



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Southeastern
District

Letter from the President

Rev. Dr. Bill Harmon



Rejoice and give thanks for the countless blessings the Lord continues to bestow upon the mission stations throughout the Southeastern District. Over seven states and the District of Columbia, the grace of God is shared as we proclaim His victory and trust in the One who does immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine.

Thank you for your continued service and witness within your mission stations and throughout your communities and neighborhoods as together we connect people with Jesus so that lives are transformed and God's Kingdom grows. Each mission station is important in the context God has established it. Each is valued as we seek to have a transformational impact on the lives that God places before us. Celebrating our unique qualities as churches, schools, and service organizations and rejoicing in our unity in the Gospel and our confession makes us a stronger witness in the name and for the sake of Christ our Lord.

The Southeastern District is focused on the critical targets of **Empowering Wellness** and **Mobilizing Witness**. With you, we seek to empower individuals and faith communities to thrive through growth and renewal and to multiply individuals and faith communities to share the love of Christ.

As a district, we are committed to a strategic path that includes rejoicing, engaging, encouraging, and serving. We **rejoice** in a God who does immeasurably more through the saving power of Jesus Christ. This rejoicing is the inspiration and foundation as we connect people with Jesus. We **engage** with our partners to celebrate who they are, understand their context, affirm their value, and build relationships. We walk with our partners to create an environment of possibility, rooted in the power of the Gospel, to **encourage** them in their calling. We love and **serve** our partners in supporting their calling as they connect people with Jesus so that lives are transformed and God's Kingdom grows.

It is a joy and privilege to serve as District President. Over the last two years, I have met people from every walk of life in every region of the SED: rostered workers and lay leaders, members of congregations, and neighbors from small churches and large. The Southeastern District is blessed with faithful and gifted servants who love the Lord and desire all people to be blessed by His love. Thank you for who you are and all you do in His name and for His sake. May He continue to bless us with every opportunity and every resource needed to declare His praises to the ends of the earth boldly.

Bill Harmon



District Ministry Update

Each day, the ministry staff in the Southeastern District serves the Lord and His church, including but not limited to the day-to-day operations of the District, worker support and care, congregational support and care (**214 churches**), school support and care (**79 schools**), Recognized Service Organizations support and care (**8 RSOs**), communications, prayer support, reports, applications, roster action, statistics, forms, Call action, reconciliation and ecclesiastical matters, and much more. Your District is engaging in ministry each day and we give thanks for the opportunity to serve and partner with you. Here is a snapshot of some of the work being done in the district this past year!

- Wellness Team Established
- SIMPLE Assessment Created for Congregational Wellness

