



The Arizona-California District Commission on Adult Discipleship

Adult Discipleship Update

Though the Commission on Adult Discipleship remains without an administrator, progress continues. As the March *Forward in Christ* reported, the way in which the CAD serves congregations is changing. In the past, its primary purpose was seen as providing Bible study materials and resources (hundreds of which are available through NPH). Moving forward, however, its focus has shifted to training and equipping leaders in congregations, especially in the area of leading Bible study. Members of the CAD have been working together to develop workshops for Adult Learning. The hope is that these workshops can be rolled out in 2011.

Christ's Love, Our Calling

The CLOC committee has been reworking the materials for the four-year stewardship emphasis with the goal of re-launching everything at this summer's district conventions. Having the materials available this summer should allow you the time and flexibility in determining how you might make use of them in the fall. The committee's intent was to suggest three possible options to help congregations determine how they can best incorporate the materials in their own setting. The encouragement is to consider incorporating the CLOC emphasis some time during the last three, four, or seven Sundays of the church year (depending on whichever option works best for your congregation). By this time you should have received an email with more information, as well as a link to the materials on the WELS Connect site. If you have not, or if you have questions, please contact me.

Here's a breakdown of the "Christ's Love, Our Calling" four-year stewardship emphasis:

- Year One (for use in fall of 2010) – managing our time 1) with God, 2) with our families, 3) with the Body of Christ, and 4) with our neighbors
- Year Two (2011) – "My Self"
- Year Three (2012) – "My Finances"
- Year Four (2013) – "My Witness"

DCAD Contacts

In the second half of 2010, members of the District Commission on Adult Discipleship (DCAD) will be contacting each pastor in the district. This effort is being made to help us determine how best we can assist each individual pastor and congregation in the area of adult spiritual growth. It will also help us better accommodate the district in general by offering seminars, workshops, or retreats that address needs shared by multiple congregations. Finally, touching base with each of the pastors will help us improve awareness within our district of available resources and how they are being used in a variety of settings.

Means of Grace Bible Study

If you are using the summer months to plan your Bible study curriculum, you may find it beneficial to plan on using "Christ's Love Demonstrated in the Efficacy of the Means of Grace," by Prof. John Brenner. The five-part study (available as a PDF at WELS Connect) serves as a companion to the essay he presented at last summer's Synod Convention. The Bible study could be used in a number of ways. It could stand alone, or, for those who may wish to offer something more in-depth, you might assign reading portions from the essay or past articles from the six-part series printed in the January – June 2010 issues of *Forward in Christ*.

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