

Connections is the electronic newsletter of Lutheran schools and educators of the Pacific Southwest District. It is designed as a tool to help keep schools and educators connected to one another as they serve in ministry connecting students and families to the Gospel.

Connections

*Pacific Southwest District School Ministry
Newsletter May 2011*



Schools and educators are invited and encouraged to share items of interest, items for which to give thanks and/or uplift in prayer, or any other information which connects us to one another. Please submit your information via email to connections@christcm.com. *Connections* is distributed electronically to administrators in the Pacific Southwest District who are then asked to forward copies to their staff. *Connections* is also available on the District web site at <http://www.pswcic.org> and on the Lutheran School Portal at <http://www.lsportal.net>.

He is risen! He is risen, indeed!
Happy Easter!

If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. 1 Corinthians 15:14, 20

As we come to the end of yet another academic year we reflect on the goodness of our awesome God. We have plodded through the mundane everyday life. We have celebrated the big public accolades. We have rejoiced in the everyday miracles. We celebrate life as Easter people, living in the assurance of the Easter message. We look forward now to slipping away from the routine and structure of classroom stress for a few weeks. We give thanks for all that has been accomplished this year by His power and through His Word. Take heart...your work has not been in vain! It is our prayer that you find refreshment and renewal over the summer break. May you return to ministry in the fall with a new sense of encouragement and excitement, blessed to be a blessing.

MISSION INDIA...

Are you participating? Over 500 students in our district embarked on the virtual trip to India with Pastor Chris. The web-based videos provided a fascinating opportunity for teachers and students to learn of the culture and life in India. Most incredible of all was the

opportunity to hear and see first-hand the impact the Gospel is making as people learn of Jesus and lives are changed! It's not too late to help...remember each \$1 enables one child to experience the Gospel message through Children's Bible Club for an entire year. Our district is over halfway to the goal of reaching 50,000 boys and girls. Find those coins and dollar bills and send them in. Help us reach our goal! It's not too late for you and your students to participate. Please continue to send your Mission India offerings to the district office through the end of the school year.

IN AND AROUND OUR SCHOOLS...

"You Be the Chemist" competition is sponsored by the Chemical Education Foundation based in Fairfax, VA. This non-profit organization is committed to enhancing science education among every generation, beginning with youth. By emphasizing the central role of chemistry in all the sciences and everyday life, CEF strives to inspire future leaders in pursuing science-related careers and to improve overall understanding of, participation in, and appreciation of chemistry and the chemicals. Four students from **Bethany, Long Beach**, will be competing at the state level May 10, at the Discovery Science Center in Santa Ana with a chance to advance to the national competition in Philadelphia in June. We celebrate their accomplishments and wish these students every success.

Team Estrogen, the all female mock trial team of **Faith Lutheran Jr/Sr High School, Las Vegas**, placed second at the recent regional competition and will move on to compete at the state competition. The team also won best advocate at the same competition. Well done, ladies! Students at Faith continue to excel in various science, math, and fine arts competitions, as well as in their athletic endeavors. The school recently completed their WASC/NLSA accreditation visit and looks forward to receiving another full term of accreditation.

Congratulations to the boy's basketball team at **Faith Lutheran High School, La Verne**, for winning the Division 3 state title for the second year in a row!

Schools of the **Las Vegas** Valley took part in their annual professional development day at **Lamb of God Lutheran School**. The speaker focused on 'energizing teaching and learning' as exemplified by Robert Marzano.

FLHS, Las Vegas, Executive Director Kevin Dunning has accepted a call to become Head of Schools at the Hong Kong International School beginning this summer. **Dr. Steve Buuck**, current principal, has accepted the call to become the next executive director. Scott Fogo, current Assistant Principal at Lutheran High Orange, has accepted the call to become the next high school principal. We pray God abundantly bless each of these leaders and their schools as they reach out and share the Gospel message.

Congratulations to **Jerome Meyer, FLHS math teacher, Marci Nuoffer, Assistant Principal, First Lutheran High School, Sylmar,** and **Jack Preus, Director of Professional Learning, Lutheran High, Orange**. All 3 of these outstanding educators have completed their doctoral programs this spring! Way to go!!

CELEBRATE AND GIVE THANKS...

Carol Smallwood will be honored for her dedication and years of service at **St. Paul's, Garden Grove**. Join in worship at the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, May 15th and plan to stay for the dessert reception following.

St. Paul's, Orange, is honoring **Margaret Marlow** and **Roger Rueter** with a FIESTA! You are invited to express your fondest memories of how these teachers have touched your life. Share your memory on a 4x6 index card and/or join the FIESTA at St. Paul's. For more details and information contact Gail Kanneg gkanneg@stpaulsorange.org.

Praise and thanks are given for the safe arrival of Kylie and Kennedy **Klappenback**. Mom **Lisa** and dad **Quinn** are both teachers at **Lamb of God, Las Vegas, NV**. May our Father receive these precious gifts through the waters of baptism and claim them as His own.

Kelly and **Lance Ebel** are celebrating the birth of Joshua Paul Ebel born on March 27th. Lance is principal at **Faith LHS, La Verne**.

SUMMER FUN...

Looking for an incredible week of adventure this summer? The **Pacific Southwest District (LCMS) Outdoor Ministry** team invites youth and adult volunteers to spend time this summer at Camp YOLIJWA in Oak Glen July 11-16. Help introduce campers to Jesus, the true treasure. Obtain additional information and stake your claim at www.outdoorministry.org or email info@outdoorministry.org.

