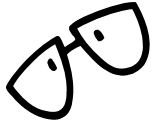


LET'S EDUCATE THE EDUCATORS!

Volume 1 2007

ed. network

A reproducible networking newsletter for the Christian Education Ministries of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, ELCA, to equip, empower, and encourage believers of all ages to develop their relationship with God and neighbor through faith development and discipleship.



We teach children to never stop looking for ways to learn. We try to stir up a desire for knowledge within all students. Sometimes though, as adults, we get a bit comfortable in our own acquaintance with the facts and get stuck in a bit of a rut. As a principal of a K-8 school, I look for various professional development opportunities for my teachers. Professional educators or not, it never hurts to add another set of skills or learn a new innovative trick in teaching.

It is essential to educate everyone who is in direct contact with children and has been given the awesome opportunity to teach them.

CALLING ALL INDIANA-KENTUCKY CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS, PAID OR VOLUNTEER! PLEASE COMPLETE ONE MORE PAPER!



Please visit the I-K Synod website (www.iksynod.org) to complete or update the Congregational Christian Education Survey. Type "Christian Education" in Search. Then click on the bold **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM SURVEY**. The completed survey can be sent via email: kjseykow@juno.com (Subject C.E. Survey) or regular mail: Karen Seykowski
Christ Lutheran Church
2610 N. Campbell Street
Valparaiso, IN 46385

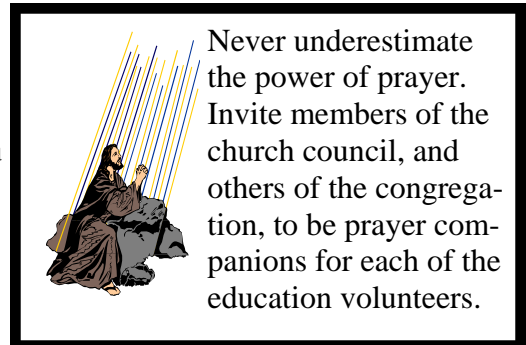
Personal Tips About Administration

If you are involved in organizing, planning, managing, or directing Nursery Education, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Mid-week Programs, Youth Activities, Adult Education, Opportunities for Older Adults, and so on . . .

#1 TIP = **WHAT YOU SEE IS NOT THE SUM OF WHAT YOU HAVE**

What you see in any education ministry is PARTICIPANTS and PROGRAM. The participants are the leaders and learners. Both are volunteers. Both require encouragement, nurture, and recognition. The program is the various activities or projects plus the equipment and supplies to implement these events. Activities and supplies both require planning, budget, selection, and distribution.

What you have in any education ministry is the development of God's precious resources. Those involved with ADMINISTRATION of Christian education are really resource developers. You *encourage, equip, and empower* participants and programs to complement each other. You envision what this ministry should be. You pray for strength to carry out your vision. In Christian education, the primary goal is to encourage faith formation as a lifelong process. You seek to equip leaders and learners (participants), all of whom come from families, to be steadfast disciples of Jesus (followers). Through scheduling, selection, acquisition, and implementation of activities and supplies, you empower the participants.



Never underestimate the power of prayer. Invite members of the church council, and others of the congregation, to be prayer companions for each of the education volunteers.

AUGSBURG FORTRESS UPDATE

Martin Luther used teaching aids which were translated into German, the language of the people he served. Our ELCA churches embrace a multitude of languages – including new technology. Don't forget to check out both church and home faith formation teaching aids by going to the Augsburg Fortress website: www.augsburgfortress.org.



PLUS: Augsburg Fortress has designated 2 primary contact people to help serve congregational needs in the I-K Synod. David Schoenknecht is the new Midwest Field Representative, as of November 2006, for larger congregations in our synod, and can be reached at email-schoenknd@augsburgfortress.org or his cell phone: 773-816-8848.

Mid and small congregations have the expertise of Julia Beauchaine. Contact Julia at the AF office calling 800-426-0115 x269. Contact the Customer Service Team, who are always ready to answer questions or take an order, via phone 800-328-4648, or FAX 800-722-7755.

WHAT IS LACE??

We are all familiar with the fashion trim designers put on women's inner and outerwear . . . LACE. However, LACE is an acronym for Lutheran Association for Christian Education. LACE, started a few years ago in the ELCA, is designed to provide Christian educators with resources in their congregations. The founding officers modeled themselves after the Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators (APCE) who offer three levels of certification for Christian educators. LACE is working on their own system of training Lutheran educators.

LACE has many partners, which include Augsburg-Fortress, the ELCA, Presbyterians, Anglicans, Reform Church, plus others and their publishing houses. The LACE newsletters keep you informed about various Christian Education materials, workshops, conferences, and conventions held around the country.

**NEED SOME NEW IDEAS?
VIDEO? OR DVD?
A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE
ON A BIBLE STORY?
LIKE TO EXAMINE CURRICLUM
MATERIAL BEFORE PURCHASE?
JUST CONTACT:**

The Congregational Resource Center,
Indianapolis:
www.congregationalresources.org or
www.cts.edu

The CRC is a library of Christian educational materials that may be checked out by **ANY MEMBER of ANY I-K SYNOD CONGREGATION**
Materials are mailed to you free

IDEAS FOR "EDUCATING THE EDUCATOR"
(From LACE Newsletter, Volume 3, Number 3, Summer 2006)

- Survey your teachers and find out what topics they would like to see covered. Frame your agenda around those topics in addition to the needs you have pinpointed.
- Put together your own two page newsletter with topical articles and "Tips for the Month." Mail or email to all of your teachers. Sending one every month seems too gigantic a task? Start with three or four times a year!
- Make sure your meetings set aside time to build relationships. Volunteers will return if they feel valued and supported. Surprise them with "creative gifts."

