, but he also placed the anniversary in the perspective of the work of Rev. Knippenberg in the 1920’s and God’s past faithfulness to His church from the beginning.

Present at the celebration were Rev. Gordon Gross and his wife Evelyn, who served a number of vacancies at Mt. Calvary in years past. Rev. Gross also served as the introductory speaker for the event. Besides current congregation members, the celebration was joined by former members from far afield, by attendees of Mt. Calvary’s summertime outreach services at Blue Mesa RV Ranch and by friends of the congregation from the community. The congregation also hosted several other pastors and their wives with ties to Mt. Calvary.

A special privilege of the celebration was the attendance of the first person to be baptized in the forming congregation—Christy Lynn Yoder, baptized May 18, 1958.

The celebratory Divine Service on Sunday morning was led by Rocky Mountain District President Rev. Randall Golter, who attended the festivities with his wife Elizabeth, and by *pastor loci* Rev. Karl Böhmer, who preached the sermon on Luke 19:1-10.

A booklet commemorating the anniversary and documenting the history of the congregation was produced for the event and is available by special order from the church office at the cost of a small donation.

The entire celebration was one of joy and thanksgiving to the Lord of the church, who keeps His blood bought saints under His mercy even as they follow him under the cross.



Pictured: From left to right: Hanna Böhmer, Pastor Karl Böhmer, Brigitte Böhmer, Elizabeth Golter, Rev. Randall Golter, Rev. Dr. K. Detlev Schulz



From left to right: Mollie and Tim Cudmore, parents of Dawson, Dawson Cudmore, Pastor Karl Böhmer, Christy Yoder, Marilyn and Gene Yoder (parents of Christy)

Pastor Karl Böhmer

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## ***SAVE THE DATE – Saturday, October 8, (9am – 3pm)***

Our Savior Lutheran Church in Cheyenne is privileged to host **Dr. Reed Lessing**, professor at Concordia Seminary. A gifted communicator, Dr. Lessing has written several Lutheran Witness articles and spoken at many national conferences, including the National LWML convention. Plan now to participate in Dr. Lessing's Witness Workshop -- ***Jonah, the Reluctant Witness***. The registration deadline is September 28th. If you would like to receive more information on this workshop please contact Our Savior Lutheran Church at 307-632-2580 or [office@oursaviorcheyenne.org](mailto:office@oursaviorcheyenne.org).

## **St. John's Lutheran Church / Canadian Adventure**



Pastor Michael Eckelkamp, serving at St. John's Lutheran Church and School, as well as proud member of Boy Scout Troop 199, took a Canadian Adventure Canoe trip to Lac Laronge, Saskatchewan from July 23 through August 7, 2011. The 75 mile high adventure canoe trip which began at Missnipe and ended up at Lake to La Ronge also included Otter Lake, Mountain Lake, Hunt Lake, Stroud Lake, and Leike Lake. Ten Scouts, in total, made this amazing Trek to the North:

Ron Scumacher,  
Sir Dr. Scoutmaster Kevin Koalenz  
Susan Koalenz  
Robert Bowles  
Spencer Bowles  
Aaron Wentz, Quartermaster  
Austin Armstrong  
Andy Farquhar  
Christian Eckelkamp, SPL  
Michael Eckelkamp

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## Tenth Annual Sun for the Son Mexico Missions Trip Completed

"Thank you" to everyone who donated supplies or money for the poor of Mexico once again! We were able to deliver supplies for 700 children in July 2011 to the Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso. There Pastor Mark Kluzek, Mt. Calvary, Grants, NM, met with representatives from three different Mexican churches who will or have delivered the supplies. Along with giving out the supplies, the children are taught about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In every one of the 700 notebooks given out, for example, the words of John 3:16 in Spanish were taped inside. 400 supplies were given for use in Anapra, outside of Juarez for San Lucas Church's Vacation Bible School. 100 were given for Sin Paredes, in the same area, which gives a weekly lunch to children. These two



groups have already delivered their supplies. Finally, 200 supplies will be given to a new mission outside of Juarez, the poorest of them all, San Pedro and San Pablo.

