

# Encourager

Mid-South District LCMS | November 2018

## Focus for November

*One of the greatest ways that we show thanks to God is by serving his people.*

*This month we highlight a few of the ways congregations and schools choose to Serve their communities and show love to God's people.*

## Message from Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola, *President*



Colossians 1:9-14 *"The Root of the Fruit of Thanksgiving"*

Regardless of how old I get, Thanksgiving reminds me of the times when I was growing up, the house would be filled with the aroma of turkey, dressing, sweet potatoes, several kinds of pie and cranberries. We never had cranberries at any other time of the year - only Thanksgiving. Mom would make her own cranberry sauce. Some of the cranberries didn't break open when they were cooked, so when we bit into one of those little delights, they'd burst with that scrumptious sour flavor and make your eyes water and your lips pucker. Now that was Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving reminds us of our nation's heritage - the celebration of the first successful harvest the pilgrims had, the sharing of food with the natives, the good friends and the family. All these things happen just to bring thanks to God for His grace and mercy.

But, there's a danger inside our Thanksgiving feasts. It's a danger because we may praise God with our words and appetites, but then many will go back like the rest of the nation and forget that God took care of us all the other days of the year too.

It's like the story about an old couple who, unbeknownst to the husband, were having trouble. The wife complained to their pastor, "My husband never shows me love and thanks for what I do for him." The pastor asked the husband, "Don't you appreciate your wife's work or don't you love her anymore?" The husband said, "Of course I do." The pastor then asked, "Why don't you let your wife know you love her and appreciate her once in awhile?" The husband turned to his wife and said, "My dear, the day we were married, I told you I love you. On our first anniversary, I told you how lucky I am and how much I appreciate you as my wife. If I ever change my mind, I will let you know."

I doubt any of us are like that poor wife and misdirected husband. If we survive a crisis, I'm sure we'd gush with praise of God. But don't we have the tendency to slip into forgetfulness in our own gratitude toward God? Do we really savor each moment of God's blessings realizing that His grace and mercy brought

us through every high time and every low time of our lives? Or is our gratitude like biting into a half-cooked cranberry that just puckers our lips and gives us a great big sour puss.

God speaks to us about perpetual thanksgiving - the thanksgiving of life, or to put it another way, the Root of the Fruit of Thanksgiving. Remember the seeds we planted last Spring: they didn't produce any fruit unless their roots were nourished and healthy. By the same token, our thanksgiving will be weak and short lived if the root of our thanksgiving is missing. If our thanksgiving is only an annual emotional spasm, it's like eating

half cooked cranberries. Roots have to go deep into their foundation. According to St Paul, the real root of our gratitude toward God is a matter of being "filled with knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding."

What does this mean? Spiritual knowledge, understanding and wisdom are all linked together. We grow in the knowledge of God by reading and hearing His Word in our lives. We see His gracious hand in our history. In nature, in our personal lives, and in the world around us, we see His balance and order. We become wiser in our attitudes about life and toward God when we realize that

He's the same today, yesterday and tomorrow. As we become wiser about Him, we become more thankful toward Him. We then show our appreciation of what it is He's done for us. That's when it blossoms into true thanksgiving...the root of the fruit of thanksgiving.

Back in the early part of our nation's history two ships left Europe for the new world. One of them landed on the Yucatan peninsula on 1519. Captain Cortez claimed the land for his queen of Spain. Cortez marched his troops toward Mexico City, leaving behind a blood trail of destruction. With just 500 troops, Cortez slaughtered millions of natives, enslaving the survivors for many decades to come.

The other ship was filled with Puritan refugees who left England in 1620. They fled from religious oppression and persecution in England. They weren't soldiers. Instead of swords, they carried Bibles. They didn't claim the land for their queen, but established homes where they could worship and serve God as their hearts led them.

What if the trade winds had blown differently on those two ships and Captain Cortez was forced to land in North America instead of Mexico? What kind of freedom would we be celebrating for our Thanksgiving...if any? Our country enjoys national, spiritual, medical, and emotional security unlike any other place on earth. Compared to the rest of the world, we're pretty much self-sufficient. We've gone to the point that our great country has given the impression that we might not even need God anymore. If we're in trouble, we'll let the government bail us out.



## Restoration Lutheran Church Holds Preview Service for Fayetteville Community

After many months of praying and planning, the first worship service of Restoration Lutheran Church was held on Sunday, October 28 in Fayetteville, AR. Pastor JD Zischke and over 50 people gathered for the event at a local business that is generously donating the use of its facilities. Pastor Zischke is grateful for the overwhelming support shown for the ministry of Restoration Lutheran Church to date. We can't wait to see God's work unfold through this new Mid-South ministry!



