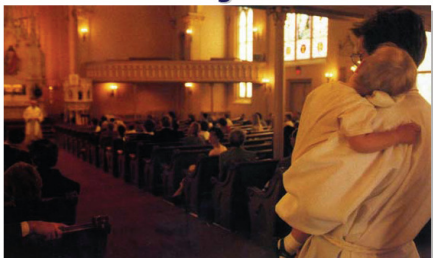


The Ohio District ONE Church MANY Partners in Kentucky, West Virginia & Ohio

February 2009 update of our shared ministries

God has a plan for your life,
and it's a great one!



"For I know the plans I have for you: declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" Jeremiah 29:11

The Ohio District partners with the LCMS Foundation to provide Christian Gift Planning Services to all the congregations in the district. The Foundations pays the salary and the District pays the travel expense so that gift planning will be available without any fees to the churches or the donors.

What is the goal of a Christian Gift Planner? To link Christians with giving opportunities by offering creative ways to manage the gifts God has provided them in order to facilitate the best way to transfer those blessings to family and all ministries today, tomorrow, and forever. We believe that God has placed a Gift Plan in each baptized Christians' heart and we strive to bring that plan to the surface and make it a reality to accomplish Gods' purposes.

The five guiding principles of a Christian Gift Planner are:

1. High activity—Meet with as many pastors and fellow Lutherans as possible to assist them in developing and accomplishing their stewardship goals.
2. Gift Completion—Strive for excellence in Knowledge and training in order to facilitate the actions needed to complete the documentation necessary to assure gifts will be realized.
3. Honesty and Integrity—Observe the Golden Rule in all that a gift planning counselor does and says.
4. Co-operation and Teamwork—Work in harmony with other LCMS Foundation employees and their partner ministries.
5. Passion for Ministry Shared with Positive Attitude—A positive attitude infects pastors and laymen. We are ambassadors of this special stewardship focus and our positive attitude can be caught by others to grow this ministry.

These standards are what all the LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselors are held to.

As leaders of your churches, please consider allowing Eileen to help you enhance the stewardship attitude within your congregations by educating yourself and them on some of the wonderful tools available in this process.

In Touch In Touch

The Ohio District-LCMS exists to fulfill the Great Commission in ways that are faithful to Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions through:

- Healthy Workers
- Healthy Mission Outposts
- Healthy Partnerships

There will be several TRILLION dollars of wealth transfer to the next generation in the next five years as the "Builder's Generation" are called to their eternal home. Has your congregation done enough to provide them with the information they need to effectively transfer those blessings to the Glory of the Lord and His Kingdom's work?

Will your will be done when God calls you home? Have you recorded your wishes to assure that your heirs will know exactly what you want to have done with your assets when you are not here to explain it to them? Was it done with a Christian perspective?

Christian Stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes —
LCMS Definition of Stewardship.

Everything we have is a gift from God. He allows us to use some of His "stuff" while we are here, but we must take good care of His things, manage them well, and then be careful to plan for what will happen to them when we don't need them as God calls us home. Your Gift Counselor wants to help with that plan.

Your District Staff

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Eileen Fitzenreiter has been the Ohio District Gift Planning Counselor since April 2007. Coming from a 38 year career in the financial services industry, she has found this new position to be a true joy. Working for and with Christians is uplifting and rewarding. God has blessed her with the opportunity to strengthen her personal faith while helping others fulfill their Christian Stewardship Goals.

A man's heart plans his way but the Lord directs his steps. Proverbs 16:9.



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