

DISTRICT COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

The AZ-CA District Commission on Evangelism exists to assist congregations to seize every opportunity the Lord provides to evangelize lost souls, making use of media communications, structured programs and every member witness.

I. School of Outreach (SoO)

The School of Outreach remains our #1 hands-on effort to help congregations reach out with the Gospel. The curriculum is divided into two one-day seminars. The presenters work with the congregations during their planning sessions and then follow up with the leaders of the congregations to offer continued support.

Session One: (September-October)

1. Organizing / Planning for Outreach
2. Locating Prospects
3. Prospect Nurture and Witness

Session Two: (January-February)

1. Friendship Evangelism
2. Church Identity
3. Worship Welcome
4. Assimilation

Over the past 3 years, Pastor Mike Hintz has been training the pastors of each districts' Evangelism Commission to lead SoO. This continues to be a blessing for our synod as more congregations/members are able to attend.

In our district this is also true: 3 ½ Schools of Outreach are underway this fall/winter. A follow-up session was held with Christ – Lodi over Labor Day weekend with 15 people. Over 25 people attended Part I in Redding, CA on Sept 21. (Mt. Calvary – Redding; Faith – Anderson; Gloria Dei – Belmont) Part II is scheduled for Feb 8. On Feb 9, Part II will be presented in Reno / Sparks. Part I was Jan 8, 2011.

Six + congregations are signed up for SoO in Las Vegas on November 2. (From Las Vegas: Water of Life, Summerlin, Shepherd of the Hills, Mt. Olive; Cross of Christ – Kingman, AZ; Shepherd – Albuquerque, NM) The African congregation which meets at Water of Life is attending. Pastor Peter Kruschel will assist them.

Our District Commission is meeting this week to talk about future plans. If you would like to host a session please speak to one of the members.

II. Resources Available

One of our goals of expanding our District Evangelism Team is to include members in the various geographical areas so that at your circuit meetings or other gatherings, they might regularly promote the resources available.

- **Devotional booklets for Lent and Easter** (NPH 388018 & 388019). These devotional booklets, **Jesus' Death and Resurrection** and **Philippians**, can be distributed to members and friends. 10 booklets for \$15.
- **Confidently Sharing Jesus with Friends** is a 4-week DVD Bible Study that provides advice and encouragement to help you talk about Jesus with people you know. A group of Christians discuss the opportunities, challenges, and aspects of reaching out to their friends with the good news of Jesus Christ. \$3.95 OL-388016 1) *Reach people who need Jesus;* 2) *Start a spiritual conversation;* 3) *Share our Savior;* 4) *Keep on sharing Jesus*
- **Outreach Newsletters** are a collection of twelve short articles with a common Biblical theme that emphasize the Gospel. The cost is \$15 plus s/h. It is item number OL-388027.
- Web-based resources include: **WhatAboutJesus.com & Daily Devotions**. Promote these for your members in your newsletters and bulletins.
- CMSG (Congregational & Ministry Support Group) has finalized materials for **C13**. If you registered you are getting the links, otherwise resources are available on WELS Connect. The resources include helps for planning outreach and worship for Advent and Christmas. The deadline has passed for ordering postcards.

COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

Mission Statement

The Commission on Evangelism exists to assist congregations to seize every opportunity the Lord provides to reach people with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our service to WELS is to develop and promote evangelism resources that faithfully proclaim the truth of Scripture; to promote evangelism attitudes, structures, and programs consistent with Christian doctrine and the situation into which God has called a church, its pastors, and its people; and to promote the "equipping of the saints" for organized congregational evangelism and individual Christian witness.



- **Road to Emmaus** DVD is available from NPH for \$14.50; OL-333020. Several new resources are available to compliment this 30 minute DVD including a *FREE* 5 lesson Bible Study and discussion guide.
- **Come Follow Me** DVD is the follow- up to Road to Emmaus. It will be completed this month and then available from NPH for \$14.50; OL-3303023.
- **God's Great Exchange** is available on DVD. This is a 17 minute role-play of an evangelism visit. The basic principles of evangelism visitation are explained and put into practice in the God's Great Exchange approach. Currently it is on sale from \$11 down to \$7. NPH OL-387875
- **Evangelism Toolbox** is a set of 3 DVDs with practical instruction to help your congregation understand and undertake useful tools for an evangelism program. In 9 segments, experienced church leaders explain key outreach methods and demonstrate them with real-life examples. The cost is \$24 from NPH OL-388013.

DVD #1 - Reaching Out to People in the Parish Area

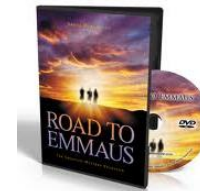
- Conducting a canvass - Jonathan Scharf
- New resident outreach - Jared Oldenburg
- Managing the prospect list - Michael Geiger, Robert Guenther

DVD #2 - Church Image in the Community

- Building awareness in the community - James Turriff
- Advertising services and events - Mark Birschbach
- Developing an evangelistic Web site - Martin Spriggs

DVD #3 - Early Childhood Ministry

- Planning an ECM program - Delores Schuetze
- Recruitment and promotion - Cheryl Henckel
- Reaching families of students - Steven Pagels, Dana Leyrer



- **Evangelism Sunday** resources are available on Connect. Choose from: 1) Baptism Sunday; 2) Making a Connection that Counts; 3) Share the Gospel Feast with a Starving World; 4) Every Soul a Treasure; 5) Festival of Friendship Sunday.

ON CONNECT: **FREE** Congregational Evangelism Resources include these downloadable **Bible Studies:**

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| 1. Connecting to Communities | 4. Every Soul a Treasure |
| 2. Four Fundamentals of a Healthy Church | 5. Every Member a Missionary |
| 3. Forging Our Church Into a Caring Community | |

ON CONNECT: **FREE** Congregational Evangelism Resources include these on **Assimilation:**

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| 1. Connecting Members to Christ Seminar | 5. New Member Information – FORM |
| 2. Assimilation Bible Studies | 6. New Member Seminar (5 lessons) |
| 3. Assimilation Checklist | 7. Reception of New Members (1) and (2) |
| 4. Congregational Group Life | 8. Sponsor Guidelines |

ON CONNECT: **FREE** Personal Evangelism Tools for downloadable:

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| 1. Are you getting the most out of life? | 4. Why me? |
| 2. How do I Witness? | 5. Witnessing Styles |
| 3. "What do I say... when they say..." | 6. Several other helpful links... |

- **Marriage Enrichment: The Meaning of Marriage by Timothy Keller.** I have taken this book and worked it into 4 sessions. The DVD has the 4 PowerPoint files, a 38 page handout, instructions for ordering the books from the publisher for \$13 instead of \$26, promotional flyers to hand out and more. I will give a DVD copy to the first five people who stand up right now. If you are interested I will preview the PowerPoint during a break.



Working Goal: to have an area on our district Website to share various outreach resources: Easter & Christmas for Kids...

In service to the Savior and you,

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