

Building for Eternity

A Newsletter for Congregational and Circuit Representatives

OCTOBER

2009

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Why Honor Pastors?

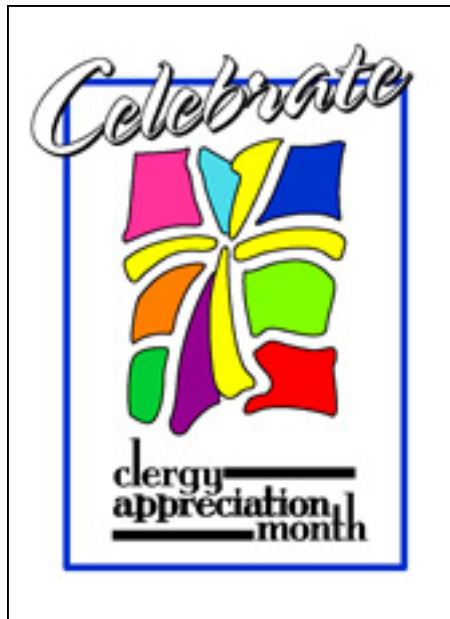
Why is it appropriate to set aside a special time each year to give recognition and affirmation to our clergy and their families? How are their needs and circumstances different from those of carpenters, grocers or dentists?

One distinction lies in the nature of the service these leaders provide. God has entrusted to them one of the most precious assignments—the spiritual well-being of His flock.

St. Paul instructs Timothy to “Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both

yourself and your hearers.” (1 Tim. 4:16)

“This provides a wonderful opportunity



for congregations and members to commit to pray for and encourage their pastor,” says Rev. David Muench,

executive director of the LCMS Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support.

Muench urges members to “think creatively about what you can do to recognize the significant work of your pastor, and how you might honor him and his family.” He says pastors “can’t help but be encouraged” by such affirmation.

“After all,” he said, “the apostle’s encouragement to ‘serve one another in love’ (Gal. 5:13) also applies to the relationship we have with our pastor.”

How will you encourage your pastor and his family today?

LCEF Mission

The mission of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund is to support the Church in fulfilling its mission of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ by being a Christ-centered servant partner of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, ensuring that funds and services are available now and in the future.

Upcoming Circuit Meetings:

October 10:
Lincoln/Beatrice

October 11:
Holdrege



PRAYER REQUESTS

- *Thanksgiving for the ministers of the Gospel throughout our Synod.*
- *Safety for farmers as the harvest continues.*
- *For those struggling with mental and physical health issues.*
- *For peace and comfort for Allard Warneke’s family as they mourn his death.*

Submit prayer requests to:
janb@ndlcms.org

Nebraska District—LCEF

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News You Can Use

Please feel free to use these articles in church bulletins or monthly newsletters:

October 4—Joyful Response Joyful Response is a FREE, electronic stewardship program offered to the organizations and members of the LCMS allowing the easy and convenient method of electronic deposits of offerings, tuition payments, and donations.

October 11—Strategic Ministry Planning Strategic Ministry Planning (SMP) is a fully participatory planning process, asking God to reveal His calling and plan for you and your congregation. SMP is different from other planning programs in that it is: designed for Lutherans by Lutherans, grounded in the Word and bounded by LCMS doctrine, and a faith-based process.

October 18—Demographic Services Do you know your mission field? LCEF's Demographic Services offers your congregation or organization up-to-date population data and resources to help you understand and reach the households in your surrounding community.

October 25—College Savings You can always save money for college by depositing money in LCEF. College savings grow, while the money is used to loan to congregations, schools, Recognized Service Organizations and church workers.



We Need You . . .

We appreciate the time and energy you continue to use to the glory of God through your service as a congregational representative or circuit director.

We want to continue to hear how we, the Nebraska District LCEF staff, can be of assistance to you in your congregation. We are available to meet with you, your pastor, and/or your congregational leaders to explain any of the LCEF services.

We are simply a phone call or email away.



To help us in our communication with you and your congregation, we would like to obtain your pastor's and church secretary's email addresses. Please ask your church staff for their email addresses so that they can be added to our email

database. This will enable us to email our monthly 4-page newsletter to them at no cost.

Email addresses may be sent to Jan Bruick by phone (toll-free) at 1-888-643-2961 or by email at: janb@ndlcms.org.

Your help in gathering these emails will help us to spread the LCEF mission throughout our District.



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