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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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Serve “Underground” Over Spring Break

LCMS Campus Ministry is excited to introduce three servant gatherings for Spring Break 2011! In the spirit of our **Texas Underground** winter servant gathering, we’ve scheduled three gatherings in March to give as many students as possible the opportunity to serve and support the planting and growth of Lutheran campus ministries. Here are the dates and places:

Spring Break Underground 1
March 6-11, 2011 Oxford, MS (Ole Miss)

Spring Break Underground 2
March 13-18, 2011 Orlando, FL (UCF)

Spring Break Underground 3
March 20-25, 2011 Orlando, FL (UCF, week 2)

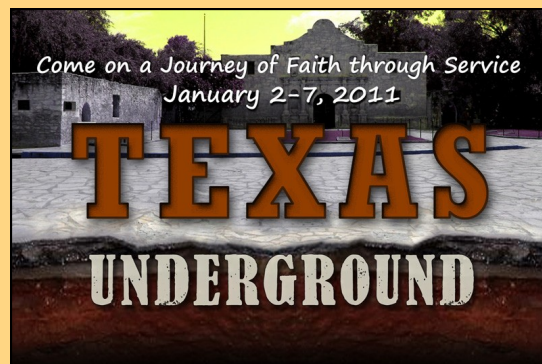
Participants will work together with members of local churches to help meet the needs of struggling people in surrounding communities. You'll meet other students and leaders, enjoy fellowship, hear the power of God's Word, join in Spirit-filled praise, and make a difference in Jesus' name.

Registration opens Thursday, **December 2, 2010**. Visit <http://lcmscampusministry.org/Spring-Break-Underground-2011-Home.php> for details.

Texas Underground and **Spring Break Underground** are 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!

Register now for Texas Underground 2011!

Have you registered yet for **Texas Underground** 2011? There's still time—and space! Deadline to register is **Wednesday, December 1**. Come on a journey of faith through service in San Antonio. Students and leaders from around the country will come together to serve others and to support a new Lutheran campus ministry. To get started, go to <http://lcmscampusministry.org/Texas-Underground-Home.php>. Don't forget to visit our **Texas Underground** [FAQ](#) page!



Comments from the Executive Director

by Jon Jensen

Thank you! Thank you for joining with us in responding to God's call to make disciples, build up the body of Christ, and raise up leaders for the church on college and university campuses. Thank you for sharing this vision with others throughout the church. Thank you for your support, your encouragement, and your prayers.

LCMS Campus Ministry started the 2010-2011 academic year at full speed. Even before the online **StudentConnect** registrations started rolling in, we had hundreds of handwritten registrations from the National LCMS Youth Gathering to respond to. Online **StudentConnect** submissions were steady throughout September.

October was the month our 2010 **BikeWalkRun-Athon** events began; scheduled local events continued through this past weekend. There's plenty of room to grow in years to come, but these inaugural-year events did much to raise awareness and generate interest. October was also the month our 2010 **Campus Ministry Video Contest** concluded. Thanks to everyone who submitted an entry; we appreciate your hard work—as well as the enthusiasm for your campus ministry that comes through so clearly in your videos. Results will be announced in December.

November is of course the month during which The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has set aside a Sunday to recognize our work together. **LCMS Campus Ministry Sunday**, November 28, is less than a week away—but there's still time to download our **LCMS Campus Ministry Sunday** resources and arrange for presentations in hometown church



Executive Director
Jon Jensen

services, Bible classes, and youth group meetings. Campus churches can participate, too; feel free to pick an alternate date—when your students are back in town.

New campus ministry activity is underway in Evansville, Ind., Boston, Mass., and St. Charles and Cape Girardeau, Mo.! Pray for the leaders, students and churches involved.

Speaking of new campus ministry activity: one of the great things about our upcoming "**Underground**" events is that each is designed to encourage the start or growth of a young ministry. Our **Texas Underground** 2011 winter servant gathering will provide a jump start for a ministry at the University of Texas, San Antonio. Our **Spring Break Underground** events, just announced in this issue, will support the revival of a ministry at Ole Miss and a ministry start at the University of Central Florida.

