

The Spirit of Southern

Web Edition - September/ October, 2015

Wrestle Until He Prevails

And Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. . . . Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go unless you bless me.' Genesis 32:24,26

October brings to mind the Martin Luther played in restoring the the Reformation, I feel that it is and writing of Dr. Martin Luther. There in his weakness to find the strength of in the Scriptures. In the book of wrestling with God. There is a strange prayer for help. The angel of God's more be called Jacob, but Israel, for man and have prevailed." (vs. 28) But in his utter need and weakness,

Sometimes there is nothing else to not know the path we should take, and breaks. We may find that our will and in harmony, and we have to wrestle

Here again we have the paradox: it is not our strength but our weakness that God honors. Yet none of us likes to be weak or admit being weak. We may even do ourselves harm by insisting that we are physically stronger or able than we actually are. And our friends and loved ones have to caution us to admit our need. When the Bible counsels us to "be strong," the meaning is always stated or implied, "in the Lord." He is our strength and our helper.

Before the encounter was ended, the "man" touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh and put it out of joint as they wrestled. The record says that Jacob went away the next morning "limping because of his thigh." Does this mean that in our encounters with God we sometimes emerge "wounded" and destined to go our way limping? I think it may mean just that. Our pride is dealt with, so we no longer can flaunt it as we did before God came into our life. Our boasting grows empty when we remember how needy we were. It is hard to pretend that we are all sufficient to ourselves when we remember how we clung to Him in our importunity.

How would you rather live your life? Like the old Jacob, screaming, pretending, grasping? Or like Israel, the prince of God, who out of his need wrestled and prevailed, and went limping on his way?



Reformation, and the role that Dr. church. In order to get to the heart of necessary to look at the personal life you will find a man who often wrestled God. He is not unlike the man Jacob Genesis we read about Jacob's paradox here: Jacob prevailed in his presence said, "Your name shall no you have striven with God and with how did he prevail? By clinging to God knowing there was help in no one else.

do but to wrestle with God. We may we have to wrestle through until light what we perceive as God's will are not until He prevails.

**A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from every need That hath us now o'er taken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.**

(Martin Luther, 1529)

Mission and Ministry: Youth and Mission Committees Reformed for New Triennium!

All standing committees were dissolved by the 2015 Southern District Convention with a mandate to form those committees necessary to the work of our district. The District Youth Committee and Mission Committee are two of the newly formed committees for the new triennium. These committees work with your Mission and Ministry Facilitator, Eric Johnson.

Mission Committee: Your District Mission Committee is charged with assisting Mission and Ministry Facilitator, Eric Johnson, with his work as a catalyst and facilitator of mission in our district. The Mission Committee helps encourage mission outreach through providing missional leadership and funding such programs as our District PLI, Outreach Workshops, Conferences, and funding mission and ministry through Spirit Kindle Grants. To find out more about the resources available to you, check out the "Missions" tab on our district website: www.southernlcms.org.

Meet your new Mission Committee Members:

Chair: Rev. Jason Scheler - Hope, Santa Rosa Beach, FL; Dawn Smith - Trinity, Monroe, LA; Rev. Michael Shannon - Faith, Shreveport, LA; Rev. Kevin Kieshnick - St. Paul, NOLA, LA; Rev. Paul Elam - St. Paul, Montgomery, AL.

Youth Committee: Your District Youth Committee is charged with providing opportunity for our senior and junior high youth leaders and youth to gather together for fellowship, discipleship, leadership development, and fun. The Youth Committee helps bring cutting edge youth resources to our district and provides youth mission and ministry resources and gathering opportunities. Go to the Southern District webpage, www.southernlcms.org, to check out what's happening for our youth. There you will find registration information for the upcoming Jr. High Youth Gatherings and info on the upcoming National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, summer of 2016

Meet your Youth Committee for the new triennium:

Chair: Cindy Namanny - DCE Our Redeemer, Clinton, MS., Amanda Bradley - DCE Grace Pensacola, FL, John Brooks - Grace, Pensacola, FL; Damian Boldt - St. Paul, Hammond, LA; Rev. Steve Richardson - St. Paul, Montgomery, AL.

