



Newest MWC Church Plant Begins!

Christ has commissioned his people to serve! Beginning in February, 2010, **Christ the Servant Evangelical Covenant Church** will begin to study and serve together in Olathe, Kansas. Says Pastor Lee Jost, "Our mission is to serve hope in our neighborhood and world. As a gathering of Christ followers, we will engage our community in missional service and offer unsuspecting acceptance to all we encounter. As children of God we seek hope, love and purpose. The scriptures call us to be "Salt of the Earth" and a "Light to our World." As each of us offers our gift, we hope to season and illuminate the world around us." **Keep this newest church plant in prayer as they begin their ministries to suburban Kansas City!**



Haiti Relief Fund

The Evangelical Covenant Church of Wausa, NE, will take offerings for Covenant World

Relief over a three-week period with the church matching every donated dollar "with absolutely no cap," says Pastor Matt Norlen. Marianne Murchison, daughter of Pastor Marc and Elise Murchison of Lanyon, IA, continues to update us on her work with an orphanage in Pignon, Haiti. These are two of many praises for people in the Midwest Conference being a part of an amazing outpouring of love and support to the disaster in Haiti. Conference churches have participated both through prayer and financial contributions to Covenant World Relief. **As of January 29, \$500,000 had been contributed to the Haiti Relief Fund.**

Wenrich to lead EPIC at two MWC churches

John Wenrich, Director of Congregational Vitality for the ECC, will lead his workshop called EPIC (*Empowering People, Inspiring Change*) at opposite ends of the conference in the next few weeks: February 20 at Heartland Covenant Church in Springfield, MO, and March 6 at Arvada Covenant Church in Arvada, CO. EPIC is for pastors and leaders of churches in which leading change *well* is an important part of their current journey. If that describes your church, plan to bring a group to one of John's workshops—call your hub superintendent for more information.



Developing a God-honoring Legacy Plan

\$1,395,649.46! That is the amount that **Covenant Trust Company** has distributed to churches and ministries in the Midwest Conference. These dollars came from individuals working with a CTC representative to develop a God-honoring legacy plan that cares for their families and fulfills charitable dreams. Please call **Lavern Holdeman, Financial Service Representative (toll free) at 1-877-768-1763** to discuss how a legacy planning workshop can help assure the continuing financial vitality of your church or ministry and your members.

Attention all licensed Covenant ministers OR anyone applying for a first-time license! You must renew or apply for your ministerial license by March 15. Questions? Call your conference office at 1-888-871-3020.

Full-time Pastors new to MWC since 1-1-10

- Lee Jost, Church Planter, Christ the Servant Covenant, Olathe, KS
- John Madvig, Pastor, Community Covenant, Omaha, NE
- Randy McNeal, Youth Pastor, Christ Community Covenant, Arvada, CO
- Joel Payne, Army Chaplain, Fort Carson, CO
- Darrin Plant, Campus Pastor, Hillcrest Blue Valley, Prairie Village, KS

February 2010

MIDWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETINGS, hosted by the Evangelical Covenant Church of Lindsborg, KS, will be held April 23-24, 2010. **Women Ministries** will launch the gatherings with workshops Thursday evening, April 22, an opportunity to do either a Friday morning service project or two presentations, followed by their business meeting plus guest speaker and musician Ginger Millermon, making this an event you don't want to miss!

Ministerial Association members begin their meeting at 9 a.m. Friday. Dr. Jules Glanzer, ordained Covenant minister and President of Tabor College will share two teaching sessions on "*Emotional Intelligence: The X Factor in Pastoral Leadership*." Plan to attend because this is a time to strengthen the bonds of Christian fellowship among conference pastors!

"Looking Back, Pressing Forward"

is the theme for the 2010 Midwest Conference. A 3:30 p.m. Friday workshop kicks off conference activities with Executive Minister of Christian Formation for the Evangelical Covenant Church, Doreen Olson, speaking on "*Looking Back, Pressing Forward: an exploration of our enduring commitments*," followed by dinner at 5:30. Dinner is open to all, bring your family and friends! The evening worship celebration held at the local high school auditorium is an event you don't want to miss! Well-known performer throughout the Covenant and North America, Bob Stromberg, (www.bobstromberg.com) will share his unique and uplifting style of storytelling; MWC business meeting is on Saturday, concluding by 2 p.m. Go to the website and read all about the activities associated with this annual gathering: www.midwestcovenant.org

Did you know? The conference "Prayer Calendar" is available on our website at www.midwestcovenant.org

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