

# The Spirit of Southern

Web Edition – July/August, 2015

## It's Your Serve

*"Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and faithfulness; put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the river and in Egypt, and serve the Lord." Joshua 24:14*

The final chapter of the book of Joshua finds the people of Israel at the end of a very long journey. The pathway out of bondage in Egypt had taken a generation of their history, and in the months following their arrival at the Jordan river they had carved out a home for themselves in the land which God had promised to give to them. Now, here they were, the land conquered, the promise fulfilled, and their new lives set before them.

It is in this context that we hear the words of Joshua, exhorting them to remember their identity as God's people; they are no longer slaves of Egypt, but servants of the Lord, who had set them free. But Joshua is wise. He is mindful of their wandering ways and of their reputation for unfaithfulness, and so he asked them

once again to commit themselves to God. "Choose this day whom you will serve," he charged them.

It is a choice which we all must make, and not just once. The temptations to serve other "gods" are manifold, especially when the way of discipleship is hard or even confusing. Consider the New Testament disciples, for instance. Following Jesus' teachings about "eating his flesh and drinking his blood", many of his followers did, in fact, leave him. They found his claim to be too much to accept: "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" (John 6:60) Yet on that same day, some of them, Simon Peter among them, committed themselves anew to follow after him.

These are the kinds of choices which confront each of us along the way of

our own pilgrimage. Can I trust God with my future? Will he take care of my children? What if I don't like something he asks me to do? I don't understand what God is doing in my life right now. These and dozens of other questions and anxieties like them, tempt us to look for other "gods" to lead and carry us into a secure future. Like the children of Israel we must be reminded that God has not only *saved* us but he has also *called* us - called us to serve Him and Him alone. He makes no apologies for being a "jealous God" who'll be satisfied with nothing less than full commitment of his people. He makes this call not as an unrelenting God of judgment but as an unrelenting Father who has been jealous in his love for us, a love so possessive of us, that in the person of his Son, cost him his very life.

*Lord, you know the weakness of my resolve to serve you, no matter what happens in my life. Yet, how can I be unfaithful to you, if you have always been faithful to me? So hear me, I pray, as today I promise once again to serve you, you alone. Amen*

Rev. Kurtis D. Schultz, President, Southern District, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



## 74<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Southern District - LCMS

Under the theme "Hope: Jesus Changes Everything," based on 1 Peter 3:15, delegates and guests to the 74<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Southern District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod met at Concordia College Alabama in Selma, AL.

Concordia College staff and students warmly welcomed their guests June 4-5, 2015.

Delegates elected President Kurtis Schultz to his fifth term on the first ballot. Congratulations and God's blessings to President Schultz as he leads our district for the next triennium.



# Convention Highlights

## WORSHIP

Delegates and guests were inspired by the Opening Worship Service, devotions, and the Friday evening Memorial Service recognizing district pastors and teachers who had died during the past triennium.



## SPEAKERS

Rev. Dr. Herbert C. Mueller Jr., LCMS First Vice-President, presented the Synod President's Report, and Rev. Dr. John C. Wohlrabe, Jr., LCMS Second Vice-President, presented the Synod Bible Study. Both hosted question and answer sessions. Michigan District President Rev. David P. Maier presented the Key Note Address.

## ELECTIONS

Regional Vice Presidents elected are: **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Rev. Dr. Ulmer Marshall (Mobile/Montrose, AL); **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Rev. Dr. McNair Ramsey (Emeritus: Vredenburgh, AL); **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:** Rev. Stewart Marshall (DeRidder, LA) and **4<sup>th</sup> Vice President:** Rev. Warren Pellom (Southaven, MS).

Elected Board of Directors members are: **Secretary:** Rev. Keith Ringers; **Treasurer:** Mr. Stanley Weir; **Ordained Members At-Large:** Rev. Randal Ehrichs, Rev. Allan Hudspith, Rev. Kevin Kieschnick; **Lay Members – Regional and At-Large:** Mr. John Heine, Mrs. Nancy Kaul, Mr. Thomas M. Noon, Mr. Robert Meyers, Mr. Woody Kiem, Ms. Laurie Ninke, and a vacant position from Circuit 5 to be appointed; **Commissioned Minister Representative:** Mr. John Price.



