



PEAKS AND VALLEYS

DISTRICT NEWS

His abounding **GRACE**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Jesus Christ,

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.” — Gal. 5:22-25



Rev. Allen Anderson
District President

The summer months are a time for most families to take a break and get away from the daily grind of work. Hopefully for you, it is a time of relaxation, having fun and enjoying life! As I ponder what this means, let me share with you my brief thoughts.

Paul spent most of his letter to the Galatians turning our attention away from the deeds we do, so it is a big surprise when he concludes the letter with advice for pure living. Paul is truly incredible! He preached salvation by grace alone more forcefully than most, yet no one has used as many imperatives in his letters as Paul. He is consistently telling the earliest believers what to do, how to live and what to avoid.

Yet for Paul, such commands never convey “Do this so that God will love

you.” Rather, Paul says, “Do this because God already loves you.” Paul never says, “Become what you are not through hard work.” Rather, “Be who you already are in Baptism.” In Chapter 5, Paul is saying “Keep step with the Spirit.” This is not a grim duty Christians have to do in order to avoid going to hell. Rather, walking with the Spirit is a joy and privilege because it taps into our true identity now as baptized children of God. Yes, baptized children of God!

I am sure you have heard your pastor say to you in his sermons and in Bible studies, “Remember your Baptism, rejoice

and be thankful.” As you know, some churches have the baptismal font filled with water stationed in the narthex or at the head of the aisle so people can dip their fingers in upon entering the sanctuary as a reminder. Paul wants us to remember that we are baptized people, and then he wants us to live it. It’s not so that we can get grace, but because we are drenched in grace already. This summer, celebrate and live in His abounding Grace!

**In Christ’s love and service,
The Rev. Allen Anderson**

“Be still, and know that I am God.” Ps. 46:10

Financial report – God is still providing

One thing is constant — change. This is evident in the voluminous publications and articles of legal, administrative management, human resource and accounting that come through my office on a monthly basis. Keeping updated on changes in the business world can be so overwhelming at times that it feels like a part-time job. The church is not immune to these changes either. Despite this constant change, churches weather these fluctuations by continuing with the unchanging mission of preaching the Gospel.

The Rocky Mountain District’s latest fiscal year ended on Jan. 31, 2017. We thank our generous congregations that provide prayer and financial support to your district’s missions. However, there is a giving trend to the district that continues apace, affecting current ministry and potential for future mission work. As the graph on page 3 indicates,

congregational giving, which provides 97 percent of the financial support for district operations, has been in consistent decline.

Even in the face of this decline, God continues to provide resources for ministry in your district. We are blessed and privileged to have hundreds of church workers and thousands of laity in the Rocky Mountain District who are proclaiming and living out Christ’s love and mercy.

Congregations or individuals who desire more financial information on their district can request a copy of the last audited financial report, dated Jan. 31, 2016. The fiscal-year-end Jan. 31, 2017 financial report will be available in June. Please contact the district office to request a copy.

