

YES to Stewardship YES to Stewardship

Iowa District West, LCMS

July 1, 2010

TO: Pastors and Stewardship Leaders

RE: Stewardship School and more!

The Stewardship Committee of Iowa District West takes seriously our District mission statement to “resource” congregations. Biblical stewardship resources equip and encourage the Gospel-powered stewardship response of your members.

We again are offering the popular “Stewardship School” to educate you so that you might educate your congregation. Two different “classes” will be offered in August.

- 1) Immanuel Lutheran Church, Clarinda is a host site for “Faith Aflame” on Saturday morning, August 7 (9 am). Rev. Wayne Knolhoff, LCMS Stewardship Director, is coming back to our District to share this resource which assists congregations in an “adaptive” change to the stewardship culture. Rev. Knolhoff will introduce a Bible study and dialog process that changes the hearts of leaders. Immanuel, Clarinda and Trinity, Shenandoah will begin this process in their congregations. We’re invited to learn with them. So that adequate materials might be available, please pre-register with Pastor Larry Boye (larry.boy@hotmail.com; 712-542-3283). Classes will conclude by noon.
- 2) Ron Chewning, Stewardship Advisors, will be the teacher for the August 23, 24, 25 events. Ron invites us to join him on “The Steward’s Journey.” In addition to general stewardship principles, Ron will be introducing the new “The Lifestyle of Faithful Stewards” resource. The District will provide each congregation with an introductory packet of the 4 week program (includes Bible studies, sermons, children’s messages, and many publicity items). We will be blessed to have our stewardship partners Carole White (LCEF) and Jim Schroeder (Gift Planning) with us at these classroom sessions to offer additional resources. No pre-registration is necessary. Come to the classroom setting that is most convenient for you. The classes will also provide an update on District stewardship.

Thank you to the many congregations that continue to be generous and faithful in contributions to District and Synod. Your gifts enable us to forward our “pledge” to LCMS missions and ministry. If your congregation has not made contributions to District/Synod a priority, please consider a special fall emphasis (a mission festival or other event). District staff is often available to be part of those special emphases. “Mission and Ministry 2010” is included to report our District financial plan to you. Your consistent offerings during the summer months model stewardship priorities to your members (and allow us to be consistent in our support of other ministries).

Thank you to the congregations that participated in the first “Joy in Ministry” Sunday (June 13). If you were not able to emphasize church worker recruitment and District assistance for our

District church work students on that Sunday, please consider it another time this summer or fall. Your District considers it a privilege and responsibility to recruit and support our future pastors, Lutheran school teachers, deaconesses, and directors of Christian education. "Joy in Ministry" offering envelopes are available to your congregation for inclusion as a bulletin insert or for a special mailing. The envelopes might also be displayed in your "memorial" selections.

"Consecrated Stewards" has been a blessing to a number of District congregations. Now is the time to explore this stewardship celebration and education process for the fall. Contact Carole White or Bob Riggert for more information. There are six pastors from around the District trained as "Consecrated Stewards" consultants.

"Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes" (LCMS Stewardship Definition). Stewardship is not just money. It is not just a once a year stewardship sermon and a three week emphasis. It is not just a church conversation. Stewardship is managing ALL of life for God's purposes. Stewardship is exciting! A Biblical stewardship perspective is life-altering. Stewardship is discipleship. Stewardship is part of the life of the individual Christian and congregation.

It is the privilege of your District to resource you in STEWARDSHIP education and celebration. We hope to see you in school!

YES to stewardship!



Rev. Bob Riggert
Executive Assistant - Stewardship
bob.riggert@idwlcms.org

To: Iowa District West Pastors and Stewardship Leaders

An Invitation to *“The Steward’s Journey”*

To help you convey to the members of your congregation the wonderful blessing and opportunity God has given them to be His stewards, you are invited to a workshop titled “The Steward’s Journey” given by Ron Chewning. This will be held at three locations: Monday, August 23 at Immanuel, Spirit Lake (7-9 pm); Tuesday, August 24 at St. Paul, Carroll (7-9 pm); and Wednesday, August 25 at Shepherd of the Valley, West Des Moines (7-9 pm). Ron is the author of many stewardship Bible studies and stewardship programs. His resources have been a blessing to thousands of LCMS churches.