But, when it comes right down to it, we're not even as independent as those first pilgrims were. They cut their wood, made their own candles, cured their own food, raised their own crops, wove their clothing, and cleared the land. As a people, we don't do much of that anymore ourselves. What would happen to us if our police, firemen and farmers went on strike? What would happen if Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, and Canada quit sending oil to us, or our military leaders packed up all their bags and shut down the military? We'd be completely vulnerable and helpless.

We're dependent on others, but more so, we're dependent on God - not only for our physical needs and creature comforts, but for the deeper roots of our spiritual needs. By nature, we're selfish human beings. That's sinful. Our nation still holds 90% of the world's wealth, but only 10% of the entire world's population. Yet, we have people complaining that we aren't getting enough! We hear a nation demanding more! Yet, no other country in the world or in the history of mankind has had as much.

But, when it comes to spiritual blessings, we have a nation that seems to be moving farther and farther away from God and His Word. We have no assurances for nearly half of our people that their eternity will be joyous. The church of Oprah Winfrey teaches that people need to live life to the fullest now, because there is nothing after we die... and dying is just a ceasing of our minds function, according to the high priestess of worldliness.

It's only because of God that you and I have peace of mind and spirit. Through the innocent

suffering and death of His Son, Jesus Christ, we have a spiritual peace and security now and forever. God's Spirit calls us by His Gospel, enlightens us with His gifts, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith unto life everlasting. We are completely and utterly dependent on God's grace and mercy. If God for just one second, withdrew His unchanging, divine provision, we'd slip off into oblivion to some remote spot in the universe and cease to exist.

But He doesn't change. It's this kind of knowledge that is the root of the fruit of thanksgiving. We are simply God's children of mercy and grace. We're His stewards of His goodness. Everything we have is simply a trust from Him. But, the deepest roots of thanksgiving is the spiritual wisdom God offers. St Paul says it this way: *"Give thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us*

*from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins."*

Christ is our King. He rules in majesty everlasting. We're made right with God - not by what we've done, said, or merited; but only through the merits and worthiness of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We're at peace with God, and given the opportunity to give thanks to God for all His blessings and providence. We are empowered to live with constant thanksgiving to God, leading a life worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work. The thankful life is a forgiven life. Our life of thanksgiving is a fruitful life, serving God and others in the joys of our life to come through Christ Jesus. Have a blessed Thanksgiving!



## **Congratulations Avilla Christian Academy & Zion Lutheran Church**



Congratulations to Zion Lutheran Church and Avilla Christian Academy in Alexander, AR on meeting all accreditation requirements. Mid-South District Education Executive Allen Piepenbrink (R) recently visited the church to present the accreditation certificate to Pastor Michael Schleider (L) and Principal Richard Meyers (C).



## **The Rite of Ordination for Rev. Randy Sakach took place at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**



The Rite of Ordination for Rev. Randy Sakach was held at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in White House, TN, on Saturday, October 20, 2018. Pictured with Rev. Sakach are (L-R Front Row) Rev. Erik Christensen, Rev. Alan Thoe, President Roger Paavola, Rev. Sakach, Rev. Alan Bachert, Rev. Tim Hunze, Rev. Carl Wenk. (Back Row L-R) Deacon Bob Allen, Rev. David Mader, Rev. Eric Phillips, President-Emeritus David Callies, Rev. Greg Bauch, Rev. Gene Henke, Rev. Jerry Stobaugh, Rev. Curt Hoover.

## **The Rite of Ordination for Rev. Bill Schutte took place at Rural Mountain House, AR**



The ordination and installation of Rev. Bill Schutte took place on Saturday, October 27, 2019 in rural Mountain Home, AR. Pictured (L-R) are Rev. Brian Pummill, Rev. Joel Krogen, President Roger Paavola, Rev. Bill Schutte, Rev. Paul Baumann, Rev. John Easterling, and Rev. David Tews.

