

Students do mission work in Thailand

Sa-Wah-Ti-Kah, "hello" from Thailand! Students **Melissa Olson** of Wausa, NE, and **Victoria Johnson**, formerly of Salina, KS, recently traveled to Thailand on a missions trip sponsored by Covenant World Mission. Their group helped build a Covenant Bible camp outside of Chiang Mai, opening this fall to children from the area villages. Students helped lay sod for a soccer field. Said Melissa, "Even though we are speaking different languages, we are praising God and He understands each one of us." Both girls witnessed the awesomeness of God's creation while being in the mountains and rain forest. Victoria shared, "God really showed me how I can influence others more through my actions than my words. He touched my life and the lives of everyone who went."



Superintendent to retire in 2011



After 16 years of ministry to the MWC as superintendent, Ken Carlson will retire in 2011. He and his wife, Nancy, will have ministered in our conference for 24 years as he served as the associate superintendent beginning in 1987. Keep the Carlson's in prayer as they move toward this transition. At the same time, your prayers are asked for the MWC executive board, serving as the superintendent search committee. We will continue to keep you updated through the process.

Clergy Honored for Lifetime of Service

At the 125th Evangelical Covenant Church's Annual Meeting in St. Paul, MN, this past June, two Midwest Conference pastors were among the 39 clergy honored for a "Lifetime of Service." **Thomas B. Anderson**, Lenexa, KS (currently serving as interim pastor at Harvest Ridge Covenant Church in Shawnee, KS), and **Kenneth P. Carlson**, Omaha, NE (superintendent of the Midwest Conference) received a plaque honoring their service. The Dept. of the Ordered Ministry honors clergy in the year they reach age 65, even though they may be continuing in their ministry.

Congratulations to 2010 Ordinands!



Four MWC pastors were ordained at the Covenant Annual Meeting in St. Paul, MN, this past June. Shown in the photo are **Mark Nelson** of First Covenant in Salina, KS, and **Robert W. Johnson** of First Covenant City Church in Kansas City, MO, both Ordained to Word and Sacrament. Not available for the photo was **Wuifor Portillo** of Alfa y Omega Covenant in Carthage, MO. Ordained to Specialized

Ministry is **Joyce Norman** of Countryside Covenant in McPherson, KS. We thank God for the accomplishments of these pastors and their continued ministry to our churches!

Alaska Coordinator Named

Gary Carlson, member of the Brantford ECC near Clyde, KS, will serve as the coordinator for our partnership with Mountain Village Covenant Church in Alaska. Gary was a member of one of two mission teams that went to Mountain Village in 2009 to build a 20x20 shed which serves as a workshop for members of the church and community to repair four-wheel vehicles and snow machines. An industrial arts teacher and coach for the Clifton-Clyde school in Kansas, Gary will serve well as he works with Midwest Conference churches in making plans for future projects with our ongoing partnership in Alaska. From his past mission experience he knows God touches our hearts when we serve. God has expanded our territory and we will be blessed as we reach out to our brothers and sisters in Mountain Village, Alaska.



The fall retreats for **pastors and ministry staff** sponsored by the MWC Ministerial Association provide spiritual renewal and fellowship, and conference churches are encouraged to send your pastors, along with spouses. Providing financial support for them to go is also encouraged. Two retreats are offered, giving your pastors a choice to attend the retreat closest to your region or they are welcome to attend both! The eastern retreat is scheduled for **October 11-13** at the St. Benedict Center in Schuyler, NE, with Dr. John Weborg, retired North Park Seminary professor as the featured speaker. The western retreat will be held **November 8-10** at Glacier View Ranch Retreat Center in Ward, CO, featuring Pastor Nick Lillo of WaterStone Church in Littleton, CO.

Women Ministry Retreats

- **NE:** Covenant Cedars Bible Camp, Sept. 17-18, speaker Laurie Baedke
- **CO & W. KS:** Covenant Heights Camp and Retreat Center, Sept. 17-19, speaker Ruth Hill
- **IA:** Twin Lakes Bible Camp, Sept. 17-19, speaker Teri Frana
- **KS & MO:** Rock Springs Ranch, Oct. 1-3, speaker Keri Wyatt Kent

Website: www.heartsintouch.org

Ministry Renewal Leave

During the month of August, Assoc. Superintendent Rick Mylander will use this time for writing projects, some personal and some on behalf of the denomination, along with reflection, rest and renewal. Prayers for Rick during this time will be appreciated, that he come back to his service to the conference refreshed and renewed for continued ministry.

Pastors new to MWC since 6-1-10

Catherine Buckley, Intern Pastor, ECC, Ceresco NE
Dan Orozco, Pastor to Youth & Families, Brookwood Covenant, Topeka KS

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The Midwest Conference is a mission association of Covenant churches in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, western Missouri, Nebraska, Wyoming