

## MIKASO Chapter Consultant Teleconference Summary

June 13, 2011

Greetings and thanks to all who took the time to participate in the teleconference on June 13, 2011. Below is a summary of the Chapter Consultant Teleconference. There is updated information that was received after the teleconference so please review carefully. Contact information for the LET is at the end of the summary.

WHERE YOU SEE A BLUE UNDERLINED LINK, AND THIS SUMMARY IS OPEN ON YOUR COMPUTER, THE LINK WILL OPEN TO THE PAGE ON THRIVENT.COM or CONFERENCE RECORD WILL LOAD FOR YOU TO LISTEN. The links are there to expand on the information provided.

### Agenda Addition.

See Volunteer Leader Gathering item below.

### South Region Tornado Disaster Response

As you are aware, on April 27, 2011 a severe tornado outbreak occurred in MS, AL GA and TN. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has set up a nationwide disaster response. The steps for funds raised are as follows:

#### CHAPTER STEP BY STEP GUIDE FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE

- **Chapter approves fund raiser or appeal from a Thrivent service team (involving 6 or more households)**
- **Once project is finished. Funds are deposited into chapter checking account.**
- **The chapter then reports the fund raiser under REPORT LOCALLY SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES on your administration page**
- **Write a check from your chapter account, to one of the organizations (or divide by 2, 3, or 4 and send to all). The check's memo section should state 4/27 Southern Tornadoes. Then mail the check(s) to the provided addresses.**
- **Last and most important step-** Sends an email to [fraternal@thrivent.com](mailto:fraternal@thrivent.com) with the following information:
  - Subject line: 4/27/2011 Tornado Disaster Response
  - Chapter's name and number along with the date(s) of the activity and the amount of money the chapter sent to each of the organizations. This is the only way Thrivent knows to distribute the Thrivent dollars.
  - The fundraiser runs until August 1, 2011.

**The funds are only being supplemented by the e-mail that you send; the organizations will not be sending any reports to the home office. They may not know where all the checks are coming from.**

**Don't forget that you have bulletin inserts available to use. Sample attached.**

The three organizations to send the funds to are:

- [Lutheran Disaster Response](#)  
8765 West Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631
- [ELCA Disaster Response](#)  
39330 Treasury Center  
Chicago, IL 60694-9300
- [LCMS World Relief and Human Care](#)  
Attn: Disaster Relief  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861
- [WELS Christian Aid and Relief](#)  
2929 N Mayfair Rd,  
Milwaukee WI, 53222-4398

Please go to [www.thrivent.com/disaster](http://www.thrivent.com/disaster) and review the procedures for chapters to do fund raising which is shown there. Please see attached.

Additionally, we are working on a workday in five select areas that were hardest hit and people are underserved. Tentatively we are working with Lutheran Episcopal Services of Mississippi and Lutheran Ministries of AL. There are five areas we are looking at that appear to be underserved. They are Smithville, MS; Santuck-Eclectic, AL; Ringgold GA, and areas in the environs of central and north AL.

In Joplin area there was a large path of destruction. Peace Lutheran Church was destroyed as well as homes and businesses. The Financial Representative in RFO 410 – Kansas-Missouri are working to support those needing assistance. The first workday is on Jun19 and again on June 25. Contact the Lutheran Engagement Team for Kansas-Missouri whose names are at the end of the list. The generic bulletin insert is attached.

## **2011 Thrivent Builds Information**

**Opportunities for joining Thrivent Builds World Wide teams from KS, MO, & AR. For more information, please contact the following team leaders.**

**Mississippi Gulf Coast- Member cost \$175 plus travel and personal expenses, associate and non-members \$370**

Dennis Fuhrman - MO - MS Gulf Coast - Sep 26-Oct 1- 816-525-2343 or dennis.fuhrman@thrivent.com  
Karen Sterzik - AR - MS Gulf Coast - November 14-Nov 19 - 501-922-0465, sterzik@att.net

**EI Salvador - Thrivent benefit member coast \$604 plus air fare & \$10 EI Salvador airport fee, associate or non-members \$959**