## Food Distribution Held In Sharps Chapel

On October 19 and 20, neighbors worked together at the Sharps Chapel Elementary School to help people in need. The event was sponsored by Chapel of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Sharps Chapel, TN which worships in the Community Center at 10:30 AM on Sundays. Over fifty volunteers came. There were Lutherans, Methodists, Baptists, Roman Catholics, nondenominational, and non-churched. The volunteers ranged in age from children through seniors. Organizers of the event were Karen and Kevin Kitts, members of Chapel of the Good Shepherd. They worked alongside Eileen and Dudley Cunningham whose expertise

made the distribution a huge success for both the volunteers and the food recipients. Kitts reported that 169 boxes of food were distributed. Second Harvest brought the food which was paid for by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Recipients started lining up at the school at 6:30 AM on Saturday. *"There were so many who came for assistance that we unfortunately ran out of food and had to turn some people away,"* stated Pastor Paul Kritsch of the Lutheran church. *"God willing, we hope to have more food available at next fall's*



*distribution. There is a huge need in our community."* When one of the children volunteers was asked what was the best part of the food distribution, he immediately replied, *"Helping people!"*

## Christ the King in Memphis Receives LCEF Kaleidoscope Grant

Christ the King Lutheran Church & School in Memphis, TN was among eight ministries chosen to receive a 2018 grant from the Kaleidoscope Fund, a granting program established by Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). Christ the King's \$35,000 grant will be used to host a ministry that uses the church to give shelter, feed and share the Gospel with the homeless. The ministry is called "Room in the Inn" and is an ecumenical organization that partners with congregations across the community to serve the homeless.

A grant total of \$780,000 was awarded through LCEF's 2018 Kaleidoscope Fund program. Consistent with LCEF's mission, the grant committee selected ministry ideas that are related to



LCEF's Mid-South District Vice President, Paul Reaves (center), congratulates Christ the King Sr. Pastor, Rev. Charles Neugebauer, along with church member and Room in the Inn volunteer Clarice Hunt on the church's \$35,000 grant from the Kaleidoscope Fund. (PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROLINE JOHNSON)

the expansion, enrichment and energizing of Christ's Church. To read more about the other grant recipients, please visit [lcef.org/2018-kaleidoscope-fund-recipients](http://lcef.org/2018-kaleidoscope-fund-recipients).





## Mid-Winter Retreat for Sr. High Youth

February 22-24, 2019 @ Fall Creek Falls



Spread the word about the 2019 Mid-Winter Retreat for Sr. High Youth, coming up February 22-24 at beautiful Fall Creek Falls in Tennessee. Youth leaders from Our Savior Lutheran Church in Nashville and Grace Lutheran Church in Knoxville are joining forces to reach out to all surrounding congregations within the Mid-South District-and they have an exciting weekend planned for all who attend!

The cost to participate in the retreat is \$50, which covers lodging, food and retreat materials. DCEs and youth leaders interested in signing their group up are asked to use the [REGISTRATION LINK](#) to provide some general information for planning purposes. For complete details on the Mid-Winter Retreat, please read the letter from Pastor Christensen, lead retreat coordinator. Watch for more on the Mid-Winter Retreat to be shared on the District website.



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*Help us feed hungry children in Haiti!*

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Opening Day of the Giving Season