## RESOLUTIONS

Delegates adopted resolutions that included:

- Acknowledgement of the value and contributions of Directors of Christian Education (DCEs) to the service of the Synod and specifically the Southern District. The resolution encourages the district's congregations to evaluate needs and resources to consider calling DCEs for future staffing needs.
- Encouragement for Synod to educate and advocate for persecuted Christians in hostile countries. The resolution calls for LCMS publications and social media outlets to provide information about these persecuted Christians and ways to send funds and to extend sympathy, especially to those in the Middle East.
- Establishment of a task force to study and suggest possible Southern District Bylaw changes concerning term limits for the district's elected officers and committees members.



## INFORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP

All in attendance enjoyed opportunities to visit with friends, old and new. The convention schedule allowed time for visitation of historical sites in the Selma area.

Convention attendees previewed showings of "The First Rosa," an LCMS documentary on the mission work of Dr. Rosa Young in Alabama during the early 20th century. The film's director, Rev. Dr. Ardon Albrecht, and the Rev. Roosevelt Gray Jr., director of LCMS Black Ministry were on hand to introduce and to talk about the production. The film is scheduled to be released in September.

## TORCH BEARER OF HOPE

In keeping with the "Hope: Jesus Changes Everything" theme, President Schultz announced the formation of an award to recognize those who have been "Torch Bearers of Hope" to those in need of help and hope. Recognized at this convention were:

- Living members of Concordia College AL family who participated in the voting rights moment.
- Camp Restore in New Orleans, for its 10 years of work with over 25,000 volunteers in its ministry of hope and restoration after Hurricane Katrina.
- Shepherd's Heart Ministry in Gardendale, AL for its disaster response team which responds with disaster teams bringing hope to victims throughout the US.



**Want more convention news? A special Spirit of Southern Convention Edition can be found on the district website: [www.southernlcms.org](http://www.southernlcms.org). Check it out for more information and lots of pictures!**

## District & Synod News

### SOUTHERN DISTRICT FOUNDATION

The Southern District Foundation has been very busy planning our marketing strategy. We are attempting to create a brand and to start producing marketing materials. To that end, we have just finished out first Southern District Foundation brochure. We were able to hand it out at the District Convention in June, and received a lot of positive feedback. I want to thank Mr. Major Madison, our new Southern District Foundation President, for doing most of the work for this new brochure. It wouldn't have happened without him.

I also want to announce the addition of a new Southern District Foundation Board of Trustees member. Pastor David Doroh from Florence, AL has agreed to serve as a Trustee for our Southern District Foundation Board.

Dave just retired from Our Redeemer - Florence where he served as their pastor for 35 years. He has served on the Southern District Board of Directors for the last ten years, six of those ten years as a 4th and 2nd District Vice President. Dave is a respected churchman, and a knowledgeable board member. I am so pleased that he has agreed to serve on our Foundation Board.

The Southern District Foundation has many ideas for our future. Please stay tuned for all of our future events that may be coming to your church.

If you want to know more about starting an Endowment Fund for your church, please contact me, Glenn Gerber, at 281-725-1130

*Glenn Gerber: Executive Director for Schools and Foundation*

### SOUTHERN DISTRICT YOUTH

Southern District Youth enjoyed a busy summer and are looking forward to future events.

- Fifty-three youth and adult leaders (pictured right) served with the Appalachia Service Project in the Tennessee mountains July 5-11, helping families to have safe, warm and dry homes. They worked hard, served well, and shared the love of Christ.
- Plans are underway for Junior Youth Gatherings this November. The theme is "Chiseled, For you are God's workmanship..." (Eph 2:10). The dates and locations are: November 6-8 at Camp Blue Lake, AL and November 13-15 at Camp Tall Timbers, LA. Registration opens August 10, 2015. More information and registration can be found on the district web page: [www.southernlcms.org](http://www.southernlcms.org).
- The LCMS Youth Gathering, "In Christ Alone," provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity. New Orleans hosts the next Gathering (July, 2016) where youth spend time together in God's word, worship, service and fellowship with others from across the synod. Look for Gathering registration materials in the mail for your congregation during August, 2015.
- Christ Academy – High School is a two-week summer conference for high-school aged men considering the pastoral ministry as a possible vocation, held at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN. Participants get a first hand opportunity to experience what a pastor learns and how formation takes place in the Seminary environment. Southern District student, Michael Thalheim from Grace – Houma, LA, attended the event this summer.



