

The Arizona-California District Commission on Evangelism

Chairman: Pastor Steven Hillmer

Committee: Pastor Michael Schroeder, Pastor Adam Mueller, Pastor Timothy Henning, Pastor

Stephen Koelpin

The District Commission on Evangelism serves the pastors and congregations of the AZ-CA District by encouraging and offering support in the areas of outreach and evangelism.

Over the past 2 years, we have been pleased to offer "Schools of Outreach" throughout our district. Starting in the fall of 2015, we began using the revised materials produced by Pastor Mike Hintz (WELS CoE Director) and others on the Commission. The curriculum is presented in 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. Developing a workable organization for evangelism
- 2. Working up a written plan of outreach strategies
- 3. Managing a prospect list for faithful follow-up

Session Two: (January-February)

- 1. Training members for witnessing to people they know
- 2. Raising awareness of the church in the surrounding community
- 3. Improving the way guests are welcomed at worship services

Schools of Outreach have been held in the following locations since the last District Convention:

- In 2014: 7 congregations met at East Fork, AZ; 4 congregations met at N. Hollywood, CA.
- In 2015: 6 congregations met at Flagstaff, AZ; 7 congregations met in Tucson, AZ.

Since 2012, 47 congregations and approximately 350 people have attended a School of Outreach. This fall we are planning a School of Outreach at Grace in Glendale, AZ and one to be held by one of the southern California congregations. If you are interested in hosting or attending a School of Outreach, please contact me. shillmer76@gmail.com

We are grateful for the work that WELS Commission on Evangelism has put into producing many fine resources, including the *My Son, My Savior* DVD along with *Road to Emmaus* and *Come Follow Me* which will always be available for \$2.00 each. You must order in cases of 100. They make great gifts to give to prospects and visitors.

This November, all twelve district evangelism coordinators will be attending a training retreat. This retreat will help us learn how to better serve you and your members.

In service to the Savior and you,

Pastor Steven Hillmer The Springs Lutheran Church Sparks, NV