



Twin Cities Chapter Mission News

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit...
Matthew 28:19*

Fall, 2011

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Matt Sauer, Chairman

Message from the Chairman

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus" - Phillipians 2:3-5

At our last WKW-TCC board meeting, our newly appointed spiritual advisor, Pastor Ben Blumer, talked about the beginning of his public ministry in Lakeville. He shared that he needed to change his perspective so that he saw everyone, from the next door neighbor to the cashier at the store, as a potential member of his congregation. Reflection on this, he wondered why he hadn't seen everyone that way in the first place!

Sometimes we need an attitude adjustment. We need to see each person in our lives as someone who needs to hear the truth of God's righteous law and the sweetness of the gospel just as much as we do. This can be really hard when perhaps you don't know them or, worse, you know them and wish you didn't. Or, perhaps, you know they disagree with you about your Christian faith and even ridicule you for it. Christ's attitude towards such people, even us, was that he humbled himself. He became nothing and even endured our punishment on the cross so that we wouldn't

have to spend eternity separated from God as we deserve for our sins. Join me in praying for a new attitude towards everyone in our lives, that we see them as potential children of God through faith in Christ. And then reach out to them with that word of hope.

Mission Concert with Koiné

The local chapter of WKW is very excited to announce a different format for this year's Mission Concert. We have invited Koiné to exclusively perform at the concert with the theme being missions.

We hope you will be able to join us **Sunday, January 29, at 3 p.m. at Bloomington Lutheran Church**, for this special concert by these talented musicians. Refreshments will be provided following the concert.



St. Croix Conference Youth Committee

The committee worked hard this year, planning and leading the youth program activities. Some of these events included canoe & waterslide outing to Wild Mountain, coordinated by Rev. Matt Hennig (41 taking part), volleyball tournament last November, and Broomball in January. Then of course there were the mission trips.

2011 Teen Mission Outreach & Service Trips Update

In recent years, the summer mission trips for teens have become a highlight of the year's activities, whether sponsored by individual churches, or by this committee on behalf of the conference and district. Two events that took place this summer involved more than 100 teens and leaders.

The first trip assisted 13 churches in the Seattle area with their outreach. The second trip worked with churches in Tennessee and Kentucky. More than 30,000 publicity items were distributed on these trips, as well as other assistance offered to church outreach and service



projects (including stripping a gym floor in Seattle). In addition to the many churches visited and helped, the teens also visited local sites. A trip to the Seattle harbor, Space Needle, Yellowstone Park, Creation Museum, and others were on the agenda for growth and entertainment purposes. Leadership personnel this year included Matt Hennig, Matt Luetke, Tom Smith, Dave Naumann, and Vicar Sonntag of Zumbrota, along with a number of lay leaders.

With an international youth rally planned for 2012 at Knoxville, the doors will be open for groups from the conferences of the district to recruit their own youth and possibly plan "add on"

mission and travel experiences along the way. In addition, a more focused mission trip to Phoenix/Tucson is also in the works for early July of 2012.

Rev. Arnold Lemke

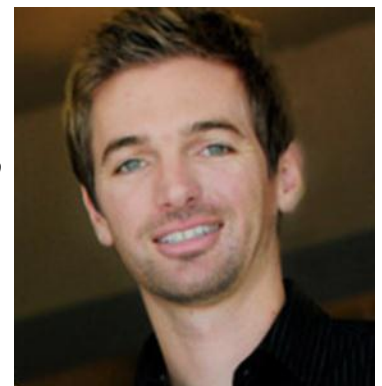
Meet Our New Spiritual Advisor

The Twin Cities Chapter board welcomes our new Spiritual Advisor, Pastor Ben Blumer. Pastor Blumer has a passion for outreach, which is evident in the congregation where he serves. Bethlehem, Lakeville, has seen tremendous growth over his tenure.

When asked why Pastor Blumer decided to accept our invitation to be our spiritual advisor, he responded:

"It's a great privilege to be on the WELS Kingdom Workers' - Twin Cities Chapter Board. I've always admired the WELS Kingdom Workers organization for their heart and passion for reaching those who don't know Jesus. In the midst of church life, it can be easy for outreach to be put on the back burner or not given the time that it should. WELS Kingdom Workers has done a great job of promoting evangelism, encouraging and mobilizing volunteers, and supporting the work of

evangelism in the Twin Cities area. I'm blessed to be able to work shoulder to shoulder with them and look forward to working with many of you as well. God's richest blessings to all of you as we do the Lord's work. Now, more than ever, the "fields are white" in the Twin Cities area."



We are excited to have him on board and look forward to being blessed through his guidance and encouragement.