Linda Hill - AR EI Salvador - Still accepting team members until August 1 - Trip date Sep 24-Oct 2- toll free: 877-807-9419

Jennifer Lance- Piemann - KS - EI Salvador October 1 - 913-485-1124, email: japeimann@yahoo.com  
Tom Mehl - MO - EI Salvador - October 22 - Oct 30 - tom.mehl@thrivent.com, 417-232-4800

**When a team of at least 10 members (at least 50% Thrivent benefit members) participate in this program, Thrivent provides an \$8000 donation to the local affiliate on behalf of the team. Join a team, have a wonderful experience, and help change lives.**

### **Homes update**

#### **384 South RFO**

Homes still under construction for 2011  
Pulaski AR/ Heartland AR Chapter  
All other homes completed

#### **410- KS MO RFO**

Homes still under construction for 2011  
St. Francois County (Farmington area) Riverview Chapter -  
Jefferson City (Capital MO Chapter) -  
Springfield (Central Green County)

## **Chapter Challenge**

Janell announced this on the teleconference. Below is the official announcement.

Word of mouth – it's the best way of finding high quality individuals interested in a career as a Thrivent Financial Representative. We need these individuals to help service current Thrivent members and grow the company. But..... we can't do it without you.

You know people in your church, community, neighborhood, at work –Centers of Influence –who can make introductions to others who would be willing to open more doors, possibly leading to a new Financial Representative. Because we know you know these great people, here is....

### **THE CHAPTER CHALLENGE**

By the end of August, the Chapter that provides the most referrals of Centers of Influence to their Lutheran Engagement Team (LET) member will receive an all member educational workshop & dinner – up to a \$1,000 value– to be presented by the end of 2011. We will provide the speaker and all materials. This will be in addition to the Chapter's annual dinner.

SO.....

E-mail, snail mail or call your LET member with you Center of Influence referrals. Make it part of your meeting agendas. You know people we want to know. Please help us find those quality individuals that have the characteristics you would like to have in a Financial Representative.

**\*\*Center of Influence:** These are people who know people, church leaders, community leaders, or those in certain businesses (real estate, banking, small business owners, finance, and entrepreneurs). Though not necessarily interested in a career change, they may know others who would be interested – or who can continue referring and getting the word out.

### Chapter Elections –recruit for 2012

Vice Presidents are in charge of elections and can start recruiting candidates now for 2012 Remember if a leader has been in their position for 4 years; they are no longer eligible to be a chapter leader. Also, positions might be open if someone wants to step down from their position early. Use your Centers of Influence to help identify potential volunteers. Have your congregational advocates begun talking to people in their congregation; maybe an advocate would like to join your leadership board! Start planning your election event early –if elections will be held at each congregation, start assigning tasks to volunteers. If your elections are going to be at one main event, you'll want to start planning that event now, too. Last year we had a Chapter Election contest – remember the Martin Luther festivals, the Oktoberfest dinners, the sock hops? If you want to make this year's elections something different, start making your plans now. Where will it be held, what will be the theme, what type of food will be provided. If you've never had a big turnout for elections, this could be your opportunity to make it something fun and different! Other recruiting information is available at the following links:

[https://www.thrivent.com/members/chip/election/Annual\\_elections.html](https://www.thrivent.com/members/chip/election/Annual_elections.html)

[https://www.thrivent.com/members/chip/election/Elections\\_nominating\\_committee.html](https://www.thrivent.com/members/chip/election/Elections_nominating_committee.html)

[https://www.thrivent.com/members/chip/election/Election\\_day\\_recognition\\_service.html](https://www.thrivent.com/members/chip/election/Election_day_recognition_service.html)

### Chapter Dashboard - Fraternal Chapter of Excellence Status

The dashboard is now updated through May 31, 2011.

The first quarter has ended and it is time to review your chapter plan. Did we do what we wanted in the first quarter? Are we on track or do we need to regroup, revise, and move ahead? Please take time and review, revise and implement.

### Register an Event/Find an Event for Your Chapter Events on Thrivent.com

If your chapter is holding an educational or social activity make sure you register or are sure the FR registers the activity.