*Cindy Nammany, Curtis Wiese, Jayne Shaefer*

### SOUTHERN DISTRICT DIRECTORS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Pictured left to right, Curtis Wiese, Good Shepherd - Shalimar, FL; Amanda Bradley, Grace - Pensacola, FL; Kellye Crouch, Trinity - Panama City, FL; Zeal Beale, LINCNewOrleans, all Southern District Directors of Christian Education (DCE) attended the July 12-15, 2015 National Lutheran Youth Workers Conference (referred to as NATIONAL). The event took place in the National Youth Gathering (NYG) host city of New Orleans, LA.

NATIONAL brings together youth workers from across the country to be encouraged in their vocation and further equipped in their service to the church. Participants dialogue about practical skills and relevant theory for effective youth ministry while networking with other volunteer and professional youth leaders.

*Zeal Beale*



## CONCORDIA COLLEGE – ALABAMA, SELMA, AL



Concordia College-Alabama (CCA) recently attended the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Convention on June 25-28 to spread the good news about Concordia, as

well as show appreciation for LWML's support of the college. The convention, held every two years, took place in Des Moines, IA.

The LWML has generously supported CCA in numerous ways over the years, most recently donating funds to support Concordia's Rosa J. Young Center for Women, a mentoring and leadership program for the young women of CCA. Due in large part to the support of the LWML, the center has been able to carry out several charity projects and programs, such as supporting the local nursing home, and putting on an etiquette workshop for young ladies in the incoming freshman class.

"It was wonderful to be able to attend the convention and thank the LWML for their continued support of the college," said Director of Public Relations, Abby Campbell. "We were also excited to share with them all the great things that are happening at Concordia."

*Abby Campbell*

## UPBRING - LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF THE SOUTH

With a new logo and a new name, Lutheran Social Services recently unveiled "Upbring – The New Lutheran Social Services of the South." The organization's mission is "to break the cycle of child abuse by empowering children, families and communities."

Christie Kieschnick, MCD, Director of Education & Career Development for BeReal New Orleans announces that BeReal has recently expanded its program of working with youth in foster care. Information can be found on the BeReal New Orleans website, [BeRealNewOrleans.org](http://BeRealNewOrleans.org).

## SOUTHERN DISTRICT - COMMUNICATING WITH YOU

While you are used to *The Spirit of Southern* being delivered to your home, the Southern District offers several communication tools that you may be interested in. All are available by subscribing for e-mail editions at no charge.

*This Ministry That We Share* highlights district and congregation happenings twice a month.

*Cross Points* is produced by Mission Facilitator, Rev. Eric Johnson, and offers mission opportunities and suggestions for congregations to enhance their mission outreach.

*The Spirit of Southern* web edition includes everything in the print edition as well as additional information and pictures not included in our space limited print edition.

To subscribe, go to the district website, [www.southernlcms.org](http://www.southernlcms.org), mouse over "Connect" and click on "Spirit of Southern." On the left side of the page will be the current issue with archived issues available at the end, and on the right side you will find the subscription form. Sign up and district communications will be e-mailed to you as they are produced.

## Congregation News

### CALVARY – BATON ROUGE, LA

On Saturday, May 23, 2015, Calvary – Baton Rouge, LA hosted its first annual Project: Teen Redemption. This community event included resources and speakers from various community agencies who provided information and solutions to help youth and families grow into productive Louisiana and American citizens.

The event was sponsored by Thrivent Financial and included community supporters. Pastor Gary Peterson welcomed guests to the event and opened with an invocation.

Project: Teen Redemption was developed by Albertha Reed (Event Chairperson), Danie'l Williams (Site Coordinator), and Timothy Williams (Event Coordinator). The event included speakers and resources from the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Department, JROTC, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana, ICARE of Baton Rouge, Woman's New Life Center, Southern University Upward Bound TRIO Programs, East Baton Rouge Library Book Mobile, and wellness information from Dr. Tonja Latham.

The event was highlighted by an inspirational message from Louisiana State Representative Patricia Haynes Smith who charged the audience to



be committed to education and never lose sight of the important relationship between the church and the community.

This was the first of many events fostered to bring community awareness to issues that affect the church and society.