Rev. Eric Johnson, District Mission & Ministry Facilitator

Campus Ministry

District congregations near colleges and universities are reaching out with opportunities for ministry in the campus setting. This issue we highlight:

St. Paul - Hammond, LA

Please invite any of your members who attend Southeastern Louisiana University to join St. Paul's LCMS U campus ministry group. They will be meeting on the 1st Monday and 3rd Thursday of every month in the War Memorial Student Union from 12 - 1 pm. We will gather by the pool tables and then find a place to sit. Our meeting dates are: 10/15, 11/2, 11/17, 1/21, 2/1, 2/18, 3/7, 3/17, 4/4, 4/21, & 5/2.

This is a time to gather with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, to get something to eat, and to share what is going on in each other's lives, to pray for each other, and to grow in

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has campus ministry on campuses throughout the US. For more information, check out <https://www.lcms.org/lcmsu>.

God's Word with a brief devotion.

University - Tuscaloosa, AL

University - Tuscaloosa, AL currently has a Thursday evening student Bible study and is looking to grow their student group. They have service opportunities that include the church's inner city 2x2 program where the Word of God is presented to children in an after-school setting at the local YMCA. University has big plans for the future!

Our Redeemer - Clinton, MS

Our Redeemer - Clinton, MS participated in two outreach events centered on the students of Mississippi College: Meet the Churches, and Back to the

Bricks. Meet the churches was an evening where area churches set up tables to introduce themselves to the incoming freshman. We had a great night meeting the incoming freshman students.

Back to the Bricks is an event sponsored by the Clinton Chamber to introduce the area businesses to the new Mississippi College Students.

Both nights were great opportunities to introduce ourselves, meet new students, welcome them into our community, hand out over 200 Life Books, and let them know we are here to support and pray for them.

2015 Southern District Youth Gatherings - Last Call!

Nov. 6-8 Blue Lake Camp, Andalusia, AL --- **Nov. 13-15** Tall Timbers Camp, Woodworth, LA

Presenter: Pastor Phil Phifer, Grace - Pensacola, FL **Music:** Dustin Allen

Registration: \$110 - **Deadline:** October 18th.

All Registration is on line at www.southernlcms.org and must be paid in full prior to Gathering.

Teen Leadership Institute

The LCMS Council of Lutheran Youth Fellowship Representatives has changed its name to Teen Leadership Institute. The Teen Leadership Institute is a group of high school students that meets annually in March. This group is taught leadership skills by other teens.

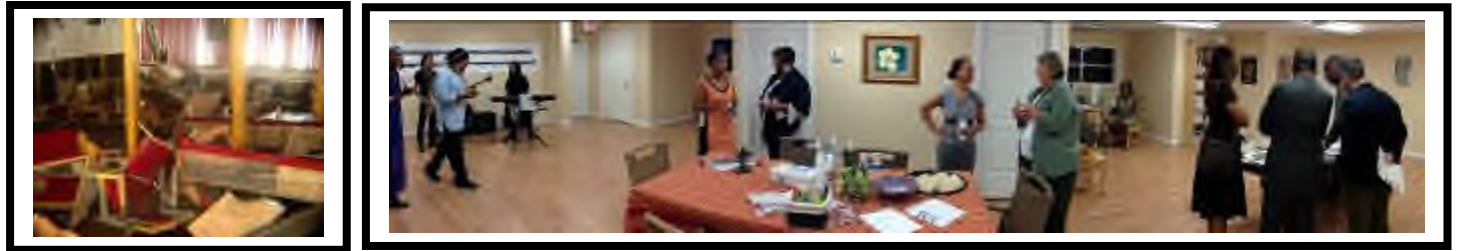
The next Institute will be held March 17-20, 2016. The Southern District Youth Committee has a grant program that is available for students who would like to attend. This grant program will allow up to 8 congregations send a single student to the training. The grant covers registration, food and housing. Individuals attending are responsible for their travel expenses. To apply for the grant, please find the application on the Southern District website, www.southernlcms.org, on the youth page. Meet with your pastor to fill out the information, and send the completed form along with a letter of recommendation from your pastor to amandalcmsgce@gmail.com.

Amanda Bradley

Ten Years of Hope and Healing

August 29, 2015 marked an anniversary honored with memories painful and thankful; commemorations solemn and joyful; reunions filled with mixed emotions, and plans for a future yet to be realized. On that day, and the days surrounding, the 10th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina was marked in southern Louisiana and on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The storm that brought such devastation (followed less than a month later by Hurricane Rita in southwest LA) has also brought God's people together in love and service to one another.

The LCMS, the Southern District LCMS and Lutheran Social Services of the South were at the forefront of recovery efforts in our district. Prayers and gifts of time, talent and financial resources from fellow Lutherans and others throughout the country made these recovery efforts possible. The work continues today.