The goal is to give these poor children things that they need and also share Jesus with them and invite them to church. Many more children could still be helped if more Americans would give. Why should we help them? In these areas, people live off about \$1 a day, which is what 25% of the world lives off. Compared to what we have, can't we share a little? Also, Jesus has commanded us to "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19). Are we too busy with ourselves to care for the souls of the lost? Is this method effective? We show we care with our gifts, and we show God cares by sharing His Word with the needy. Isaiah 55:11 says, "So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."



Pray about helping us next year! We need notebooks, pencils, toothbrushes, toothpaste, used toys in good condition or new for \$5 or less because we need large quantities, baby blankets, and soap. This year we also began giving the children a choice between an art kit and a toy. The art kits have 30 pieces of plain white copy paper, markers, crayons, and one other school supply in them such as scissors or glue. The only thing we get too much of is stuffed animals so please buy another kind of toy but we can use used ones that are in great shape.

Pastor Tovar who works deeper in Mexico is also requesting 70 flip flops for children, sizes 6, 8, and 10 and 70 T shirts sizes 6-14, any color, used are OK, for children who come to his boarding school house. He would also like a 1998 to 2002 pick-up truck with manual transmission so that he can minister to the Indians in the mountains.

If you can help or for more information, contact Pastor Mark Kluzek at 505-573-7650 or [kluzek-mark@juno.com](mailto:kluzek-mark@juno.com) or [Godcaresaboutyou.net](http://Godcaresaboutyou.net). God bless all of you who have helped in the past!

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## **Join us on twitter**

[http://twitter.com/#search?q=rmd\\_lcms](http://twitter.com/#search?q=rmd_lcms)

We have open space for churches and schools for your events that are coming up. If you want us to post please let us know. Ask for Doug Ullmann 303.695.8001 or email: [doug.ullmann@rm.lcms.org](mailto:doug.ullmann@rm.lcms.org)

## **Join us on Facebook**

Join the Rocky Mountain District on Facebook:

## **Upcoming Events – Rocky Mountain District**

### **September**

13-15 Older Adult Gathering at YMCA in Estes Park, CO

### **October**

4-5 2011 Circuit Counselor's Conference- Breckenridge, Colo.

5-7 Fall Worker's Conference-Breckenridge, Colo.

31 RMD Board of Director's Meeting

### **November**

1 RMD Board of Director's Meeting

4-5 "Conversations of Grace at the ROC!" Conference, Colorado Springs, Colo., Crowne Plaza

### **2012 Calendar**

#### **January**

30-31 RMD Board of Director's Meeting

#### **February**

27 Nurturing the Faith 2012- New Mexico

#### **March**

4-10 Lutheran Schools Week

5-6 RMD Board of Director's Meeting

13 Nurturing the Faith 2012 – North Denver

15 Nurturing the Faith 2012 – South Denver

16 Nurturing the Faith 2012 - Utah

#### **June**

7-9 RM District Convention –Hyatt Tech Center, Denver, Colo.

#### **August**

6-7 RMD Board of Director's Meeting





## Roster Report

### PLACEMENTS

Elyse Cattau, Concordia University, Mequon, WI to Bethlehem, Lakewood, CO

### CALL EXTENDED

Nicolai, Canby, / Zion, Boyd, MN to Rev. Kevin Froelich, Candidate

### CALLS ACCEPTED

Jason Block, Denver Lutheran High School, Denver, CO to Racine Lutheran High School, Racine, WI

Daniel Cattau, Lutheran High School, Parker, CO to Faith, Las Vegas, NV

Charles Gebhardt, Salt Lake Lutheran High School, Salt Lake City, UT to Concordia University, Seward, NE

Brent Howard, Mt. Olive, Aurora, CO to Christ, Overland Park, KS

Dave Renquest, Denver Lutheran High School, Denver, Colo. to Lutheran High School, Parker, Colo.

### CALLS DECLINED

Rev. Joseph Murphy, Grace, Parker, CO to Trinity, Great Falls, MT

# Rocky Mountain District—LCMS

[www.ignitingchurchandcultureforchrist.org](http://www.ignitingchurchandcultureforchrist.org)



## **Be Inspired, Energized and Equipped**

to share God's love, nurture your family, and witness to the community!