Submitted by Doug Ullmann,
District Executive for Administration

Rocky Mountain District congregational receipts report

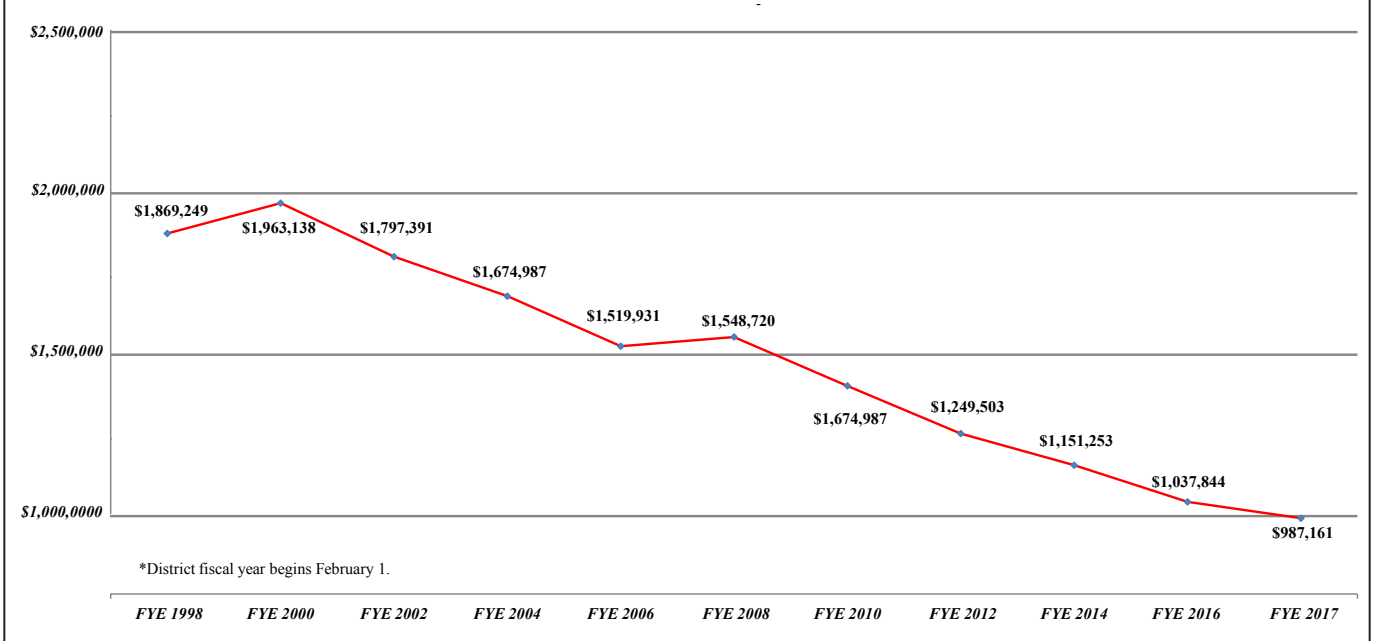
Congregation, City	Comm Memb	FYE 1/31/13	FYE 1/31/14	FYE 1/31/15	FYE 1/31/16	FYE 1/31/17
Denver Northeast Circuit						
Northglenn, Gethsemane	338	1,300	1,000	-	-	-
Brighton, Zion	766	38,285	44,815	38,129	33,167	48,283
Commerce City, Our Savior	67	1,375	1,150	1,600	-	1,000
Denver, Cordero de Dios	89	200	1,100	1,100	1,100	900
Denver, Faith	72	-	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Denver, Resurrection in the City	25	600	1,200	1,800	2,400	3,000
Denver, Mount Zion	255	2,070	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
Denver, St. Andrew	67	620	1,000	650	750	250
Hudson, Grace	83	1,000	1,000	1,600	1,200	2,000
Thornton, Summit of Peace	591	26,750	20,000	-	-	-
Bennett, Christ Our Redeemer	82	5,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Totals	2,435	\$77,700	\$80,165	\$53,779	\$47,517	\$64,333
Denver Northwest Circuit						
Arvada, King of Kings	69	1,200	900	1,060	1,200	1,100
Arvada, Peace	989	65,000	40,505	53,414	42,834	32,338
Arvada, Risen Christ	110	-	-	-	-	-
Bailey, Shepherd of the Rockies	99	6,669	3,154	-	3,001	2,045
Breckenridge, Christ	15	1,125	1,000	1,000	1,095	1,000
Denver, Emmaus	91	725	3,436	3,200	2,400	1,800
Evergreen, Mount Hope	20	-	-	-	-	-
Golden, St. Luke's	129	900	1,200	1,606	535	2,300
Golden, New Hope	-	-	-	-	100	200
Leadville, Good Shepherd	46	-	-	-	-	-
Lakewood, Bethlehem	1694	25,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	-
Lakewood, Concordia	445	12,458	5,958	4,875	4,500	4,125
Wheat Ridge, Wheat Ridge	160	17,458	14,015	12,333	12,000	11,000
Totals	3,867	\$130,536	\$80,168	\$87,488	\$77,666	\$55,908
Denver Southeast Circuit						
Aurora, Hope	305	12,000	11,750	9,000	8,521	2,705
Aurora, Mount Olive	757	40,000	32,163	26,194	25,890	25,569
Aurora, Peace With Christ	604	4,630	740	4,810	4,721	4,949