Matt Sauer, Chairman

Responses Received From Participating Mission Trip Churches

I think the real "thank you" goes to y'all! What an inspiring thing to have a bunch of teens pay for the privilege of going to knock on doors for another congregation! That's really cool. And thanks to you and the others for organizing! Blessings!
Tom Koch, Morristown, TN

We distributed about 3000-3500. (25 teens x 2.5 hours) We filled the rest of our VBS (120 kids) in no time at all after the canvassing and hopefully we'll see responses in our preschool as well. Our members and evangelism team are extremely appreciative of all the willingness and hard work from the kids. Thank you again and come out again any time!
Daniel Lange, Covington, WA

Hi Arnie, It looks like we were able to distribute a little over 5,000 flyers with the help of your group. The great thing is that we were able to reach neighborhoods that we had not previously marketed to. The response to the flyer drop has been great.. The Monday after the drop, our secretary was answering the phone non-stop. We currently have 45 kids signed up for our camp.. 25-30 of those are people who we have no previous contact with, so it would be safe to assume they only know of our church because of the flyer drop. Thanks again for the help and we would love to have you out here again if possible! Pastor Tom Voss, Des Moines, WA

Thanks to you and everyone who helped us out. We were able to distribute around 800 bags of material with your help. We have received a few phone calls inquiring about our preschool as a result.

Thanks again and God's richest blessings to you and the Minnesota teens!

Pastor Dave Bitter, Fargo

We would like to thank you for your help at both Grace and Salem. At Salem we taped and painted the lines on the gym floor. This may not sound like outreach, but it is. Over the course of five months we have around 600 parents and children enter our gym. The way the gym looks makes a difference.... We are also working toward renting two of our rooms for a non-profit preschool with 48 children and their parents. Again, the way the building looks will help secure many opportunities to build relationships and spread the message of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The six students and their parent supervisor were terrific! They totally completed the job we asked of them. The best part for me was the fellowship with the students and the parents.

At Grace my wife was able to share with the students the challenges of working in an urban church setting. The area around Grace is known as an urban village according to the city of Seattle. With so many apartments and strict door hanging rules, we have had to change the way we do things. Going door to door is hostile, so we are trying to create an atmosphere that Grace is here for the community... The goal of each of these programs is to get opportunities to meet people, build relationships and talk about Jesus, The members at Salem enjoyed seeing the energy of all the young people.. The Lord's blessings on your work,

Pastor Thomas Gumm, Seattle

Upcoming Events

Please support your local mission projects through prayer, volunteerism, participation, and donation. Events currently scheduled include the following:

- **Super Saturday Sale at Mission Wearhouse** (benefitting CLM) on November 26 (the Saturday after Thanksgiving). Hours are 8 a.m.-3 p.m. There will be goodie bags for the first 75 customers and all volunteers for the day. Contact Ruth Petermann at <petermann.ruth.m@comcast.net> or call the office at (651) 649-3538 if you would like to volunteer, or just come and shop! The store address is 2756 Lake Shore Avenue, Little Canada.
- **CLM Annual Event—January 22, 2012, at Cross of Christ in Coon Rapids.** More details to come.
- **Mission Concert—January 29, 2012, at Bloomington Lutheran Church, 3 p.m.** We are excited to announce that this year's concert will be featuring Koiné. Light refreshments will be served after the concert. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit the mission projects in the Twin Cities area.
- **WKW Taste of Missions—March 17, 2012 (Tentative).** More details to come.
- **Touche' Flemings Banquet—Saturday, May 5, 2012 (Tentative).** More details to come.

St. Croix LHS China Trip Update

Twenty St. Croix Lutheran High School students have been chosen to teach the Bible to the VBS children in China. Soon this excited group of students will be speaking at their churches, asking for prayers and donations to their mission efforts. Please be generous as you prayerfully support the youth that have the burden in their hearts to learn about God's children of different languages and cultures and spread the news of Jesus abroad.

As an example of the profound affect a mission trip like this can have on a high school student, I share with you exciting news. Derek Loewen, a member at Bloomington who went with us to China in 2010 wrote to say he is transferring to Martin Luther College. This is because of the influence of the China trip and the comments I made to him then that he has natural leadership gifts and would be a good teacher and maybe even a missionary someday. He will transfer from Mankato State in January. The affects of our trip continue to reach out with good things for the Lord's Kingdom. The young people that go out to do missions in our world today are our 21st century church leaders. How much better prepared they are to work cross-culturally and spread the gospel in our global society!

~Tammy Leyrer

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many opportunities for you to help with this and other local ministries. We need your prayers, volunteer time, and financial support. If you would like to give to this or another ministry, you may send your check in the provided envelope and indicate the ministry you would like to support. Volunteers are needed in the following areas, or contact the person listed below with other ideas:

- **Urban Ministries:** To help with the computer lab, events coordination, youth groups, driving, and more, contact Scott Gostchock at (612) 825-5375 or <sgost@mindspring.com>.
- **Christian Life Ministries:** Help is always needed in the Mission Wearhouse Thrift Store, as well as with counseling, hotlining, switching, mentoring, and more. Please consider volunteering one or more days per month. Contact Nancy Roeller at (651) 649-3538 or <welslftcc@usfamily.net>.
- **Family Homework Connection at BLC:** Help children from the community with their homework on Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 two hours per week, every week, every other week, once a month, or whenever you can. No experience necessary. Please contact Karen Odegaard if you can help at karenode@yahoo.com or call the church office at 952-888-2475.