National Children's Ministry Conference meets July 7-10 at St. John's, Orange. Don't miss this opportunity! Sandals to Sneakers is the theme...Christ+Children+Community is the focus. Join fellow educators from across the country this summer and grow together in ministry. Workshop details, on-line registration, and hotel registration are all available on the School Ministries website. Register today! Early registration prices end on May 15th!

TAKE A MINUTE...

We know your schedule is busy but...We know our district is blessed with outstanding educators blessed with a multitude of gifts and talents. You work with these men and women daily and know the blessing they are to their students, families, congregations, and peers. Please take a few moments to nominate one of these excellent educators as a 2011 PSD Educator of the Year. You may nominate an administrator, ECE educator, elementary educator, jr./sr. high educator and/or SAC educator. Nominations may only be completed electronically this year so please check out www.pswcic.org under Get Connected/Educator of the Year. The deadline for submitting nominations is May 31st. Thank you in advance for your participation.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

LEC/CAPSO is scheduled for November 20-22 in Long Beach. Make plans now to attend this uplifting and educational conference.

PRAYER REQUESTS...

Beverly Rogers, beloved wife of **LHSOC Woodshop teacher Bill Rogers** graduated to heaven February 13th. We give thanks to God for the gift of this faithful woman and ask His comfort and peace for the family.

Please uplift the family of little Scotty Stucker, the **ECDC/Preschool** students, teachers, and extended family at **St. Paul's, Orange**. Scotty experienced a loss of consciousness shortly after being dropped off at preschool recently and was transported within minutes to the hospital where, after numerous attempts to resuscitate Scotty, he was pronounced dead. With faith we know Scotty is in the loving arms of Jesus in heaven and that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL...

Entered:

Arguto, Pamela (Reinstated by COP) to Candidate
Chow, Terry Sue (Reinstated by COP) to Candidate
Constantino, Correne (Reinstated by COP) to Candidate
Haynes, Audrey (Concordia Nebraska) to Redeemer, Ontario
Kaio, Dana (Concordia Nebraska) to Christ the Redeemer, Phoenix, AZ
Kassebaum, Danica (Concordia Irvine) to St. Paul's, Orange
Knapp, Lorraine (Concordia Irvine) to Zion, Victorville
Kuebler, Eugene (Emeritus, Michigan District) to Emeritus
Lane, Julie (Reinstated by COP) to Candidate
Larson, Jonathan (Concordia Irvine) to LHS, Orange
Murray, Jamie (Concordia Irvine) to Faith Community, Las Vegas, NV
Nguyen, Brenda (Reinstated by COP) to Candidate
Nordstrom, T. Chris (Concordia Irvine) to LHS, Orange
Rodrigues, Charles (Concordia Irvine) to Christ, Ranch Palos Verdes
Rueter, David (Shepherd of the Hills, Rancho Cucamonga) to PSD/CUI
Schnurstein, David (Reinstated by COP) to Candidate
Simmer, Ehren (Reinstated by COP) to Candidate
Thornton, Kristen (Concordia Irvine) to Faith Community, Las Vegas, NV

Changes Within:

Burke, Steven (Gethsemane, Tempe, AZ) to Non-candidate
Fischer, Michael (Lutheran Braille Workers) to Risen Savior, Chandler AZ
Fox, George (St. Paul's, Orange) to Emeritus
Fox, Starlayne (Zion, Anaheim) to Emeritus
McKim, Gale (Candidate) to Non-candidate
Mohr, Lynn (Redeemer, Ontario) to Emeritus
Peterson, Janis (Canoga Park, Canoga Park) to Emeritus
Shideler, Eileen (Immanuel First, West Covina) to Non-candidate
Stade, Lisa (Grace, Corona) to Candidate

Transferred Out:

Koenemann, Julie (Candidate) to Lord of Life, Elkhorn, NE
Trinklein, Susan (Candidate) to Candidate, Michigan District

Removed/Resigned:

Madsen, Jennifer (Abiding Savior, Lake Forest) to Resigned from roster
Peyton, Heather (St. Paul's, Orange) to Resigned from roster
Schumacher, Laura (Faith Jr/Sr High Las Vegas) to Resigned from roster

CONNECTED IN PRAYER...

Get connected...stay connected! We at the District Office encourage you to join us in praying for our schools. Prayer is powerful and simple! You email us your requests or visit our website at www.pswcic.org (click on 'Our Schools') where it also lists the schools we are praying for that week. The following are schools which are being uplifted specifically at this time.

May 1

Grace Lutheran Preschool, Bishop
St. Paul's Lutheran School and Preschool, San Diego
Lutheran High School, San Diego
Christ Lutheran School, Brea

May 8

Christ Lutheran Early Childhood Center, Fullerton
Grace Lutheran Child Development Center, San Diego
Christ the Cornerstone Academy and Preschool, San Diego
Holy Cross Lutheran Preschool, San Diego

May 15

First Lutheran Preschool, Camarillo
Peace Lutheran Preschool, Camarillo
Mt. Calvary Kids Corner, Running Springs
Immanuel Lutheran School and Preschool, Riverside

May 22

Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool, Canyon Country
Canoga Park Lutheran School/Trinity Lutheran High School, Canoga Park
First Lutheran School, Burbank

May 29

Loving Savior Lutheran School and Preschool, Chino Hills
Concordia Lutheran Preschool and Childcare, Chula Vista
Christ the King Lutheran Child Care Center, Redlands
Mt. Olive Lutheran Preschool, Rancho Palos Verdes

HAVE A REFRESHING AND RELAXING SUMMER!