Camp Restore, located on the campus of Prince of Peace congregation in New Orleans East, celebrated the milestone of 25,000 volunteers this year. Work continues on restoring homes to those without and work in the community. The former Trinity – Claiborne building (pictured in 2005 and 2013) was fully restored and is now used for a variety of programs including a five day a week senior center. A second senior center operates at Camp Restore. Camp Restore was recognized in local media during the anniversary.

Representatives of Upbring Disaster Response, the New LSSDR, who have been working in the recovery efforts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita the last 10 years, participated in several of the celebrations and commemorative community events. "A Decade of Putting Faith to Work" was the topic for the Faith at Work Press Panel, a panel discussion held at the Sheraton Media Center on August 28. Upbring State Director Jessica Vermilyea was on the panel and discussed how New Orleans, and the entire Gulf Coast, became the mission field for churches nationwide.



The Southern District continues in disaster response with a disaster response team headed by Pastor Ed Brashier of Good Shepherd – Gardendale, AL which has traveled throughout the district and the country in response to natural disasters.

From a terrible disaster, God has brought many blessings. Thank you to all who have given generously in so many ways. May he continue to bless your participation in this ministry to our brothers and sisters in need.

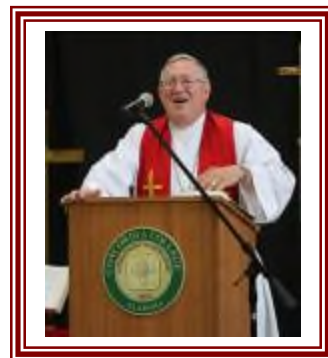


Concordia College Alabama - Selma, AL

Concordia College-Alabama kicked off the 2015-2016 school year in a big way by holding its annual Opening Convocation and Worship Service on August 17th with the theme of "First Things First: Focus, Retain, and Graduate." Hundreds of students, faculty, staff, local pastors, and community leaders gathered at Concordia for the service, where the liturgy was led by Rev. William Parsons of Redeemer - Fairhope, AL.

Rev. David Stechholz, Bishop and President of the LCMS English District (pictured), served as the speaker for the event, coming to Concordia all the way from Michigan. Stechholz was elected President and Bishop of the English District in June 2006, after serving as a pastor in the Lutheran Church for nearly forty years. During the Opening Convocation, Stechholz delivered an inspiring message urging students to strive for excellence, encouraged them to "press on towards the finish line to better serve the community, church, and world."

Concordia President Rev. Dr. Tilahun Menedo also addressed the audience, and stressed the importance of keeping God first in one's life. "The Lord has opened a door for everyone here. Our goal at CCA is to keep God first, and academia second," said Menedo. "During your time at Concordia, we urge you to take advantage of the opportunities that lie before you."



Abby Campbell

Congregation News

Holy Cross – Mobile, AL

In the Gospels Jesus often used gardening metaphors to teach about the Kingdom of God. Mark 4:1-9, Mark 4:26-29, John 15 are just three examples of Jesus employing horticultural metaphors to teach about the Kingdom of God and provide pictures of true faith in Him. This got us thinking...what if we could use a literal garden to not only grow healthy and tasty food, but more importantly to grow personally in the expression and practicing of our faith? And just like that, the vision for Deeper Roots Community Garden was born.

On August 15th we broke ground on Deeper Roots Community Garden. The fall planting will

be small with members of Holy Cross working it. Ben & Kristy Burkart are pictured having a little fun after spreading "natural fertilizer". In the spring we will invite members of the community to work alongside our members for what we hope to be a bountiful harvest.



The vision for Deeper Roots Community Garden is to use the experience of a shared community garden to cultivate deeper relationships within our congregation and to plant the seeds of faith in the lives of people who may not yet have a relationship with Jesus.

Suzu Cleveland

St. James – Gonzales, LA

During the summer months at St James - Gonzales, LA all ages are together and families/church groups take turns teaching a Sunday School devotion and a craft. Our LWML taught a devotion on Jesus healing and our craft was to draw animals on white fabric squares with fabric colored markers which was made into a quilt by a church member. The quilt was donated to Dreams Come True which is a local organization devoted to children with live threatening illnesses. Each child receives a quilt when interviewed for their "dream" to come true.



