



ignite

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Summer 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Comments from the Executive Director 2
- LCMS Campus Ministry brings Ministry Catalyst on board 2
- Raise awareness and support with a **BikeWalkRun-Athon** 3
- Something new for fall: **Student Mission Challenge** 3
- Lutheran Student Fellowship 4
- Prayers and Praises 5

IGNITE is the official publication of LCMS Campus Ministry, a Recognized Service Organization serving The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and dedicated to the campus mission field.

LCMS Campus Ministry equips leaders to make disciples who make disciples on campus.

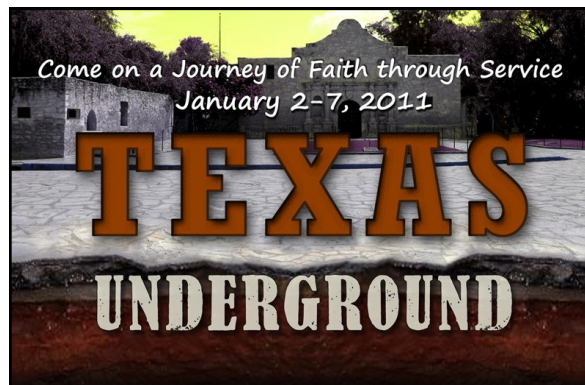
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Texas Underground: more than a ministry conference? *Come on a journey of faith through service.*

Serving others. From Shane Claiborne's *Irresistible Revolution* and Richard Stearns' *The Hole in Our Gospel* to our own Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's numerous holistic outreach ministries, the evidence is compelling: the Holy Spirit is raising up everywhere in the Church a generation whose passion is to put their faith into action by responding in the name of Jesus to the needs of struggling people.

That passion is at the heart of LCMS Campus Ministry's upcoming **Texas Underground**, a six-day winter gathering for college students and leaders that offers opportunities not just to worship and learn but also to pull on your boots, roll up your sleeves, and make a difference in a community and in the lives of the families who live there.

The **Texas Underground** service and fellowship gathering will be held January 2-7, 2011, in San Antonio, Texas. Cost is \$245, which covers meals, lodging, and building materials.



Texas Underground: come on a journey of faith through service.

Interested in being a part of the **Texas Underground** experience? For additional information, visit lcmscampusministry.org, e-mail info@lcmscampusministry.org, or call 314-497-2400.

Texas Underground is presented by LCMS Campus Ministry in partnership with Can-Do Missions and the Acts 1:8 Mission Society. Mark your calendars and begin making plans now!

You're Invited: Tell Your Campus Ministry Story in a Video *Your group could win a prize.*

This fall you can be a part of the 2010 LCMS Campus Ministry video contest! We know you have a great story to tell about what your campus ministry or LSF group does—so we're inviting you to do it in four minutes or less in a video.

"We think this is a great opportunity for students and leaders to pull together to celebrate and promote their ministries and activities," says Jon Jensen, LCMS Campus Ministry executive director. "We hope it could even build community among campus ministry groups: who will be the first to challenge a neighboring group to a friendly competition?"

All student-made videos submitted according to LCMS Campus Ministry's published rules will be

reviewed by our panel of judges, who will select the winners. First prize will be a \$500 ministry grant awarded to the participating group; second prize will be a \$250 ministry grant.

The 2010 LCMS Campus Ministry Video Contest begins September 1, 2010 and runs through October 31, 2010. There is no cost, and entry is easy. Full information can be found at lcmscampusministry.org.



Comments from the Executive Director

by Jon Jensen

As volunteers, pastors, lay leaders and student leaders gear up for the start of another academic year, we ask that you remember them in your prayers. Pray also for the students as they head back to the challenges and pitfalls of life on campus. We thank God for so many outstanding leaders and disciples on campuses around the country—and for the support of our partners and our church in ministry to the campus community.



Executive Director
Jon Jensen

In the spring issue of *Ignite*, we discussed our commitment to ideas and initiatives that add value for campus ministries nationwide. You will find in this issue the first iteration of some of those plans. We hope that the programs now described on the website, big or small, will be valuable to many of you in some way. Much more is in the pipeline, particularly in the areas of training, ministry and community building.

In a meeting this morning with a number of campus leaders, we discussed, among other issues, their planned participation in the BikeWalkRun-Athon (BWR) described elsewhere in this issue. It would be great to bottle their enthusiasm! We heard phrases like “this is a great way to build awareness in the community”; “we will be approaching local business for sponsorship”; “our volunteers are really behind this” “our Pastor said he would bike 50 miles and get 10 sponsors”; “we believe we will have over 200 participants.” Well, you get the idea. Of course, everyone will approach this opportunity their own way. Even a BWR with 10 participants will be a great event!