Dates for **Texas Underground** are January 2-7; there's plenty of room and still time to register by **December 1**. You can find dates and preliminary details for the **Spring Break Underground** events in this issue of *Ignite*.

Do you have a story that shows the impact of your campus ministry? Please send it to us—in writing, on video...your choice. We want to share your good news with the whole church. Send your story or a link to your uploaded video to campusmission@yahoo.com.

We're excited about what's on the horizon at LCMS Campus Ministry. What's coming? How about online courses in Lutheran theology and discipleship? How about weekly vlog-style devotions from members of our national leadership team? Stay tuned!

Blessings to you and your outreach,

Jon

StudentConnect iPad Awarded to SIU Edwardsville Student

More than 650 high school and college students at the 2010 National LCMS Youth Gathering registered for LCMS Campus Ministry's free **StudentConnect** service to get connected with the LCMS ministry serving their campuses—and to try to win an Apple iPad!

The winner of the iPad drawing was Lindsey Pruemer, who attends Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. *Congratulations, Lindsey!*

Thanks to everyone who signed up for **StudentConnect**. Now tell your pastor and youth minister back home; this is a tool every college-bound high schooler can use to get involved and continue growing spiritually! For more information about **StudentConnect**, visit <http://www.lcmscampusministry.org/StudentConnect.php>.

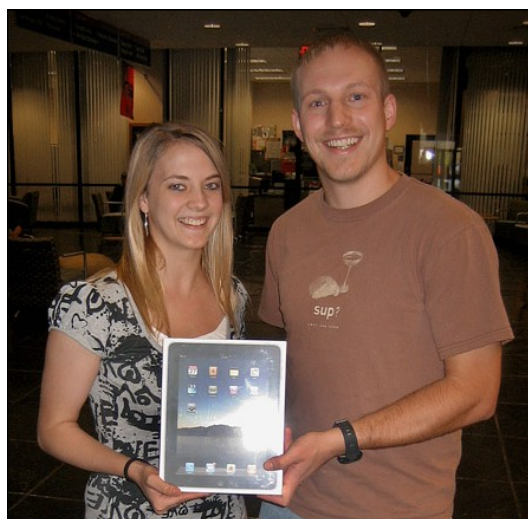


Photo: Lindsey is awarded her iPad by LCMS Campus Ministry Catalyst Adam Peters.

Students work, learn at Student Mission Challenge

By Adam Peters, Campus Ministry Catalyst

In September, 10 student leaders from 4 different campuses joined together at The Rock (formerly St. Peter Lutheran Church) in St. Louis for LCMS Campus Ministry's first Student Mission Challenge.

The event was led by Pastor Randy Wilken of the Acts 1:8 Mission Society and Adam Peters, Ministry Catalyst for LCMS Campus Ministry. Students served together and practiced first-hand being intentional about caring for others amidst daily life. The students participated in a variety of remodeling projects at The Rock and, in a sort of "real-life" team challenge, worked together to paint high points on a wall. Students also walked through real-life campus ministry scenarios and were challenged in their awareness of other students and their needs.

Feedback on the event was very positive. One student stated in the evaluation, "I truly feel I grew this weekend. I beat fears and was put out of my comfort zone in good ways."

Later, a campus ministry leader remarked, "It was a positive experience for our ministry as we decided to initiate a few things as a response from [the students'] learning and affirmation from the retreat."

Stay tuned to the LCMS Campus Ministry website for information about upcoming Student Mission Challenge opportunities.



Photo: Students and leaders at LCMS Campus Ministry and Acts 1:8's first Student Mission Challenge event.

Great energy at Nebraska BikeWalkRun-Athon (and others!)