Castle Rock, Epiphany	268	8,400	8,400	8,400	8,645	8,520
Castle Rock, Mount Zion	53	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Centennial, Our Father	1193	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
Denver, Christ	207	840	33,159	9,039	11,767	30,223
Denver, University Hills	71	3,000	2,000	3,000	1,000	1,000
Franktown, Trinity	349	12,000	12,000	11,000	12,000	13,000
Elizabeth, Christ Our Savior	52	-	517	250	-	-
Aurora, Acts	50	2,000	2,000	1,000	500	-
Parker, Grace	162	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	-
Totals	4,071	\$117,870	\$138,730	\$108,693	\$109,043	\$120,966
Denver Southwest Circuit						
Centennial, Shepherd of the Hills	667	28,800	28,800	27,400	29,802	14,208
Denver, Redeemer	216	1,000	-	500	-	-
Denver, St. John's	454	-	-	-	-	-
Denver, Trinity	221	-	917	169	3,000	2,614
Englewood, Immanuel	90	3,600	-	2,000	2,000	-
Highlands Ranch, Holy Cross	272	18,501	18,218	23,462	23,508	20,603
Littleton, Hosanna	204	-	-	-	-	-
Littleton, Ascension	577	25,945	20,488	25,709	24,240	26,381
Totals	2,701	\$77,846	\$68,422	\$79,239	\$82,550	\$63,807
Eastern High Plains Circuit						
Arriba, Immanuel	29	1,650	1,690	1,483	1,570	1,980
Burlington, Trinity	197	-	15,840	8,840	-	5,930
Cheyenne Wells, Grace	65	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Flagler, Zion	41	1,525	1,570	1,865	1,881	710
Genoa, Trinity	21	600	600	600	600	-
Hugo, Holy Cross	11	-	-	50	-	50
Kit Carson, Trinity	56	-	-	-	-	-
Lamar, Grace	85	100	850	600	1,100	-
Totals	505	\$4,875	\$21,550	\$14,438	\$6,151	\$9,670
Four Corners Circuit						
Cortez, Trinity	102	8,550	-	400	2,200	2,400
Durango, St. Paul	83	6,150	5,199	6,500	6,000	5,000
Farmington, Zion	194	13,015	14,333	12,833	14,000	14,000
Gallup, Trinity	71	1,850	1,500	1,670	1,896	2,368
Page, Shepherd of the Desert	41	435	500	500	500	-
Pagosa Springs, Our Savior	90	2,820	3,008	3,164	3,888	3,896
Totals	581	\$32,820	\$24,540	\$25,067	\$28,484	\$27,664