81 Wellness Surveys

51 Witness Surveys

3 New Mission Starts
4 more + a school in discussion

24 Witness Trained Leaders

12 People in Lay Deacon Cohort

3 Vicars

4 Candidates

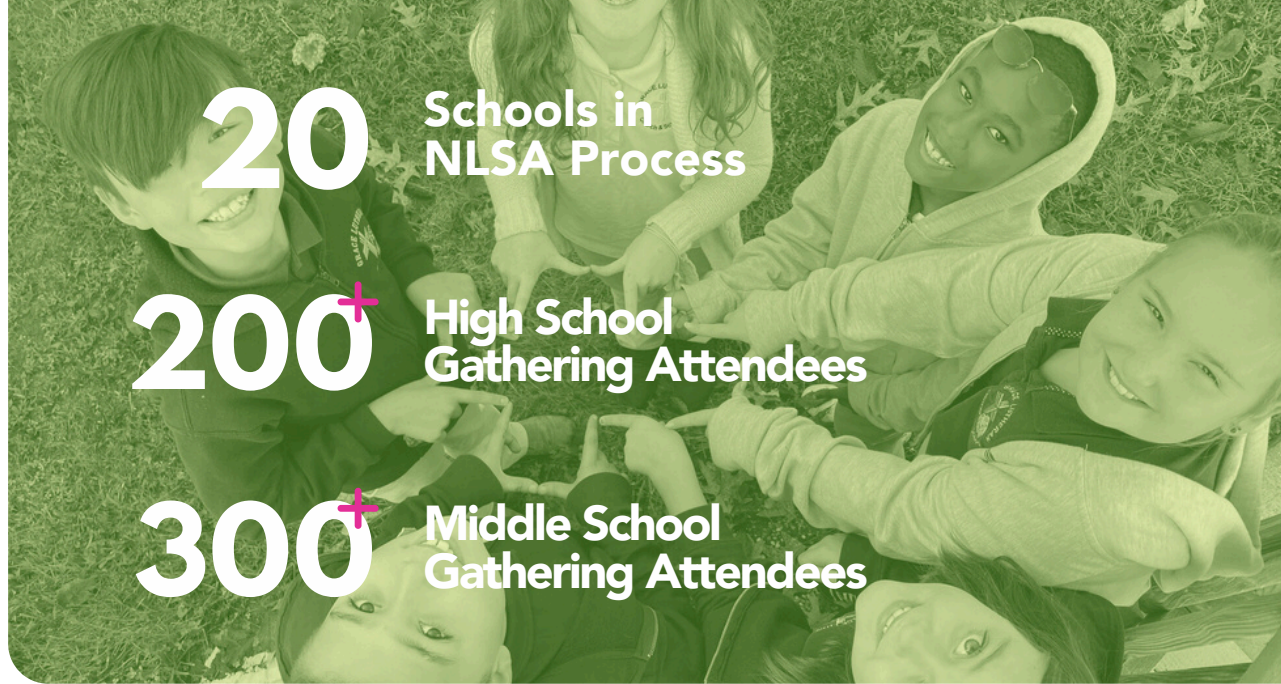
6 Commissioned workers

14 SMP Applications
since 2022

VACANCY REPORT

529 **591**
Serving Part-time
Synod Wide

22 Calling **15** Non-calling
Southeastern District



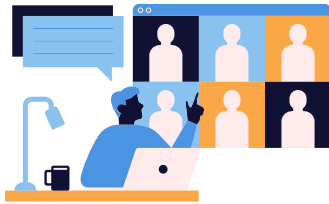
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Schools in
NLSA Process

200+

High School
Gathering Attendees

300+

Middle School
Gathering Attendees400+ New Email
Subscriptions45 Participants
Webinar Average

60+

in-person visits
from the President15 Student
Scholarships22 Student Debt
Reductions

FINANCIAL

2023
Clean
Audit

SED Mission Partnership Support

9%

below our
YTD budget

115

of our 200+ churches
have contributed

Upcoming Opportunities

Webinars

June 11, 7pm: 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering Prep

With SED Gathering Coordinator DCE Nick Butcher

July 16, 10am: Homiletics

Rev. Dr. David Schmitt, Professor, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Aug 7, 1pm: Pre-Retirement Workshop

with Amy Klein from Concordia Plans

Oct 26, 10am: Treasurer/Stewardship/Concordia Plans Workshop

with Sid Heetland - SED Business Director, Kirk Hymes - LCEF VP, and Jonathan Spring - CPS Rep

Regional Leadership Conferences



Join us this Fall for our regional leadership conferences focusing on building community with our neighbors. Lutheran Hour Ministries will be partnering with us, presenting their Hopeful Neighborhood Project, and sharing tools to help inspire and guide toward neighborhood action. All church workers and lay leaders are invited to join us! See below for the most convenient date and location!



Who Should Attend?

Rostered Workers, Lay Deacons,
Lay Leaders, Members, everyone!