Peggy Dunning

Trinity – Auburn, AL



Trinity - Auburn, AL hosted its annual Peach Festival in July. The process commences with members spending an evening preparing pie crusts. When the peaches are delivered, members again gather to peel the peaches and start making peach pies and cobblers. Over 100 pies are prepared, baked and wrapped for sale. On Peach Festival Day, pies, cobbler, and whole peaches are available for purchase.

Proceeds from the festival support Trinity's outreach programs. Rural Alabama Habitat for Humanity, the Mosquito Net project and Love for Least are some of the programs that have received funds from the peach festival.

Lowell Frobish

Grace - Pensacola, FL

In July, 2 pastors, 1 DCE and 1 parent from Grace – Pensacola, FL took 21 teenagers on a mission trip to Angel Fire, New Mexico. The trip was arranged through Lutheran Servant Events. They were on the trip for 2 weeks providing support to several churches in Angel Fire, Taos and Santa Fe.

At Christ Our Savior - Angel Fire, they helped Firewood Angel Organization cut and stack cords of firewood for people in the community. At Santa Fe Food Depot they sorted and boxed potatoes, bread and cabbages for food distribution (6-8 tons of food). Between Angel Fire and Taos, they cleared hiking trails in the mountains that were not clearly marked, cutting back limbs and pulling grass. They also helped to wash windows and do yard work at a church in Taos.



The youth worked very hard but also benefitted from the good feelings of being able to help these communities in a tangible way, and some even expressed the desire to continue with the work they were doing. God has blessed these young people and the residents of these communities in New Mexico.

Susan McFarland

Ebenezer – Atmore, AL

Family and Friends Day at Ebenezer – Atmore, AL, on Sunday July. 26, 2015, was a success. The theme for the service was, "What God Can Do For Your Family." The speaker for the 3:00 p.m. service was The Rev. Perry McCullam, the son of Mr. Rufus and Mrs. Virgie McCullam of Ebenezer. Now the pastor of Unity - Birmingham, AL, Pastor McCullam was baptized and received his education at Ebenezer Lutheran School.



We also had some longtime members visit, including the McCants family, Rev. Stallworth's sister and brother, and other family members. There was some good singing from a visitor, Ms. Gonzales.

Pictured l-r: Rev. Perry L. McCullam, Mr. Joseph McCants, Pastor Benjamin Stallworth.

Annie Poole

St. Paul's Cullman, AL

St. Paul's – Cullman, AL is looking forward to coming events. On October 25, 2015, a special Reformation service will be held at 3:30 p.m. Dr. Jeff Kloha, Professor of Exegetical Theology at Concordia Seminary – St. Louis, MO will be the preacher. Matthew Machermer, Associate Kantor at Concordia Theological Seminary – Ft. Wayne, IN will be the organist. The theme is "Fully Convinced" based on Romans 4:21.

The congregation will be celebrating its 130th Anniversary on December 6 at the 10:30 worship service, followed by an afternoon of fellowship.

For more information on these events, contact Rev. Bussman at revbussman@stpaulsl.com, 256-734-3575.

Rev. John Bussman

Mt. Zion – New Orleans, LA

Wheat Ridge Ministries recently awarded a \$5000 Joshua Grant to Mt. Zion – New Orleans. Joshua Grants are one year, matching grants of \$1,000-\$5,000 to Lutheran congregations, organizations and agencies committed to launching new ministries of health and hope in their community. The congregation or organization requesting funding must contribute matching funds equal to 50% of the Wheat Ridge grant award.

Mount Zion plans to host a monthly Health and Wellness Ministry for the families, homeless, seniors, youth and adults in the community. This initiative will support the overall health disparities in their community as many lack proper nutrition, diet, exercise, and access to health information. Additionally, they plan to provide an exercise class to strengthen bone density, and increase awareness of the importance of mobility, physical activity and emotional wellness.

Mt. Calvary – Mobile, AL

At Mt. Calvary – Mobile, AL, VBS this year was held June 15–19. The theme was, "Parables of the Bible," a fun and interesting subject for the kids. The week ended with a Biblical Family Feud, directed by Ms. Charmayne Watson. Steve Harvey (wearing a bow tie in the photo) was portrayed by Jacob Greene. Also working with the event were Ms. Marcella Nettles and Pastor Jimmy McCants.



Marcella Nettles

Bethlehem – Prattville, AL

Celebrating another generation of Lutheran Christians in a church founded through the ministry of Rosa J. Young in 1922, Bethlehem – Prattville, AL welcomed new confirmands to the church family on September 13, 2015. Rev. LaVaughn Wiggins and Rev. Jeffrey Hesterman confirmed from left, Rachel McKitt, Olivia Brown, Lyneria DeRamus, Justin Manzie, and D'jarjan Manzie.