Congregation, City	Comm Memb	FYE 1/31/13	FYE 1/31/14	FYE 1/31/15	FYE 1/31/16	FYE 1/31/17
Longs Peak Circuit						
Estes Park, Mount Calvary	75	15,485	14,963	13,156	12,989	12,087
Fort Collins, Peace With Christ	301	30,000	30,000	31,400	25,000	21,504
Fort Collins, Redeemer	1764	18,000	600	601	2,000	3,600
Fort Collins, St. John's	253	3,708	5,147	5,591	6,000	6,000
Greeley, Gloria Christi	156	4,556	4,372	4,566	5,640	4,964
Greeley, Trinity	443	13,733	10,951	15,940	16,400	18,712
Johnstown, Faith	155	1,600	2,000	1,600	2,000	2,000
Loveland, Immanuel	735	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	1,250
Loveland, Mount Olive	359	8,708	12,050	12,600	11,550	13,592
Totals	4,241	\$100,790	\$85,083	\$90,454	\$86,578	\$83,709
Northeastern Circuit						
Akron, Trinity	55	2,150	1,800	1,961	1,911	1,567
Amherst, St. Paul	108	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Fort Morgan, Trinity	419	6,500	5,500	6,000	5,500	6,500
Haxton, Immanuel	144	643	1,000	902	-	-
Holyoke, Zion	327	49,686	47,853	49,325	51,332	60,464
Julesburg, St. Paul's	159	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
Sterling, First English	137	5,480	4,175	1,301	2,321	2,489
Sterling, Trinity	350	12,500	12,000	13,500	15,100	16,500
Venango, St. Paul	59	1,200	1,200	2,400	-	2,400
Wray, Calvary	293	21,000	21,000	21,000	19,250	22,750
Yuma, St. John's	365	16,470	28,098	19,304	13,682	18,466
Big Springs, Zion	68	7,000	7,290	7,000	7,000	7,378
Totals	2,484	\$142,629	\$149,916	\$142,693	\$136,096	\$158,514
Pecos Circuit						
Carlsbad, Immanuel	67	4,000	4,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Clovis, Immanuel	70	4,586	3,865	3,795	4,467	4,928
Hobbs, Grace	55	3,500	-	3,000	3,000	3,000
Artesia, Immanuel	22	-	-	-	-	-
Lovington, Our Savior	25	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Portales, Faith in Christ	41	500	500	-	1,000	1,453
Roswell, Immanuel	207	11,364	13,500	13,386	13,000	10,000
Ruidoso, Shepherd of the Hills	87	1,295	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,725
Totals	574	\$26,445	\$25,064	\$25,381	\$26,667	\$24,306
Pikes Peak Circuit						
Buena Vista, Faith	70	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,300	2,475
Monument, Family of Christ	1150	10,000	-	-	-	-
Colorado Springs, Holy Cross	1132	21,832	21,064	20,833	18,604	22,854
Colorado Springs, Immanuel	272	9,780	8,112	1,998	2,007	1,993
Colorado Springs, Redeemer	204	19,303	21,357	14,714	19,386	14,514
Colorado Springs, Resurrection	84	750	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,750
Colorado Springs, Rock of Ages	220	26,900	28,800	28,800	28,800	28,800
Colo. Springs, Shphrd. of Springs	38	-	-	-	-	-
Falcon, Family of Faith	61	1,083	916	249	996	996
Salida, First	99	1,365	1,500	1,875	-	-
Woodland Park, Faith	234	12,389	12,483	11,619	11,739	11,219
Totals	3,564	\$106,702	\$100,533	\$86,387	\$87,833	\$86,600
Rio Grande Circuit						
Alamogordo, Trinity	156	15,798	19,140	17,563	18,520	16,596
Deming, Redeemer	43	900	900	1,400	1,500	200
El Paso, Ascension	244	19,559	19,195	16,021	20,561	16,639
El Paso, Cross Point	370	19,500	15,829	9,577	12,000	13,000
El Paso, Grace	55	-	-	-	-	-
El Paso, San Pablo	2	3,639	2,451	924	924	616
El Paso, Zion	213	1,200	750	250	1,500	250
Las Cruces, Mission	242	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,700
Silver City, Messiah	55	600	1,056	1,008	280	-
Truth/Consequences, St. Johns	8	-	-	-	-	-
Las Cruces, Faith	18	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1,406	\$73,197	\$71,321	\$58,743	\$67,285	\$60,001
Rocky Flats Circuit						
Boulder, Mount Hope	83	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	8,250
Boulder, Mount Zion	69	1,830	6,000	-	6,000	-
Boulder, University Chapel	28	-	-	-	-	-
Broomfield, Beautiful Savior	192	-	600	1,000	1,200	1,225
Broomfield, Risen Savior	833	13,243	8,188	10,000	3,878	3,660
Fort Lupton, Mount Calvary	229	9,775	10,568	14,436	14,670	11,660
Lafayette, Eternal Savior	213	11,083	13,100	11,500	13,435	13,200
Longmont, Christ Our Savior	206	4,760	2,760	3,300	3,600	4,000
Longmont, Messiah	249	44,083	27,061	1,648	1,075	-
Totals	2,102	\$93,775	\$77,276	\$50,884	\$52,858	\$41,995