**NOVEMBER 27, 2018**

# Thank You for Prayers and Support, from the Hawkins Family

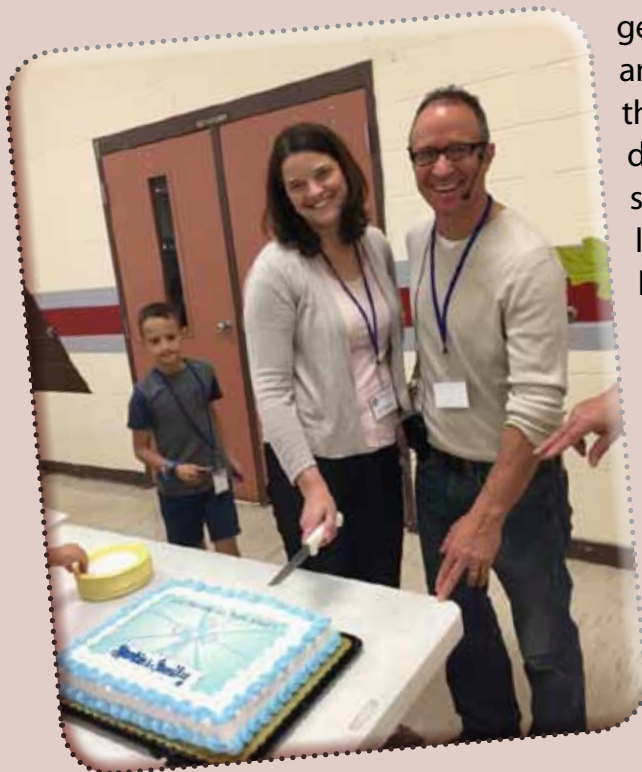


On behalf of Alison Hawkins and her family, the Mid-South District would like to say “thank you” to everyone who has lifted the Hawkins in prayer and shared generous financial gifts following a life-threatening medical emergency for Alison in mid-September. Alison is the Executive Administrative Assistant to our District President, Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola—and a very dear member of our Mid-South District family. Her husband, Rev. Dan Hawkins, is a Missionary at Large for the District and Pastor of Gracepoint Lutheran Church in Munford, Tennessee. Following her initial emergency, Alison spent over a month in hospitals in both Memphis and St. Louis. She will remain in St. Louis for an extended time for rehabilitation,

getting the care she needs, but separated from her husband and six children. The many prayers offered up on behalf of the Hawkins family have been a blessing and encouragement during a very challenging time. Likewise, the generous gifts shared during a GoFundMe campaign in October will go a long way to help offset the interruption to the Hawkins family’s income as Alison continues her recovery. Over \$21,000 has been shared through this effort!

We praise God for the quick action of those present in the first moments of Alison’s emergency, and for all those who have been a part of her diagnosis, treatment and care. As her healing progresses, we look forward to welcoming Alison home in the near future. Until that time, please pray for Alison’s continued recovery and for her family to be sustained by God’s grace as they look forward to welcoming her home.

NOTE: The GoFundMe online campaign has concluded. However, those who would like to share support for Alison and her family may send gifts to the Mid-South District office, designated for “Hawkins Family” (1675 Wynne Road / Cordova, TN 38016).





# Proclaiming the Word

— Holly Bray, April 2018 Mission Team Member



Last April I had the joy of participating in a memorable mission trip with Trinity HOPE that brought a new light on courage, faith, and worship. I remember vividly not a conversation or a face to face meeting with someone, but something I witnessed during the worship service we were privileged to attend in a rural, mountainous area in Artibonite.

The Pastor, feeding program director, Jean Phillipe was kind enough to conduct the service in a dual Creole-English fashion so that our group could participate. Pastor Jean Phillipe explained that his congregation would learn Bible verses together. Because they do not have resources like Bibles and hymnals, they learn by repeating the verses after the Pastor. Then they recite them out loud in front of their fellow parishioners. I couldn't help but wonder...in my church in the States, how many people would be bold enough to stand up in front of the congregation? Who would be willing to potentially

make a mistake in front of his peers? To be a leader among those gathered?

When Pastor Jean Phillipe asked for a volunteer to recite the verse without assistance, in front of the whole group for the first time, one man stood up confidently. He recited the verse in a loud, clear voice. He was speaking in Creole, so our group couldn't

understand every word, but we could feel the pride he took in learning the verse and being able to repeat it back correctly. He definitely had no fear. That struck me. He was free from the fear that holds some back from proclaiming the Word, or from stepping up to be a leader in the church. He had the freedom that only comes from the saving grace and abundant love, that a life in the Word, a life with Christ provides. I will not forget his boldness or his courage.

*(John Phillipe will be attending and speaking at some of the Haiti Hunger Fight Events this year in November. His friend and colleague, Lafleur Jores, will be at the other events. Please note the schedule of events across Tennessee, Illinois, and Kentucky. All events will have delicious food; some will have auctions and most have Haitian Art items for sale.)*



## 2018 Haiti Hunger Fight Events

**Sunday, November 4**

**Christ the King Lutheran Church**  
Memphis, TN at noon, chili luncheon

**Saturday, November 10**

**St. Andrew Lutheran Church**  
Franklin, TN at 3:00-6:30p, traditional Haitian meal

**Sunday, November 11**

**St. Timothy Lutheran Church**  
Hendersonville, TN at noon, chili cook-off/football theme

**Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
Nashville, TN at 12-3:30p, brunch

**Wednesday, November 14**

**Belvoir Christian Academy**  
Chattanooga, TN at Chapel time and classes

**Christ United Methodist Church**  
Chattanooga, TN at 11:30a, BBQ

**Thursday, November 15**

**St. Matthew by the Lake** Benton, KY at 5:00, dinner 6:30p, traditional Thanksgiving meal

**Friday, November 16**

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**  
Hermitage, TN at 6:00p, traditional Thanksgiving meal

**Saturday, November 17**

**Trinity Lutheran Church** Gallatin, TN at 5:00p, traditional Thanksgiving meal

**Faith Lutheran** Thompson Station, TN at 6:00p, traditional Haitian meal

**Sunday, November 18**

**Christus Victor Lutheran Church**  
Knoxville, TN at noon, traditional Thanksgiving meal

**St. John's Lutheran Church** Effingham, IL at noon, griller burger & traditional picnic sides





## Each One, Reach One Event Coming to Trinity Lutheran

**December 8, 2018**

Attention congregations in the Mena, AR area: an Each One, Reach One event will be hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church on Saturday, December 8 from 10:00 a.m.-noon.