**[COG/ROC – COLORADO SPRINGS, CO](#)**

**November 4 - 5, 2011**

In partnership with the Rocky Mountain District's "*Conversations of Grace*" (COG) conference, **ROC**-Colorado Springs at the Crowne Plaza brings you to the foot of Pike's Peak for a mountain-top experience through inspirational Worship, Empowering Presentations, Fellowship and Discussions with other Mission-Minded Christians.

This mountaintop, however, is not the end of the journey. With solid Biblical and Outreach Training, as well as easy access to ongoing resources after the conference is over, you will be fired up to be a witness for Jesus Christ!

### **COG/ROC – Colorado Springs will include**

- Opportunities to meet and hear the new Speaker of *The Lutheran Hour* - Rev. Greg Seltz
- Key note and encouraging messages from Trustguy Ministry's - Dr. Micah Parker
- Practical Breakout Sessions on numerous Outreach Topics designed to reach today's culture
- Teen evangelism tracks to equip and encourage them to be a light in the world – Rev. Ben Hoyer
- A track of workshops in Spanish with translation of main stage programming
- Age-appropriate activities and events for children and pre-teen youth, and much more!

For complete details and registration forms please refer to the **ROC Information Packet** that has been mailed to your church **AND/OR** go on-line to

[www.lhm.org/roc](http://www.lhm.org/roc) - click on the "links" to Review, Register and Reserve your place for this excellent opportunity to improve your abilities to share the Gospel Message!

***SAVE THE DATE and MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!***

***"They all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ."*** (1 Corinthians 10:4)





## We Encourage your Prayers

### Prayer for the Rocky Mountain District Evangelism Outreach Team:

O, Rock of our Salvation, because as Paul said in Romans 1:16, the Gospel is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes, it is time we step up to the commission You assigned us: to spread the Gospel. We pray for, and ask You to guide the Rocky Mountain District's Evangelism Outreach Team and the Lutheran Hour Ministries Regional Outreach Conference Manager as they finalize the schedule and program for the Conversations of Grace at the ROC to be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Colorado Springs, CO, November 4-5, 2011. You have given us opportunities to share hope with a hopeless world and as Christians, You have called us to share this hope: to let people know that there is a solid Rock on which to stand, which never changes. We thank You that Your hand is leading us, and Your love is supporting us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Jan Bloss



Lord Jesus, send Your Holy Spirit into the hearts of students that they may richly receive the gift of a zeal for learning. May they thus be a joy to teachers and a blessing to society. Fill them with Your love so that their hearts may follow You in faith and their hands may render faithful service that glorifies You. Amen.



O heavenly Teacher, as You provided us true and eternal wisdom in Your Word, grant that all teachers and instructors, especially at the beginning of another school year, use the skills You have bestowed on them. May they impart useful knowledge to the students in their care so that beneficial endeavors may flourish for the benefit of all and to the glory of Your name. Amen.

Heavenly Father, as You emphasize the passing on of wisdom from generation to generation, bless our schools. Grant that both those who teach and those who learn receive the benefits of a useful education with integrity and according to Your will. In the end may Your people be served in wisdom and truth through Your Son in whose name we pray. Amen.



Holy Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd and the good pastor. You laid down Your life to save the sheep. Continue to grant faithfulness to those whom You have called to be Your undershepherds. By Your Holy Spirit, may they ever tend the flock with Your pure Word and the holy Sacraments so that no false teaching may lead any to stray from the narrow way of life in You. Grant that each pastor affirm with Paul in his second letter to Timothy: "The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom" (4:18). Amen.

Holy Jesus, wonderful Savior, in Your goodness You have made us Your people through faith. You have raised up men and women who, like Stephen and Phoebe before them, have heeded Your call to Christian service, dedicating themselves to vocations within Your Church. Increase their faith, protect them from discouragement, and guard their hearts from Satan's attacks. May the joy of the Lord (Neh. 8:10) always be their strength. Amen.