Rocky Mountain District congregational receipts report

Congregation, City	Comm Memb	FYE 1/31/13	FYE 1/31/14	FYE 1/31/15	FYE 1/31/16	FYE 1/31/17	Congregation, City	Comm Memb	FYE 1/31/13	FYE 1/31/14	FYE 1/31/15	FYE 1/31/16	FYE 1/31/17
Sandia North Circuit							Cedar City, Trinity						
Albuquerque, Christ	289	14,553	13,349	15,980	13,592	8,005	Kanab, Mount Zion	12	125	-	-	900	800
Albuquerque, Faith in Christ	86	6,200	4,800	5,900	1,050	4,673	Layton, Trinity	146	-	-	39	-	-
Albuquerque, Grace	308	7,500	3,750	11,250	13,500	4,500	Logan, Holy Trinity	80	10,500	11,000	11,000	12,000	9,800
Angel Fire, Christ Our Savior	10	500	300	-	-	500	Murray, Christ	403	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Crest, Prince of Peace	119	5,417	4,583	1,450	1,000	-	Ogden, St. Paul	432	9,000	9,806	11,042	11,000	11,000
Edgewood, Good Shepherd	132	17,984	17,355	18,080	17,600	16,318	Provo, St. Mark's	50	1,107	500	500	-	-
Las Vegas, Immanuel	26	-	-	-	-	600	Richfield, Good Shepherd	30	-	-	-	-	-
Santa Fe, Immanuel	113	5,218	6,083	7,000	7,242	7,475	Salt Lake City, Redeemer	194	8,000	6,000	8,000	4,000	4,000
Springer, Immanuel	10	100	-	75	-	50	Salt Lake City, St. John	47	500	500	1,500	1,500	-
Los Alamos, Redeemer	33	3,000	2,000	2,100	2,800	1,100	Sandy, Grace	677	13,437	14,573	12,510	11,398	9,459
Taos, Sangre de Cristo	21	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,600	St George, Trinity	211	5,460	5,040	5,040	6,520	8,000
Totals	1,147	\$62,872	\$54,620	\$64,235	\$59,183	\$45,820	Tooele, First	85	-	-	-	-	-
Sandia South Circuit							Moab, Grace						
Albuquerque, Immanuel	370	36,000	36,000	36,100	37,267	37,833	Riverton, Holy Trinity	134	1,143	220	-	-	-
Albuquerque, Our Savior	101	550	550	550	150	600	Totals	2,680	\$54,771	\$51,040	\$53,430	\$50,268	\$46,009
Albuquerque, Redeemer	160	-	3,863	5,633	64	-	Western Circuit						
Grants, Mount Calvary	24	400	300	300	300	300	Carbondale, Faith	55	600	-	823	1,459	1,686
Los Lunas, Christ the King	65	4,800	4,700	3,500	2,350	1,650	Craig, Faith	73	3,791	3,897	3,688	3,561	2,579
Rio Rancho, Calvary	113	-	673	-	1,000	1,064	Delta, Redeemer	152	9,600	11,050	10,200	10,200	10,800
Rio Rancho, Shepherd of the Hills	49	-	-	-	-	-	Edwards, Gracious Savior	221	-	-	-	-	-
Socorro, Hope	14	-	500	-	750	500	Glenwood Springs, Holy Cross	30	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	896	\$41,750	\$46,586	\$46,083	\$41,881	\$41,947	Grand Junction, Messiah	791	64,325	16,594	20,973	18,731	-
Sangre de Cristo Circuit							Gunnison, Mount Calvary						
Alamosa, Trinity	131	4,250	3,500	3,500	3,769	3,500	Gypsum, Grace Fellowship	80	-	1,200	1,500	-	250
Canon City, St. John	115	5,580	6,579	7,500	7,500	7,500	Montrose, Hope Evan	59	1,200	1,200	300	-	-
La Junta, Trinity	45	-	1,500	-	-	-	Paonia, Immanuel	51	4,000	4,000	5,000	2,000	2,000
Monte Vista, St. Peter	138	1,873	3,729	3,105	2,015	2,660	Rifle, Emmanuel	262	8,700	8,700	8,700	7,975	9,425
Pueblo, Bethany	84	960	835	100	1,300	1,210	Steamboat Springs, Concordia	271	11,150	5,650	5,250	5,250	4,813
Pueblo, Trinity	282	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	5,000	Eagle, Grace	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pueblo West, Our Savior's	105	2,800	2,800	2,800	4,000	2,400	Vernal, Our Savior	118	1,000	1,259	1,000	2,000	-
Rocky Ford, St. Peter's	51	2,259	204	-	-	-	Totals	2,231	\$107,346	\$56,528	\$60,709	\$54,201	\$33,603
Sugar City, Grace	6	300	-	-	-	-	Grand Totals						
Westcliffe, Hope	176	1,000	563	750	-	-	36,618	\$1,275,945	\$1,151,253	\$1,070,459	\$1,037,844	\$987,161	
Totals	1,133	\$24,022	\$19,710	\$22,755	\$23,584	\$22,270	<i>*Communicant membership figures taken from 2015 Parochial Report District fiscal year begins Feb. 1</i>						
Utah Circuit													
Bountiful, Cross of Christ	106	4,600	2,200	2,600	2,900	2,400							