By Adam Peters

More than 30 students, alumni, and supporters gathered at the University Lutheran Chapel in Lincoln, NE for their first annual **BikeWalkRun-Athon** on October 23rd. Walkers and runners strolled or jogged on a loop that circled the campus, while bicyclists took a city trail south through town. This first-year "-Athon" was a huge success, with collections totaling over \$7,000. Next year, the Chapel expects to start planning early enough to attract many more participants from local churches, alumni, and parents to make the event even larger.

Rev. Bill Steinbauer, pastor of University Lutheran Chapel, said, "The energy for this event was great. We feel this could be even bigger next year and that it could become an integral funding source for us in the future."

BikeWalkRun-Athon events were held on six campuses in October and November. *Photos: (Top) Runners at Lincoln, Neb. BikeWalkRun-Athon; (Bottom left) Walkers and runners at the St. Louis area BikeWalkRun-Athon; (Bottom right) LSF students at Concordia, Pullman, Wash. get creative and hold a RakeAthon. See more photos on our [Facebook page](#) or in the image viewer on the [LCMS Campus Ministry home page](#).*



Lincoln, Nebraska



St. Louis, Mo.



Pullman, Wash.



Lutheran Student Fellowship

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

A bleak picture in a weak moment; but...

By Rev. Jay Winters

I have only been in an LCMS campus ministry setting for five years—one as a vicar at the University of Florida and going on four as a pastor at Florida State University. In that time I have had moments when what I see renders my trust and optimism weak.

In those weak moments, the picture of LCMS campus ministry in the United States is not pretty: We are sucking air. We are losing students to other denominations and we are losing students to sin, death, and the devil. We are losing the potential next generation of leaders for our Church and Synod.

How did we get this way? I'm not sure. This is the way that it has always been for me—since 2005. I can only guess at how—considering the history that I've been told: "Once, long, long ago in a Synodical Building far, far away, there was an 'Office of Campus Ministry,' and that office kept us all working with one another. Then came the Dark Time, when the office vanished and all the campus ministers went running to and fro, screaming 'every man, woman, and student for themselves!'"

"Like refugees from the Tower of Babel, we began speaking our own languages and excluding the other campus ministries in our states, our regions, and our nation. We isolated ourselves in our student centers, organizations, and churches, pretending that nobody else was doing campus ministry. We did this for pious reasons, reacting to the loss of leadership in the way that God through Zechariah prophesied we would. Our shepherd was struck, and we scattered, seeking to preserve what we had—and fearing to risk knowing that it could *never be taken away from us*. We never completely lost faith in Jesus, but we huddled, afraid, in private rooms like the eleven disciples. We wondered if Jesus would come back to save us."

Since these are moments in which the Law convicts, they are also the moments in which it is essential to remember that the Gospel not only redeems but liberates as well. I invite you to share a strong moment with me now.

Brothers and sisters in campus ministries throughout the LCMS: *Jesus is here*. Peace be with you. Our desertion of

our brothers and sisters in our states, our regions, and our nation—forgiven! Our lack of trust in Jesus working through LCMS campus ministry to bring about a new day for our Synod, both for individuals and our organizations—pardoned! *Jesus is with us!*

Now, we can choose to continue to live separated from the campus ministries in our state, in our region, and in our nation—and we will be forgiven again if we do so. But wouldn't it be more exciting to talk to the other person in our state who is ministering to students and ask how we might not only pray for them, but also trade ideas? Wouldn't it be more courageous to declare that we will help our brother or sister who is struggling in their ministry on a college campus? Wouldn't it be more faithful if we were actually to act upon the idea that we are all similar parts of the same Body, the Body of Christ?

Jesus has blessed us. He has given us peace and forgiveness. He has given us LCMS Campus Ministry and Lutheran Student Fellowship and many other organizations so that we might work together. He has given us Texas Underground, Lutheran Student Fellowship Regions, and National Campus Ministry Sunday. And even if you don't work with those organizations and events, will you just work with another campus ministry? Just one?

Let us spread the Gospel. Let us no longer have this idea of spreading it to one campus, but let us spread it to at least two—if not many—campuses, working together as His crucified and resurrected Body!!!