The event will highlight practical ways that your congregation members can share their faith in the community. Please watch for details on this event in the coming weeks.



## Petal Pushers® Outreach Booth and Float Decorating

### Outreach Booth

The Petal Pusher® Outreach Booth needs volunteers who will distribute materials and share the meaning of Joy to the World, the Lord is Come! – the title of our 2019 Lutheran Hour Ministries Rose Parade float. Please go to <https://share.petalpushers.org> and sign up now for the times you'll be able to serve.

### Float Decorating

Join the Petal Pushers – 2019. The 2019 Tournament of Roses Parade theme is The Melody of Life and the Lutheran Hour Ministries float is entitled: Joy to the World, the Lord is Come! To help with float decorating information, watch here: <http://volunteer.petalpushers.org>



## Have you listened to LHM Sent Radio?

### Listen 24-7

Access inspirational messaging anytime you need it by listening to Sent Radio, the online radio stream from Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Sent Radio broadcasts the Gospel of Jesus Christ worldwide twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Go to: <https://www.lhm.org/sentradio/> and discover uplifting Scripture, devotions, music, and relevant sermons from The Lutheran Hour!

# Ode to Nancy Herd: what a difference you made

Susan Allen

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Nancy Herd, wife of retired pastor Cliff Herd of Chattanooga. She passed on September 1, 2018. Cliff and Nancy were on our 2013 mission trip to Tanzania. They were no strangers to Africa and by the end of her earthly time, Nancy had logged 15 mission trips to Tanzania, Uganda, and the Ivory Coast.

I was privileged to work with her on the 2013 trip where she set up an eye glass clinic in Bairidi.

While the rest of the team went out to do bush evangelism, she set up a clinic in the back room of a church. We did take our glasses out to the bush one day to do a make shift mobile clinic. She taught me and also some Tanzanians how to do the exam and pick out glasses closest to the needed prescription. She brought all the glasses from the Lions Club in America so the glasses we were handing out were used. But to the people in Tanzania, they were like gold.

We became a team that week. She was quite the inspiration. Nancy was already in stage four of multiple myeloma at the time of the trip. She had previously battled breast cancer, but now it had returned. I was more than a little concerned about her making the trip, but she outdid me with her stamina and positive attitude. It was apparent that she intended to live every moment of her life using her gift of service. I count it a privilege that I got to know Nancy and work with her that week.

We ran into Cliff and Nancy a few years later at a mission fair and she was visibly thinner but still going strong. They were preparing for another trip to Uganda. We extend our sympathy to Pastor Cliff and his family.

Well done, good and faithful servant. See the banquet table has been prepared for you. Now, come and let the rejoicing begin.



**Mobile clinic in the bush**



**Word of mouth brought them to the clinic**



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Students play on the playground with their teacher at Our Savior Lutheran Preschool in St. Charles, Mo. Our Savior is renovating their Early Childhood Center with an LCEF loan.

## Your investments with LCEF help make LCMS ministry happen.

Over the last 40 years, our investors have made it possible for Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) to support the work of tens of thousands of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod individuals and ministries through loans and ministry support services.

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**800-843-5233** to learn more.



**Lutheran Church Extension Fund**

> where investments build ministry

# Prayer Summary, October 2018

Following is a list of all the people that have appeared on the Mid-South District website prayer list [www.mid-southlcms.com](http://www.mid-southlcms.com) during the month of October 2018.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**MRS. SUSAN ELSEROAD** (wife of Rev. Richard Elseroad, Grace Lutheran Church, Knoxville, TN)

**REV. NORM GROTELUSCHEN** (Germantown, TN, MDS President – Emeritus)

**MRS. ALISON HAWKINS** (Mid-South District Office)

**REV. RICHARD MAYER** (Pea Ridge, AR)

**MR. RICHARD MEYER** (Bella Vista, AR)

**MR. DAVID OESCH** (Jackson, TN)

**REV. DAVID RUBKE** (Tullahoma, TN)

**REV. ERIC AND KATIE RUDSENSKE** (Concordia Lutheran Church, Jackson, TN)

**REV. MERLIN SEPMAYER** (Crossville, TN)

**MRS. SUE ANN TOOPES** (wife of Rev. Andy Toopes, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, KY)

**MS. AMY WALTERS** (sister of Julie Tyler, Mid-South District Office)

**THE MOTHER OF MS. MICHELE LAYNE** (ECE Director, St. John's, Fayetteville, AR)

**We pray especially for the Florida/Georgia District and all those residing within** as they recover from the effects of Hurricane Michael.

## OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO:

**Pastor Kirk Abatelli and his family (Faith, Oak Ridge, TN)** at the loss of his nephew Andrew McMorris who passed away, Sunday, September 30, due to injuries sustained in a car accident.

**Rev. Paul Becker and Rev. Robert Heckmann and their families (Kingsport, TN)** at the loss of Mrs. Marie Carol Heckmann, 90, of Kingsport, TN, who went to be with the Lord on Thursday, October 11, 2018.

**Rev. Paul Hass and Rev. Mark Hass and their families (Bella Vista, AR)** at the loss of their father on September 27.

**Mr. Reid Otto and his family (Principal, Heavenly Host Lutheran School, Cookeville, TN)** at the loss of his wife, on October 22.

**Please lift in prayer the family of Rev. Andrew Brondos**, who was Called to Glory on Tuesday, October 23rd in McKinney, Texas. Rev. Brondos joined the Mid-South District staff in 1986 as Executive Secretary for Parish Services. A private funeral service will be held Friday, October 26 in Plano, TX with a public celebration of life service to be scheduled at a later date.

## CALL UPDATE ORDAINED MINISTERS

**PENDING:** **Rev. William Miller, Senior Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Memphis, TN** has been issued a call to serve as Pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Enid, OK.

**Rev. William Miller, Senior Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Memphis, TN** has been issued a call to serve as Senior Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church & School, Lincoln, NE.

**DECLINED:** **Rev. Reed Shoaff, Sole Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, London, AR**, has returned the call to serve as Pastor at St. John Lutheran Church, San Benito, TX.

**IN THE CALLING PROCESS – CONGREGATIONS**  
**Bella Vista Lutheran Church, Bella Vista, AR – Associate Pastor**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church, Memphis, TN – Pastor**  
**Mid-South District – Executive Director for Missions and Ministry**

**COMMISSIONED MINISTERS**  
**IN THE CALLING PROCESS**  
**Avilla Christian Academy, Alexander, AR – Director of Parish Music**



## Congregational Mission Commitments

### Mission Commitment Receipts as of 09/30/18 (9 Months)

Anticipated Amount (75% of budget).....	\$1,186,058
Actual Receipts.....	<u>1,139,424</u>
Over (under) anticipated amount .....	(\$46,634)

### Use of Mission Commitment Receipts (9 Months)

Allocated to Synod for World Missions .....	\$323,077
Allocated to Tanzania .....	18,750
Retained for District Mission/Ministry Support (70% of receipts) .....	<u>797,597</u>
Total Receipts .....	\$1,139,424

### Mission Commitment Receipts Prior Year Comparison (9 Months)

Actual Receipts as of 09/30/18.....	\$1,139,424
Actual Receipts as of 09/30/17 .....	<u>\$1,163,850</u>
Over (under) prior year receipts .....	(\$24,426)



## Mid-South District, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

### Staff

**Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola**, *President*

**Angela Fowler**, *Executive Director for Business & Finance*

**Paul Reaves**, *Executive Director for Development & Executive Director for LCEF Vice President*

**Allen Piepenbrink**, *District Education Executive for Education and Preschools*

**Alison Hawkins**, *Executive Assistant to the District President*

**Renae McElwain**, *Communications & Marketing Specialist*

**Carolyn Metzger**, *Finance Assistant*

**Julie Tyler**, *Administrative Assistant for Missions and Education*

### Contact the Mid-South District

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### Stay Connected With Us

ON THE WEB - "mid-southlcms.org"

ON FACEBOOK - "Mid-South-LCMS"

ON TWITTER - "@midsouthLCMS"

### Contribute

The Encourager is a monthly newsletter from the Mid-South District LCMS. If you would like your article or event published in the next Encourager, please email it by **November 20, 2018** to Rhonda, [webmaster@mid-southlcms.com](mailto:webmaster@mid-southlcms.com)