20-Year History



REFORMATION CELEBRATION



The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Event

Among the many controversies with the Roman Catholic Church, two are brought up here. First, as early as 1522, Luther pointed out that the Roman Catholic doctrine of serving only the bread was untenable. Communion is, as Luther said, “a command to take both elements when we want to receive the Sacrament,” a command defensible by the Word of God.

Second, in 1525, Luther wrote against the denial of the presence of Christ’s body and blood in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Luther spent a great deal of time in defense of the “real presence” of Christ’s body and blood received by all partakers of Holy Communion. Luther believed that the real presence — as expressed in Jesus’ words “this is” — does not mean “represents.”

What Luther Says

Luther defines the Sacrament of the Altar in the Catechism as “the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, for us Christians to eat and to drink, instituted by Christ Himself” as written in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke; and by St. Paul.

Luther: “1 Cor. 10:16 forces us to the conclusion that all who break, eat and receive this bread receive the body of Christ and partake of it. ... the Lord Christ also ordained and commanded that in His church His essential body and blood are to be present in the Lord’s Supper ... in a bodily and yet incomprehensible manner.

“I certainly love it with all my heart, the precious, blessed Supper of my Lord Jesus Christ, in which He gives me His body and blood to eat and to drink orally, with the mouth of my body, accompanied by the exceedingly sweet and gracious words: Given for you, Shed for you.”

The LCMS’s Doctrinal Position

We believe that the true body and blood of Jesus Christ are present under the bread and wine for Christians to eat and to drink. Our Lord Jesus Christ is present in this sacred meal and gives us the forgiveness of sins, eternal life and salvation. We believe that Holy Communion is a very personal way God works in our lives to save us.

Who is worthy? We practice close communion because all who commune receive abundant blessing, and unbelievers eternal harm. Lutherans “qualify” the unworthy and unprepared by first teaching them their need for Christ and for the forgiveness and life that He gives in the Sacrament.

We do not try to explain how Jesus is present under the bread and wine of the Lord’s Supper; rather we believe, teach, confess and rejoice that He is present. Luther: “We maintain that the bread and wine in the Supper are the true body and blood of Christ.”

We believe that we should receive the Lord’s Supper often because of how much we need what the Lord gives in His Supper. There is no LCMS rule about how often an individual should or must receive the Lord’s Supper. Synod encourages congregations to provide the Lord’s Supper every Lord’s Day to those who desire the opportunity to receive His body and blood.

Next month’s topic: *Music and song*

DISTRICT CALLS/CHANGES

Calls accepted

- ▶ **The Rev. Jacob Dickerhoff**, Erie, Colo., to Beautiful Savior, Anchorage, Alaska.
- ▶ **Rosemary Hilton**, Beautiful Savior, Broomfield, Colo., to Mountain View, Las Vegas.
- ▶ **Sarah Vaughn**, Trinity, Franktown, Colo., to Trinity, Fremont, Neb.

Calls extended

- ▶ Messiah Lutheran Church and School, Grand Junction, Colo., to **Steven Hobus**, Crean LHS, Irvine, Calif.

- ▶ St. John’s, Idaho Falls, Idaho, to the **Rev. Stephen Weems**, Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP), St. John’s, Denver

Called to glory

- ▶ **The Rev. Alan Coleman**, Christ the King, Los Lunas, N.M.

Transfer

- ▶ **Richard Grice**, Indio, Calif., emeritus, to California-Nevada-Hawaii District
- ▶ **The Rev. Edward Richmeyer**, emeritus, Katy, Texas, to Texas District

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

- 22-25** LWML National Convention, Albuquerque, N.M.
- 29** Retired District Educators meeting, Lutheran High, Parker, Colo.

SEPTEMBER

- 18-19** SOAR gathering, Bethlehem, Lakewood, Colo.