LCMS Campus Ministry will promote this event nationally and do everything we can to raise awareness of ministry to the campus community. Together we are a community—a student from a congregation in Georgia may attend a university in Ohio and so on, and we gather both in local campus ministry families and in a larger national campus ministry family.

The BikeWalkRun-Athon is designed to bring out the strengths of this community by providing support both locally and nationwide. If you participate in this event, have fun, be safe, and know that you will have helped not only one campus ministry but many present and future ministries around the country.

We have a number of national and district sponsors to thank for supporting these efforts and will do so on our website later this fall.

We give thanks for Rev. Jay Winters and Ministry Catalyst Adam Peters who so ably manned our booth at the National LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We had a tremendous response to our ministry there, with many youth leaders initiating conversations regarding work on campus in their communities—as well as stacks of “student connections” for LCMS campus ministries!

Our Board elected new officers for the next biennium at our most recent meeting. Rev. Kent Pierce was elected Chair, Greg Witto Vice-Chair, Rev. Richard Boring Treasurer and Ann Summerson Secretary. We want to extend our thanks to these volunteers for all they do. Lastly, we wish to acknowledge and give our heartfelt thanks for all the years of service to campus ministry by Rev. David Dressel, who has served as our Chairperson for the last several years. His work and guidance have been a blessing to so many leaders and students around the country. We are so very pleased that he will continue to serve as a board member.

Students and leaders: be on the lookout for an exciting wrinkle from us for spring break: multiple servant event opportunities—scheduled to align with the most common spring break weeks on college and university calendars! And included in each servant experience will be a will be a gathering time dedicated exclusively to building up ministry leaders.

Blessings to you and your outreach,

Jon

LCMS Campus Ministry brings Ministry Catalyst on board

LCMS Campus Ministry is excited to introduce to you our newest staff member, Adam Peters. Adam started on June 1 as our Ministry Catalyst and has been charged with providing resources and conferences to our campus ministries. Bringing him on board is yet another example of our renewed commitment to provide added value to our campus ministries.

Adam recently completed his Master's Degree in Leadership Education from the University of Nebraska. He has worked with college students in a variety of capacities, including leadership consulting, program planning and facilitation, and service trips, and he has been heavily involved at the University Lutheran Chapel in Lincoln as a volunteer. Adam

states his excitement for his new role, “I feel blessed to have the opportunity to get to know campus ministries and their leaders in our synod, and I am excited to provide resources and support to raise awareness for our critical mission field.”

Have a question or suggestion for Adam? Contact him at adam.peters@lcmscampusministry.org.



Ministry Catalyst Adam Peters



Raise Awareness and Support with a BikeWalkRun-Athon!

You might just get healthy while you're at it.

LCMS Campus Ministry invites you to participate in our first-ever **BikeWalkRun-Athon!** Your students and other participants sign up sponsors; you host the event; we handle the rest. Everybody benefits—and has fun too!

Here are the basics:

What: **BikeWalkRun-Athon**—a one-day event in which participants commit to travel an agreed-upon distance in order to encourage others to support a cause (such as local and national campus ministry efforts!).

When: Anytime between October 1 and November 15. Choose the date that works best for you!

Who: You, your students, staff, volunteers, and other supporters.

Why: Raise funds for your campus ministry, raise funds for national campus ministry, and raise awareness of the importance of campus ministry nationwide!

How: **BikeWalkRun-Athon** participants invite friends, family, classmates, and co-workers to sponsor them per mile or per lap (or in a lump sum amount!). You submit the paperwork to LCMS Campus Ministry, and we'll take care of the details.

You want to know more, don't you? We knew you would. Visit <http://lcmscampusministry.org> to visit our website and get more details and learn how to be involved.

Something new for fall: Student Mission Challenge

Student Mission Challenge (SMC) is a weekend event that offers intensive outreach and leadership training. Its name says it all:

Student

An **SMC** weekend is for students—but not just any students. The students you encourage to attend will be leaders—they'll have a heart for living their faith and for leading in their college ministry so that more students come to know Christ and grow spiritually. (Due to space limitations for this event, please note that we must limit the number of registered students to two from each participating group.)

Mission

We will show your student leaders how every Christian is called to a mission to go and teach and to live The Way (see,



for example, Acts 9:2)—as well as how today's college campus provides a perfect training ground for them to step further into a life of faith.