Christine Weerts



Resurrection – Pensacola, FL



Women from Resurrection Lutheran Church in Pensacola, Florida proudly display some of their handiwork. Ten quilts were delivered to the VA to be given to homeless veterans. It is their way of saying thank you for the veterans' service.

Faith – Madison, AL

At Faith – Madison, AL we have an annual tradition in August called "Lake Day". As you may guess, this involves the congregation heading up to the lake (Smith Lake, if you know the area) for a day of fun, food, and fellowship.

The family that makes this day possible, Jeremy and Katie Gaertner, their children Jake and Savannah, along with Jeremy's dad, Art, open up their cabin and let us escape to the mountains for a day of complete relaxation. They provide kayaks, jet-skis, a pontoon boat for slow rides, a speed boat for the children to go tubing, and floatation devices for simply lounging around in the water. A meal of burgers, sides and desserts is also provided. Hats off to the Gaertners and their hospitality!! As we say in the South, "Thanks, y'all!"

Sherrie Callahan

St. Mark's – Elberta, AL

St. Mark's - Elberta, AL installed Roger Drinnon as their vicar on Sunday, August 2, 2015. Drinnon (pictured right) will work under Rev. Keith Ringers in his third year of the four year pastoral program at Concordia Seminary - St. Louis, MO.

Born into a military family, Roger called Idaho, Okinawa, Mississippi, Nebraska an Illinois "home." He attended Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, and Mississippi State University. He finished his Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville in 2011.

Vicar Drinnon is very excited to be in Baldwin County and is eager to begin his year of ministry at St. Mark's. He was welcomed to the church and community with a potluck dinner and with a food and pantry shower.

Diana Ringers



Our Redeemer – Clinton, MS

In a special evening service on August 16th, Our Redeemer – Clinton, MS installed Rev. Scott Henze as their new pastor. Participating in the service were President Kurtis Schultz, Rev. Jim Holowach, Rev. Ward Yunker, Rev. Ken Boudreau, and Rev. Stephen Koenig.



Pastor Henze is pictured during the laying on of hands at his ordination on August 9th in Chattanooga, TN. (Ed.note- Pastor Henze tells the following story: The ordination was to be at my home congregation, Good Shepherd – Chattanooga. The event was a celebration for them as well as I am the first son of the congregation to go to the seminary. **BUT**, 10 minutes before the service was to begin a transformer literally blew ...caught on fire...outside the church and the power line to the church burned in two and caught the telephone poles on fire. Everyone was ok and there was no damage to the church, however, we (over 300 attendees not including those helping with the food and reception) had to move the venue across town to First Lutheran.)

Our Redeemer welcomed Pastor Henze, his wife, Kathy, daughter Katie, and twins Alex and Ashley. In addition, on Sunday, July 23, 2015 several worshippers were received into membership during both worship services. The congregation welcomed 15 new members in one month!

Pastor Scott Henze, Ginny Phillips

Prince of Peace – Corinth, MS

On April 12, 2015, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Corinth, MS celebrated the ordination and installation of their vicar, Michael Dixon. Pastor Jim Holowach served as liturgist, Pastor Warren Pellom gave the sermon and District President Kurtis Schultz was the officiant of the ceremony of ordination and installation. After the service, the church had a full dinner with all the fixings.



From left to right, front row: Pastor David McCain, District President Schultz, Pastor Michael Dixon, Pastor David Hartung, Vicar Rick Ronsick; back row: Pastor Jim Holowach, Pastor Warren Pellom, Vicar Ival Toepke, Pastor Scott Henze, Pastor Stephen Koenig

Rev. Michael Dixon

Good Shepherd – Biloxi, MS



Many long hours were spent in planning and preparing for the 34th annual Biloxi Seafood Festival by the team from Good Shepherd - Biloxi. As a deferred vicar in 2014, Pastor James Garnett got the idea for an

evangelism project from his supervising pastor, Pastor Karl Hollibaugh. It was so successful, "we just had to do it again this year," Garnett said.

Many volunteers from Good Shepherd pitched in and helped. Two booths were needed, one for the festival itself, and a second for the gumbo competition. At the festival booth items with the church's address and service times were distributed, as well as large print song books and Bibles.