A link to the [Find Events & Workshops](#) page – be sure your events are added.

Register an event at <https://service.thrivent.com/forms/events/faeny.php>

Find an event at <https://service.thrivent.com/forms/events/find.php>

It also makes it easy for members to find and sign up for them. That link is

<https://service.thrivent.com/forms/events/find.php>. I have attached a quick reference guide that provides step-by-step instructions on how to register an event.

### Director of Congregational Advocates and Congregational Advocates

You've done a great job finding passionate people to fill the Advocate role and we want to continue reaching out to members who want to form a team of Advocates for their congregation. Consider a wide variety of ages, interests, and talents: youth group leaders, fellowship group leaders, the senior groups, parents, etc. In order to expand this program and make a strong bond between Thrivent Financial, your chapter, and our members in congregations, up to eight (8) Advocates can form a team for a congregation. Work with your Director of Congregational Advocates to grow that relationship with each of your congregations. We have asked that the role description be revised to reflect way the congregational advocate can help the congregation and the financial representative as well as interface with the chapter. The South Region has 498 lead and congregational advocates but we need 223 lead advocates in those congregations without advocates. Kansas and Missouri now have 569 lead and congregational advocates, but we need 228 lead advocates in congregations without advocates.

### Congregational Advocate Training

All training resources for Directors of Congregational Advocates are moving online.

We want everyone watch the video webinar for the DCA at the Thrivent website. You can reach the webinar site by selecting [Thrivent Community](#) > [Chapters](#) > [Volunteer Leader...](#) > [For Chapter Leaders](#) > [Chapter Leader Roles](#)> scroll down to [Director of Congregational Advocates](#) and select the [webinar](#). Additionally, you can reach the site by the following link:

[https://www.thrivent.com/chapters/volunteer/chapterleader/leader\\_roles.html](https://www.thrivent.com/chapters/volunteer/chapterleader/leader_roles.html)

Congregational Advocate role description and tools have been simplified and can be found on the Thrivent website. These documents can be used for your upcoming training events. Please check the new Congregational Advocate description attached.

[Thrivent Community](#) > [Chapters](#) > [Volunteer Leader Resources](#) > [For Congregational Advocates](#)

<https://www.thrivent.com/chapters/volunteer/congregationalleader/news.html>

### **Capacity Growth - Recruiting Financial Representatives**

Recruiters Stacia DeWitt RFO 384 and Richard Heishman RFO 410 request that chapter leaders help identify people that would be good Financial Representatives. It may be someone who is looking for work or a change of work or a career change. Referrals are always welcome. Attached is a spreadsheet where Financial Representatives are needed in the South Region RFO 384 and also the Kansas and Missouri Region RFO 410. Help us find the person who will help Lutherans help Lutherans.

### **Senior Chapter Consultants**


We have put in place Senior Consultants that have responsibility to monitor and check in with chapter leaders on a monthly basis. These leaders have great knowledge of the chapter system and are here to help a group of chapters keep on track and if issues arise, forward them on to the Lutheran Engagement Team. These people are a great resource for you chapter, just as you are as consultants. If you are interested in being a Senior Consultant, please pass your information or if it is someone you think would be a good Senior Consultant please pass that on to the Lutheran Engagement Team.

### **Chapter Website Training – WEB SITE ADMINISTRATORS**

We received great instructions on May 12<sup>th</sup> from our Corporate contacts, Steph Djerf and Steve Hale, on how to edit your Lutherans Online chapter websites. If you missed the live meetings, a 59-minute recording is available through the following link

<https://www107.livemeeting.com/cc/thriventrooms/view?id=ChapterWebsiteTrng2&pw=1>

To view the recording:

1. Click on the link above (or copy the URL and paste it into your web browser).
2. On the View Recording page, enter your First and Last Name and click "**View Recording**."
3. On the View Recording Info screen, click on the  Icon next to 'Microsoft Office Live Meeting Replay' (under View Download Format).
4. A Security Alert window may appear. Click "**Yes**." *IMPORTANT: If a Media Bar Settings window appears asking: Do you want to play the item in Internet Explorer? Click "No."*
5. The Web presentation will play back in Windows Media Player.