*Timothy Williams*

## FAITH – SHREVEPORT, LA

We, at Faith - Shreveport, LA, would like to share a heart-warming and spirit-filled story with you. On Sunday, July 7, 2013, our church was chosen to be the worship site for a multi-class reunion of a local high school, Herndon High. Among the reunion participants was Mr. Charles C. Neloms, a friend and classmate of one of our members. After the service, Charles reported how excited he was to be in attendance and how much he had enjoyed the service.

After that, Charles became a

frequent visitor to our church, Sunday after Sunday. He came to Bible Study Wednesday after Wednesday, and participated in other church activities.

Finally, he told the pastor that he wanted to be baptized and a date was set. Before he could be baptized, however, Charles had a heart attack. Pastor Shannon visited him in the hospital and he asked to be baptized. On January 22, 2015, he was baptized, one week before his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Hallelujah!

On the following Sunday, Pastor Shannon was telling us everything that had transpired with Charles and that he probably would not be with us in church for awhile. At that very moment, Charles came walking down the church's walkway! We welcomed him into our Christian fellowship and he has been a wonderful blessing.

We witnessed again the Holy Spirit at work and we thank God for the many blessings He continues to bestow on us and our church. Thank You, our Heavenly Father!

*Arlene B. Ferguson*

## ST. PAUL - PICAYUNE, MS

"Going, Going, Gone!" Those were words heard at the St. Paul – Picayune, MS annual Spring Fling & Auction. The event, held on April 25th, was attended by over 70 people, both members of the congregation and individuals from the community and outlying areas. In addition to the silent and verbal auction, a delicious spaghetti and meatball dinner was served.

With over 175 items up for auction, bidding was fast and furious. Proceeds from the event were donated to a local charitable organization, Christian Care Ministries, an ecumenical organization founded in 1988, offering support to the needy. With matching funds from Thrivent, over \$3,600.00 was donated by St. Paul to aid with the mission of Christian Care Ministries.

*Ron Cooper, Mary Ohrmundt*



## ST. MARK'S - ELBERTA, AL

Several Thrivent members of St. Mark's – Elberta, AL have sponsored Action Team projects in our church and community the past few months. One project in February was having a weekend women's Bible study retreat using the theme, "The Best Yes."

In March, we had a lasagna dinner before a Lenten service and the donations helped to send David Ringers to Honduras on a Medical mission trip in May.

Another project was to provide materials to lead a Patriarchs Bible study on Tuesday nights. At this time, three separate 11 week classes have taken place with many participants.

Each project involved many volunteers working together to help connect people to Jesus. We are thankful to Thrivent for providing these and look forward to participating in many more!

*Diana Ringers*



## ASCENSION - HUNTSVILLE, AL

On November 14, 1965, Ascension - Huntsville, AL opened its sanctuary doors to hold its first official Sunday worship service. On November 15, 2015, Ascension will celebrate its 2,600<sup>th</sup> Sunday worship service (give or take. . .).

Special events are taking place throughout 2015 to get ready for this special occasion. We had a June Backpack Project Day, collecting

school supplies for the August Market Day giveaway; Chrismons in July (to rejuvenate our Christmas trees in December); and we look forward to a "Market Day" on August 1; a special "Music Fest" day on October 11 at 4:00 PM to celebrate the gift of music and dedicate the new organ; and then the Anniversary celebration and program on November 14 with special services on November 15.

We invite you to celebrate with us during any of these events. Check our website at <http://www.ascensionlutheranhuntsville.com> for more information. If any of you have memories, stories or pictures from our last 50 years that you'd care to share, please send them to [donnas@hiwaay.net](mailto:donnas@hiwaay.net) or [secretary@ascensionlutheranhuntsville.com](mailto:secretary@ascensionlutheranhuntsville.com). Thank you!

*Judy Burhans*

### TRINITY – BATON ROUGE, LA

The Senior High Youth of Trinity – Baton Rouge, LA recently toured the Grand Canyon for the express purpose of learning how only a global flood could have created it. Scientist Russ Miller guided the tour that took us to the South Rim of the canyon, as well as rafting down the Colorado River through Glen Canyon. The trip was very educational, and one that will be remembered by all for many years to come.

*Eric Whitten*



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### ST. STEPHEN – NEW ORLEANS, LA

St. Stephen - New Orleans, LA extends best wishes to the Rev. Mark C. Hayman, who is retiring on August 30, 2015. Plans are being finalized for his retirement celebration on that date.