The church had three goals in

mind, one was to spread God's Word and be available with anyone who wanted to talk about Jesus. Secondly, it was an opportunity to get our church's name out there. By placing 2nd Runner-up Good Shepherd got their name on the front page of the local paper and was known for having the spiciest gumbo in the competition. Their third goal was to have a good time and fellowship with each other. Over 30 members of the church assisted in the event.

Pastor James Garnett

Faith – Shreveport, LA

The LWML group of Faith – Shreveport, LA decided to make throws for a nursing home. It was a large project so we applied for Thrivent Action Team funds. Other ladies in our congregation and one volunteer joined to help. At one of our work meetings we had a visit from our Thrivent representative, Michael O'Connor, who helped work on the throws.

We chose the nursing home closest to our church and partnered with our youth group who provided the bags to put the throws in. We all went to the nursing home with 70 throws. The youth sang and afterward passed out the throws to the residents. It was a wonderful service event for our mission group and our youth.

Doris Swift



Good Shepherd – Shalimar, FL



Rev. Ray Angerman celebrated his 40th Anniversary as a called servant of Good Shepherd - Shalimar, FL on August 9, 2015. Pastor Angerman was issued a call on August 3, 1975 as the Director of Christian Education after graduating from Concordia University, River Forest, IL. He served in that capacity until April, 2002. Upon graduating from Concordia Theological Seminary in April 2002, he was ordained and called as Associate Pastor. In August 2007, Pastor Angerman was called as Senior Pastor of Good Shepherd.

The congregation honored Pastor Angerman and his family with a meal and presented the gift of a Caribbean cruise for him and his wife. Bea Daily arranged a Power Point presentation of the 40 years Rev. Angerman has been at Good Shepherd with the background music of Michael W. Smith. Letters were shared by former Pastors Richard Ziehr, and Karl Haussler and Vicar Joe Asher. Pastor Angerman is pictured with his son, Austin and wife, Debbie.

Bea Daily

St. Paul (Marigny) – New Orleans, LA

On Sunday, August 2, 2015, St. Paul (Marigny) New Orleans hosted its third celebratory 175th anniversary event focusing on FAITH - past, present, and future! Past confirmands, members, and friends were invited to a grand reunion worship service and luncheon.

On Saturday, November 7th, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. St. Paul is throwing a Neighborhood Block Party to celebrate Arts & Community for 175 years!! The event will feature local musicians, authors and artists; food trucks selling local specialties; an interactive art area for the kids; guided tours in the sanctuary, and memorabilia and entertainment in the

basement.

The following day, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm, there will be a super neighborhood pot-luck supper followed by a closing candlelight worship service in the courtyard. We will proceed in a celebratory second line around the block, bringing us back to the corner of Port & Burgundy celebrating God's love and in thankfulness for the blessings bestowed on St. Paul for 175 years!

Sally Hoffman

Holy Land Tour

You'll never read the Bible in the same way again. Its scenes will come alive after you have bowed at the manger in Bethlehem, worshipped on the Sea of Galilee, followed the Palm Sunday crowd down the Mount of Olives, knelt in the Garden of Gethsemane, wept at Golgotha, and sung at the empty tomb.

Experience this spiritual pilgrimage of walking in our Lord's footsteps with your friends and fellow Christians. Pastor Keith and Diana Ringers (St. Mark's, Elberta) will be joining a retired pastor and his wife, friends of theirs, who have spent 18 months in the Holy Land and have put together this customized itinerary that will include places where the standard tours don't go. They invite you to join them from March 28 - April 6, 2016. For more information, contact Keith Ringers at kringers@gulftel.com.

Share Your News

The deadline for the November/December edition of the *Spirit of Southern* is November 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 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 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.

Southern District Contact Information

Please clip and save this information. The district office staff can be reached through the main office number: **504-282-2632**. You will access a directory and be instructed on how to reach each staff member. The following are direct lines:

President Schultz 985-796-7577

Mrs. Marion Kennedy 985-635-4382

Mrs. Muriel Budzeyko 985-326-7855

Rev. Eric Johnson 985-796-7175

Mr. Glenn Gerber 985-218-0335

Mrs. Janice Howard 985-605-5403

Mrs. Sabine Laird 985-635-4382

Ms. Ronnie Giase 985-605-5404

E-mail contacts for staff members can be found on the district web site under the "About" tab - "Directories."

Southern District Church Extension Fund: 888-493-5962 or 504-282-2633

District Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.