To respond by speaking the truth in love, share your comments under our posting of this article at lcmscampusministry.wordpress.com.



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.

NAILS: wrap job, ministry experience together

By Susan Canada

Finding an opportunity for summer employment that pays, fits with school schedules, and offers a life-enriching experience can be a challenge for students. **NAILS**, the young adult arm of Laborers For Christ, offers that chance.

This summer, Tim Staffeld, a Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, Ill., student, worked for the congregation of Salem Lutheran Church, in Gurley, Neb. He and fellow student Paul Rilett worked with a Laborers crew to build a fellowship hall.

"It was great summer employment, a good learning experience, and everyone was so nice," said Staffeld, a pre-seminary student. He said that learning general construction skills will be good if, ultimately, he has a congregation of his own. "I'll know much more about what all is involved."

Other **NAILS** members this summer spent time in Slidell, La., helping build an Open Arms Child Development Center for Bethany Lutheran Church and renovate an athletic center at St. Paul Lutheran School, Concordia, Mo. Students worked during spring and summer breaks, and some traveled quite a distance for the chance to meet other people and spend time in places they had never been before.



Paul Rilett and Tim Staffeld of Concordia University Chicago top off the addition at Salem Lutheran Church, Gurley, Neb., with a cross. They worked for the congregation last summer as part of **NAILS**, Laborers For Christ's young adult program.

To find out more about the life-enriching experience available through **NAILS**, check out www.lcef.org/services/nails.

Susan Canada is a member of Lutheran Church Extension Fund's communications staff.

Deeply Rooted

ALDE International Education Conference is February 12-15

Come to Portland, Oregon and become *Deeply Rooted* through the opportunities for professional development, fellowship, worship and fun at the 2011 **ALDE International Educational Conference, Feb. 12-15**. The conference will feature inspiring keynotes from Greg Bell and Len Sweet, plus sessions that will enhance the career of anyone who works in resource development, fundraising, marketing, communications or similar fields. Learn more about the curriculum at alde.org/confcurr and register now at alde.org/confreg.

The conference hotel, the Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront, is located close to the Willamette River and downtown destinations. Reserve your hotel room and get more info at alde.org/confhotel.

You will also have the opportunity to help people in need with the conference Servant Event on Saturday, Feb. 12. ALDE is teaming up with Loaves & Fishes Centers, The Meals-On-Wheels People, who help seniors maintain their independence by making nutritious food, social contacts and other resources easily accessible. Learn more at loavesandfishesonline.org. You can sign up for the Servant Event on the registration page.

Get general conference info at alde.org/conf. Note that it is less expensive to register as a member than as a non-member—your incentive to join and take advantage of ALDE benefits



year-round! Conference scholarships are available for those who are new to development or have only been in the field for a few years. Learn more at alde.org/scholarships.

Article provided by ALDE (the Association of Lutheran Development Executives), an international community of fundraising and communications professionals that is rooted in the Lutheran tradition of the Christian faith and dedicated to serving God's people in the church and the world as it inspires, connects and equips Christians for excellence in philanthropy.

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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
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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

- Give God thanks for safe and successful first-time events—**Student Mission Challenge** and **Bike-WalkRun-Athons**! Ask God to continue to bless our efforts together to raise awareness of the importance of campus ministry—especially through **LCMS Campus Ministry Sunday** activities!
- Ask God to bless our planning for the January 2-7 **Texas Underground** winter servant gathering. Pray also for God's blessing on the planning process for the **Spring Break Underground** events in March 2011.
- Praise God for churches and individuals who desire to help start and grow new ministries on campuses across the country. Pray for continued blessings on their efforts.
- Ask God to bless campus ministries with many opportunities to work together in effective ministry with their neighbor ministries on nearby campuses.
- Ask God to bless our partners in ministry, **Lutheran Student Fellowship** and **International Student Ministry, Inc.** Pray for opportunities to work in ever-closer partnership!