Pastor Mark will be greatly missed by his congregation and colleagues alike. May the Lord guide Pastor Mark and his wife, Edna, as they begin a new chapter in their life.

*Jim Decker*

### EBENEZER - ATMORE, AL

The Father's Day program at Ebenezer – Atmore, AL was a success, honoring fathers on their special day by presenting them with a praying hands pen and card from the congregation. Fathers that were present are from left to right: (President) Rufus McCullam, (Elder) Arbo Bradley, (Senior Elder) Hoover Brown, (Elder) Bernard McCullam, William Thomas and Rev. Benjamin Stallworth. Not pictured are Delarrian Poole, Courtney Leslie and Willie Barron.



*Annie Poole*

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### GRACE - HUNTSVILLE, AL

Greetings from Grace – Huntsville, AL! Our "Be The Church" outreach day was held Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Some of our projects were serving in a local neighborhood in cooperation with The City of Huntsville. Lunchboxes were made and delivered to a local hospital waiting room, and over 300 food and care bags were made for the homeless in our community.

A Summer Camp was held for Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade from May 26<sup>th</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup> from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. It was a fun learning time for all!

Our Senior Youth went to Belize June 6-12 where they conducted a VBS for an orphanage and distributed food to needy families.

Six ladies went to The LWML National Convention June 24-28 in Des Moines, IA. One of our young Ladies of Grace attended as the District LWML Young Women's Representative.

Our English as a Second Language classes continue on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. One Thursday evening there were 43 attendees, approximately half being children. Our focus is on Jesus and

The Good News. An ESL Sunday School Class is now being conducted with 5 participants.

Our Saints Alive Seniors group meets every other Wednesday for fun and educational outings.

The Annual Fall Yard Sale, our Youth Group's largest fund raiser, will be held October 17<sup>th</sup>. The Christmas Workshop will be held again at Grace on November 15<sup>th</sup> for all North Alabama Lutheran Youth Groups, their advisors and members of Thrivent. Please mark your calendars as it will be here before we know it!

*Rosemary Sweet*

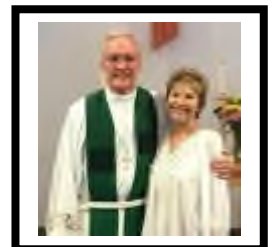
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### SOLID ROCK - ARGO, AL

Dr. Ed Rosser retired from Solid Rock - Argo, AL May 31, 2015. A very humble and dedicated man, he and his wife, Barbara, will greatly be missed. We love you two very much.

We here at Solid Rock continue to pray that their move was uneventful and that they will visit soon.

*Jane Wilson*





## ZION – NEW ORLEANS, LA

It was a beautiful day on Sunday, May 17, 2015 when Rev. Robert H. Belknap, J.D. was installed as the 21<sup>st</sup> pastor of Zion – New Orleans, LA. From the ringing of the bells to the singing of the recessional hymn, the service was warm and loving; one of joy, with the sense of a new beginning. Participating in the service were Rev. Aubrey Watson, Officiant; Rev. Eric Johnson, Preacher; and many pastors from the greater New Orleans area. A reception followed the service in Moerbe Hall, where all enjoyed great food and great company.



L-R: Pastors Craig W. Rinker, Richard H. Meyer, Eric C. Johnson, Jerome N. Terry, Robert H. Belknap, Limakatso Nare, Warren J. Schulingkamp, Kenneth L. Babin, Mark C. Hayman, and Aubrey J. Watson

Pastor Bob was ordained on January 16, 2005, and installed as the pastor of Zion - Bogalusa, LA, where he continued to serve until his call to Zion - New Orleans. God blessed Zion with Pastor Bob, along with his special gifts and talents for our faith journey ahead. "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:15.

*Mildred R. Munsch*

## CHRIST - PASCAGOULA, MS



The members of Christ – Pascagoula, MS recently welcomed their new pastor, Rev. Derek Waffel. His installation took place on Saturday, July 11, 2015. The preacher was Rev. Gary Weier, Circuit Visitor, and the officiant was President Kurtis Schultz.