Central Region: September 14:
Redeemer, Richmond, VA

Southern Region: September 28
Ascension, Charlotte, NC

Northern Region: October 5
St. Andrew, Silver Spring, MD

SED Lutheran Educators Conference

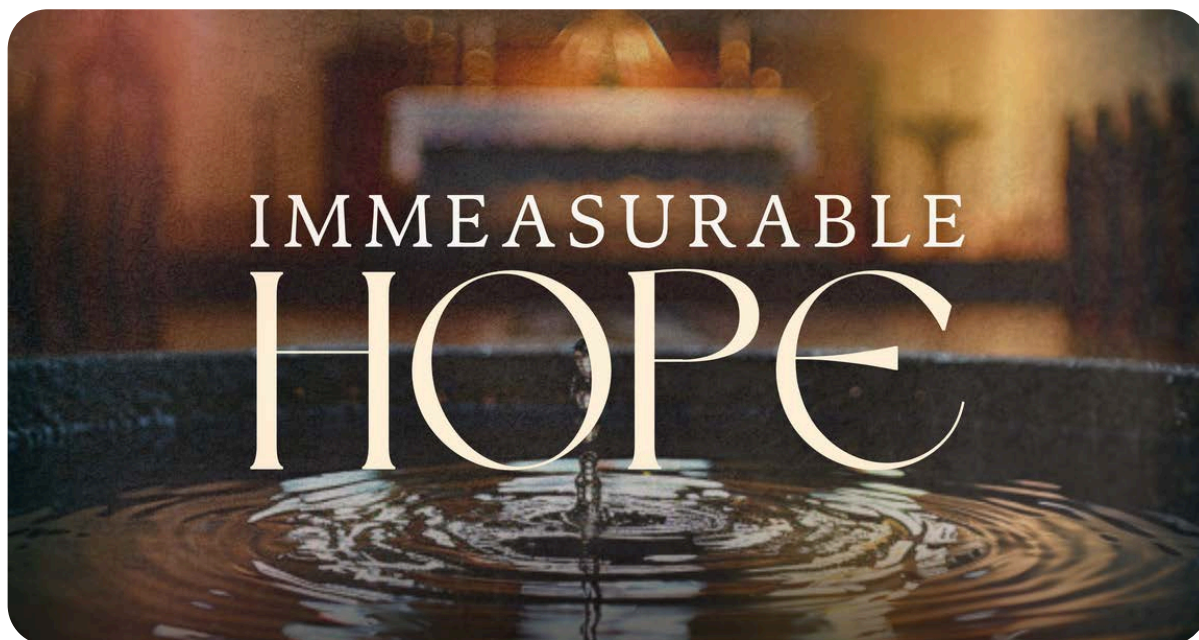
October 17-18, 2024
King of Glory, Williamsburg, VA
Rev. Dr. Travis Guse, Keynote

SED Senior High Youth Gathering

November 1-3, 2024
Watermarks Camp, VA
Rev. Nick Gonzalez, Keynote

SED 2025 Convention, May 5-9

Location: DoubleTree Hotel in Midlothian, VA



Convention Week

"Hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Romans 5:5

Monday, May 5: 7-9 pm (Virtual)

- Bible Study and Floor Committee Hearings

Tuesday, May 6: 7-9 pm (Virtual)

- Confessions Study and Floor Committee Hearings

Wednesday, May 7: 7-9 pm (Virtual)

- President's Report and Floor Committee Hearings

Thursday, May 8 (In-Person)

- Pre-convention Service Project
- 11 am - 2 pm: Registration
- 2 pm: Convention Begins

Friday, May 9 (In-Person)

- 4 pm: Convention ends

Opportunities to Partner with the SED



Mission Partnership Support

Thank you to the congregations who send a tithe to the Southeastern District. The Mission Partnership Support dollars enable the District to partner, support, and create ministry from a strong standing. Every congregation is invited to participate and is asked to consider supporting the work of the District prayerfully.

Individual Gifts

If you would like to support the work of the Southeastern District as an individual donor, thank you! You are invited to mail your gift or give it online through the SED website.

Donate to SED Grants

The SED has a series of grants for which you are invited to be a donor. Grants include Circuit Witness/Wellness, Worker Care/Crisis, Student Aid, Debt Reduction, Online Outreach, New Starts, Mission Vicar, Disaster Response, All Nations, Community Engagement, DCE Intern, New Schools, and Renewal.

LCMS Foundation

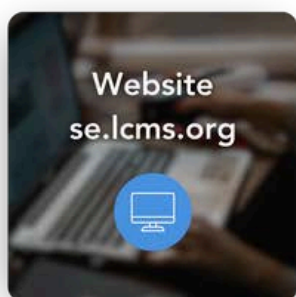
The Rev. Dr. John Denninger works in partnership with the SED to offer the services of the LCMS Foundation at no cost to members of the SED, congregations, and schools. As you prayerfully consider a legacy or endowment gift to the Southeastern District, please contact Rev. Denninger at: john.denninger@lfnd.org

Thank you!

Your prayers, support, partnership, and gifts are a cherished blessing to the Southeastern District. Thank you, and may the Lord bless you!



Keeping you Connected!



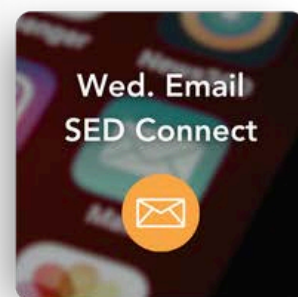
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se.lcms.org



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