Challenge

Your student leaders will be challenged to take the calling to mission as a lifestyle, to see their surroundings as the mission field, and to pass on the challenge to others in their ministry. We're introducing **Student Mission Challenge** this fall on the weekend of September 24-26 at The Rock Church in St. Louis. **Cost is \$50 by the September 14 early deadline** and covers lodging and meals. Want to know more? Visit <http://lcmscampusministry.org> for additional details!



Lutheran Student Fellowship

A student-led fellowship of Christian college students and a ministry partner of LCMS Campus Ministry

LCMS Campus Ministry connects with hundreds at Youth Gathering

By Rev. Jay Winters

“Hey, where are you from? Do you want an iPad?” I must have said that phrase several hundred times over three days from July 18-20—but it was worth it.

I, along with Adam Peters from LCMS Campus Ministry, connected with more than 650 students at the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA. With the bait of offering the chance to win an iPad, we received contact information from them—yes, 650-plus students who stopped at our booth, from high school to current college students!

We did this to help promote LCMS Campus Ministry’s StudentConnect initiative, which seeks to connect college students with the campus ministry at their college or university of choice.

The problem that most of us in campus ministry have isn’t that we don’t know how to reach college students when we meet them; it’s that we often don’t know when a Lutheran student is on our campus. StudentConnect seeks to solve that problem.

StudentConnect allows pastors, church workers, and parents to forward the information of an incoming college stu-

dent so that the LCMS campus ministry or church nearest to their campus can minister to that student.

StudentConnect also allows us to keep in touch with students and campus ministries so that they know what is happening in LCMS Campus Ministry, including Lutheran Student Fellowship, on a National basis.

The Youth Gathering also gave us plenty of opportunities to promote the exciting upcoming events sponsored by LCMS Campus Ministry—especially the BikeWalkRun-Athon fund- and awareness-raiser, the Texas Underground winter servant gathering, and the Campus Ministry Video Contest.

Haven’t checked these things out yet? Go now; visit <http://lcmscampusministry.org>; find the links for StudentConnect and everything else, and learn how you can plug in to what’s going on (and what’s coming up) in campus ministry.



Jay Winters is pastor at University Lutheran Church, Tallahassee, Fla., the campus ministry serving Florida State University, Florida A&M, and Tallahassee Community College; he is also National Pastoral Counselor for Lutheran Student Fellowship. You can Friend Jay on Facebook and follow him on Twitter.

Beautiful Feet Mission Conference 2010

Come to Texas to experience Love in Action

“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.” —Romans 10:15b

Want to learn more about sharing your faith? Get connected... (1) with other mission minded college students and (2) with LCMS missionaries and (3) with opportunities to share the Gospel of Jesus

Christ with the world. Concordia University, Austin, Texas, in partnership with LCMS World Mission, invites you to come to Austin for the 2010 **Beautiful Feet Mission Conference, November 11-13**. Participants will celebrate God’s Love in Action and respond to His great love by sharing it with others. The cost for the conference is \$95. Registration information will be available soon at <http://bf.lcmsworldmission.org>.




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To support LCMS Campus Ministry with a tax-deductible financial gift, send a check, payable to Lutheran Campus Mission Association, to:

Lutheran Campus Mission Association
Rev. Richard Boring, Treasurer
152 South Columbia Ave.
P.O. Box 407
Seward, NE 68434-0407

Please include your name, mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number. You may also contribute via a secure online connection at www.lcmscampusministry.org.



*You can also support us by visiting www.goodsearch.com and selecting **Lutheran Campus Mission Association** as the charity of your choice!*

Prayers and Praises

- Ask God to bless students, faculty, and staff members as the fall semester of the 2010-2011 academic year begins. Pray for many opportunities to share His love and power with both believers and non-believers in campus communities.
- Praise God for providing willing and able workers to serve on the LCMS Campus Ministry Board! Give thanks for **Rev. Dave Dressel**'s years of service as Chairperson of the Board, and ask Him to bless: **Rev. Kent Pierce** as he moves into his new role as Chairperson; **Greg Witto** as he begins service as Vice-Chair; and **Rev. Richard Boring** and **Ann Summer-son** as they continue to serve as Treasurer and Secretary.
- Thank God for coming opportunities to serve, to learn, to worship, and to share the message of His love in new and exciting ways.
- Ask God to bless the decisions and actions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Convention this past July. Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance—as well as for wisdom, strength, and perseverance—for everyone newly elected to serve in positions of leadership.