Pictured front row, L to R: Pastors Barry Hildebrandt, Arthur Yunker, Derek Waffel, Kurtis Schultz, Wayne Miller; back row, L to R: Pastors John Karle, Gary Weier, Jeff Dukeman, James Garnett.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

District youngsters and friends were treated to Bible stories, crafts, games and activities in service to others during Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer. Here are a few highlights. Some great pictures can be found below.

### ST. MARK'S - ELBERTA, AL

In June, a Thrivent Action Grant helped with VBS expenses, and we had a great response from the community as leaders and children headed "into the woods" for Camp Discovery adventures.

*Diana Ringers*

### LUTHERAN CHURCH OF VESTAVIA HILLS, AL

85 children, the most in 14 years, attended the annual VBS put on by the Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills, AL.

"Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power" was the theme during the five day morning outreach event. Over 70 volunteers made a lasting difference. Thursday afternoon was a special extended event complete with Rock Wall climbing, Slack Line balancing and two separate bounce houses to make for an exciting challenge!

*Ruth Johnson*

### GRACE - PENSACOLA, FL

On June 7-11, 87 neighborhood children ages 3-12 came to Grace – Pensacola, FL for VBS from 5:30-8:30 pm.

The theme this year was "Everest: Conquering Daily

Challenges Through God's Mighty Power." It allowed the children (and adults) to explore God's incredible power and love for his children. Every day there was a theme using Bible Expeditions, an Imagination Station, Glacier games, crafts and music. Volunteers from the middle and high school youth group were available to assist with the different age groups.

A dinner was served each night by the church volunteers and at the end of the week a local snow cone truck came to provide a delicious frozen treat to all present.

The children didn't just hear about God's love; they saw it, touched it, sang it, tasted it and put it into action. A great time was had by all.

*Susan McFarland*

### FAITH - MADISON, AL

As with most churches, summertime means VBS and Faith – Madison, AL is no exception.

The counselors from Camp Dixie came and once again led us through a wonderful Biblical adventure. The counselors stayed with congregation families for a week and when they weren't educating the children, they were being entertained by church members.

We want to thank Camp Dixie for helping create such a rich, fun learning environment for the kids. And hats off to

all of the members of Faith that provided meals, movies, lake adventures and lots of memories for this fantastic group of young people.

*Sherrie Callahan*

### IMMANUEL – BOSSIER CITY, LA

We at Immanuel - Bossier City, LA held our annual VBS June 15th through 19th. We averaged 60 children, age three through grade 5, which was a record for registration and attendance. Many volunteers ensured the week was meaningful and wonderful for the attendees.

The theme was “Camp Discovery: Jesus At Work Through Us.” The children learned five Bible stories through music, crafts, Bible study, games and snacks. They also learned many songs, along with song actions, related to the general over-arching theme of “We love because He first loved us.”

At the VBS closing program, our children proudly shared what they learned to family and friends. The children will relive the VBS experience throughout the year by performing the music during Sunday worship services.

*Charles Johnson*



St. Mark's – Elberta, AL

## VBS 2015



Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills, AL



Faith – Madison, AL



Grace – Pensacola, FL

## VBS 2015

## VBS 2015



Immanuel – Bossier City, LA



## Share Your News

The deadline for the September/October edition of the *Spirit of Southern* is September 15, 2015. Materials received after that date will be included in the web edition.

The preferred means for receiving material, text and pictures, is e-mail to "sosstuff@yahoo.com." Please send photos as a separate JPEG file. Material can also be mailed to the district office: The Spirit of Southern – Southern District LCMS – 100 Mission Drive, Slidell, LA 70460-5221. Please allow two additional weeks for mailing.

**District web site: [www.southernlcms.org](http://www.southernlcms.org) District office phone number: 504-282-2632**

## Clip and Save - Southern District Evacuation Reporting

In the event of hurricane evacuation, please contact the Southern District with the following information:

Name, Congregation, City, State  
Evacuated (yes or no) If yes, to: City, State  
Contact Phone Number

**Report information to: [www.SouthernLCMS.org](http://www.SouthernLCMS.org) or call:  
Church Workers (mandatory reporting) – 985-635-4232  
Congregation Members – 985-635-4239**

If you can provide shelter, or are looking for shelter, you can use the website to provide or receive information.

**Please update any changes.**

## CONVENTION MINI'S



**Hope**  
JESUS  
CHANGES EVERYTHING