With transformed hearts shaped and molded by the Holy Spirit, we go forward on our stewardship journey. The steps we take are sometimes large, sometimes small, sometimes even backwards. Throughout our journey, God encourages, guides, and equips us to be His faithful stewards and works through us to accomplish His purposes. By grace, we become the stewards that He wants us to be.

This educational and motivational workshop will enable you to help your members understand that, in their journey as stewards, it is more “who” they are as stewards than “what” they do as stewards.

Come and join us on this journey!

Ron Chewning and
Rev. Robert Riggert

Blessings on your journey as a steward!



IOWA DISTRICT WEST STEWARDSHIP SCHOOL

August 2010



Course: "Faith Aflame: Stewardship 360"

Classroom: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Clarinda, Iowa

Class Time: Saturday, August 7 (9 am to noon)

Curriculum: A Biblical stewardship education process for congregation leaders

Teachers: Rev. Wayne Knolhoff (LCMS Stewardship)
and Rev. Bob Riggert

Course: "The Steward's Journey"

Classrooms and Class Times:

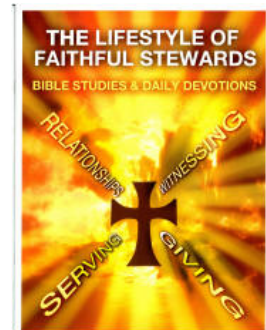
Monday, August 23 – Immanuel, Spirit Lake, 7-9 pm

Tuesday, August 24 – St. Paul, Carroll, 7-9 pm

Wednesday, August 25 – Shepherd of the Valley, West
Des Moines, 7-9 pm

Curriculum: A four week stewardship process emphasizing relationships, witnessing, serving, and giving

Teacher: Ron Chewning, Stewardship Advisors



Note: There is NO tuition for these "courses."

Potential students: pastors, stewardship leaders, congregation leaders, all stewards.

All students will receive stewardship "textbooks" and resources.

OUR TEACHERS

Rev. Wayne Knolhoff is the Director of Stewardship Ministry, LCMS District and Congregational Services. Wayne was born and raised on a farm near Carlyle, Illinois. He attended St. Paul College, Concordia, Missouri, and graduated from Concordia College in River Forest, Illinois, in 1972. After graduation, he taught in Lutheran schools in Bayside, New York, and Grafton, Wisconsin. He entered Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1979. After graduation in 1983 he served as pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Humboldt, Iowa. In 1991 Rev. Knolhoff began serving the congregations of Iowa District East of the LCMS as the Executive for Stewardship, Missions, Evangelism, and Church Extension.

He received the Master of Parish Education Degree from Concordia College in Seward, Nebraska, in 1995. In January of 2001 Rev. Knolhoff was installed as Mission and Ministry Facilitator: Specialist – Urban, Ethnic, Campus, New Mission Starts and Subsidized Ministries for the Missouri District of the LCMS prior to coming to the Board for District and Congregational Services – Stewardship Ministry.

Rev. Knolhoff and his wife, Joyce, are the parents of three children: Jeremy, Jennifer, and Joanna and one grandchild – Alayna.

Ron Chewning operates Stewardship Advisors, which provides year-round stewardship education resources for churches. Prior to starting his firm in 1997, he worked as a stockbroker and a certified financial planner as well as a branch manager with Prudential Securities. After 18 years in the financial community, he began his church work serving as the gift planning counselor with the English District. Just prior to starting Stewardship Advisors, he was a Regional Vice President for the LCMS Foundation. He and his wife Phyllis have written several books and Bible studies such as *Becoming Money Wise*, *Life at its Best: Living Wisely in an Unwise World*, *Living as Fruitful Stewards*, *Preparing for Faithful Stewardship*, *Stewardship Studies for Teens*, *Financial Wisdom for a Lifetime*, *Excel in the Grace of Giving*, *Giving 101*, *The Lifestyle of Faithful Stewards*, and *Tap into God's Rich Supply*. Through his firm, Stewardship Advisors, Ron has become one of the primary sources of stewardship resource material within The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Ron and Phyllis are members of Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Birmingham, Michigan.