### **All Member Events Communication Highlights.**

**Northwest Mo** chapter 3rd annual Mustang's game, Saturday, June 11, 2011, tailgate 5:00 p.m. game 7:00 p.m., fireworks after Phil Welch stadium, 2600 S.W. Parkway, St. Joseph, Mo 64503. Cody Vaughn or Marilyn Robinson 816-390-3055 or 816-233-9096 tickets, brats, hot dogs, buns and drinks will be provided. Please bring covered dish, or dessert, folding chairs for yourself. About 140 attended. Great way to get together and socialize.

**Northeast TN-Southwest GA** The churches in Chattanooga hosted the Perry County Chorale from Cape Girardeau, Mo. This was for a fundraiser for the National Tornado Disaster Response. The group raised over \$2000.00 with \$1000.00 in supplemental funds. 70 attendees enjoyed refreshments following the concert.

**Northeast TN-Southwest GA** Chapter is partnering with another chapter and will have a big crowd at the Chattanooga Outlook game.

**Southeast LA** On June 4, Bethel Lutheran Church held a community day give away where clothing was given away, band came in and played, mimes came and performed, over 40 children came and played and had a good time with no fights. A Jupiter Jump was available and then they had an ice cream party.

### **Volunteer Leader Gatherings**

As we begin to think about upcoming elections and what to include in a volunteer leader gathering, we want to hear from you when is the best time to hold and activity, who should come to the gathering and the type of format. Consultants on the call were asked for their opinion. Below is a summary of some of the comments follow:

- Format proposed is to begin on a Friday evening with dinner, an activity and on Saturday have discussions and selected training. The Friday evening dinner and social time is a great way to build relationships and of course this leaves a full day on Saturday for training.
- The newly elected leaders should come.
- Importantly, we want those who have a passion for the chapter whether they are in a leadership position or not who can assist the chapter leadership. Equip them to be great mentors and support the leadership.
- Educate the chapters on the role of the Senior Consultants
- Have passionate peers lead the training with guidance from the Lutheran Engagement Team.
- Provide more training for Advocates and clarify the role.
- Possible offer special training for Records Director and Financial Directors. Possibly teleconference with interactive processes.
- Want advanced networking sessions, advanced recruiting sessions

**Link to June 13<sup>th</sup> Teleconference:** To listen to our conference playback via the Internet or over the phone, refer to the following instructions:

#### **Playback via the Internet**

To listen to your conference playback via the Internet or over the phone, refer to the following instructions:

#### **Playback via the Internet**

1. Click on the link below or paste the entire URL into your browser:

<http://www2.eintercall.com/moderator/presentation/Playback?id=f78e72b6-5351-4690-945e-0b1cdef426ee.rpm>

2. At the prompt, enter your name and email address.

3. Click "Submit." The playback will begin.

#### **Playback by Phone**

1. To access the conference specified above, dial the phone number shown below according to your locale.  
US/Canada - 888-899-7904

2. At the prompt, enter the **Playback ID:** 115655164 followed by the pound sign (#).

3. The playback will begin.

The following keypad commands are available during the conference playback:

- 3 Fast forward 30 seconds
- 7 Rewind 30 seconds
- # Pause/Resume playback
- \* Exit playback

**Next teleconference will be July 11, 2011 at 7:00 PM CDT/8:00 PM EDT**

There were many good questions and I hope I have covered the essence of the discussions. Thank you for all you do! Jim

Check out the resources available at our Region Website: [www.lutheransonline.com/rfo384](http://www.lutheransonline.com/rfo384) or [410](http://www.lutheransonline.com/rfo410)

#### **Your Lutheran Engagement Team:**

Janell Spelbrink Manager of Lutheran Engagement (MLE), South Region & Kansas and Missouri Region (MIKASO); [janell.spelbrink@thrivent.com](mailto:janell.spelbrink@thrivent.com) **Office 423-702-5708 (Direct) or 507-363-4628 (Cell)**

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