

# Worship Committee

## Nebraska District Convention 2010

### **The Nebraska District Worship Committee serves in several ways:**

- by planning worship for the district convention and other conferences
- by disseminating resources produced by the WELS Commission on Worship
- by assisting district congregations in enriching their worship

### ***Christian Worship Supplement* introduction workshops**

Workshops to introduce congregations to *Christian Worship Supplement* were held throughout the Nebraska District in 2008 and 2009. Many thanks to all who attended, to the congregations and schools who hosted, and to the musicians and presenters. Synod-wide indications are that almost all congregations are utilizing resources from the supplement. Contact our committee with questions or comments about CWS.

### **Preview of tonight's workshop**

Tonight the district worship committee will be presenting a workshop: "Easy ways to incorporate variety in worship." We will be walking through the outline of a Sunday service and suggesting simple ways to add variety to each section. All the suggestions will utilize resources from the *Christian Worship* family (i.e., the hymnal, the supplement, New Service Settings, altar book, etc.). If your congregation is looking for relatively simple suggestions to add variety to your services, this workshop is for you. Of course, your congregation may already incorporate a good deal of variety in its services. If that's the case, you may want to come and share your suggestions. The workshop will take place 7:00-8:00 this evening.

### **National Conference on Worship: Summer 2011**

The next national worship conference will take place next summer, July 19-22, 2011. The main site for the conference will again be Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, but the conference will also be worshipping in the newly dedicated Chapel of the Christ at our own Martin Luther College (about 30 miles away). Congregational leaders, please consider funding—completely or in part—attendance at the conference for your church's organists, choir director, teachers and pastors. They'll return with renewed energy and edifying ideas to enhance the worship of your congregation.

### **Commission on Worship website**

Online resources from the WELS Commission on Worship are still available, even though the updated synod website is still in beta mode. Go to [www.archive.wels.net](http://www.archive.wels.net). Then find the CMSG menu on the left side of the page. That will provide you with a link to the worship page, which still is full of worship resources and information. There are also new resources being added regularly to the Worship section of [connect.wels.net](http://connect.wels.net). New worship resources will be posted there from now on.

### **Resources for printing bulletins**

More congregations are printing their order of service in their bulletins/worship folders, to help unchurched guests follow along with the service, concentrate on the message and feel welcome. Our committee has available high-quality, electronic versions of the musical portions of the liturgies in the *Christian Worship* hymnal. Northwestern Publishing House freely gives permission to reproduce almost all these sections in bulletins. Contact Pastor Jon Micheel ([pastorjm@popslc.org](mailto:pastorjm@popslc.org)) for these files and for sample bulletins. No need for cutting and Scotch-taping (or scanning and pasting) from hymnal to bulletin.

### ***Planning Christian Worship*, revised edition**

Over half of the revised *Planning Christian Worship* series has been made available for free download via the Commission on Worship website and the Connect intranet site. (All of Year B and now all of Year C are available.) This resource gives summaries of the Scripture readings for each Sunday, including summaries of the alternate readings in the revised *CW Supplement* lectionary. It also provides hymn suggestions from the hymnal and the supplement. The remaining half of *Planning Christian Worship* should be available soon. Worship planners, take a look at this resource if you haven't yet.

### ***Worship the Lord and Preach the Word* newsletters**

These bi-monthly newsletters offer helpful insights about worship and preaching. The newsletters come to pastors, but they're beneficial for church musicians, worship committees, elders, et al.—especially the *Worship the Lord* newsletter. Pastors, let's share these with those in our congregations who might also benefit from them.

### **Worship and Evangelism**

Our synod's Commission on Worship is working with our Commission on Evangelism in a new effort to coordinate their work. The goal: to promote vibrant, Christ-centered, gospel-rich, Lutheran worship that communicates with unchurched guests. One of the initial "listening sessions" in this effort took place in our district in May 2010. More to come on this joint effort.

Please contact us with suggestions for how our committee could assist your congregation in proclaiming the gospel in worship of our Lord. We welcome your questions, suggestions, insights, thoughts and comments.

### **The Nebraska District Worship Committee**

Pastor Jon Micheel, Prince of Peace, Salt Lake City, UT, Coordinator

Pastor Brent Merten, Mountain Valley, Eagle, CO

Pastor John Bortulin, St. Paul's, Plymouth, NE