

LUKE 10:2

*“Pray ye therefore
the Lord of the Harvest
that He would send
forth laborers into
His Harvest.”*



For more information or to share your church worker
recruitment ideas contact us at:

Concordia University System

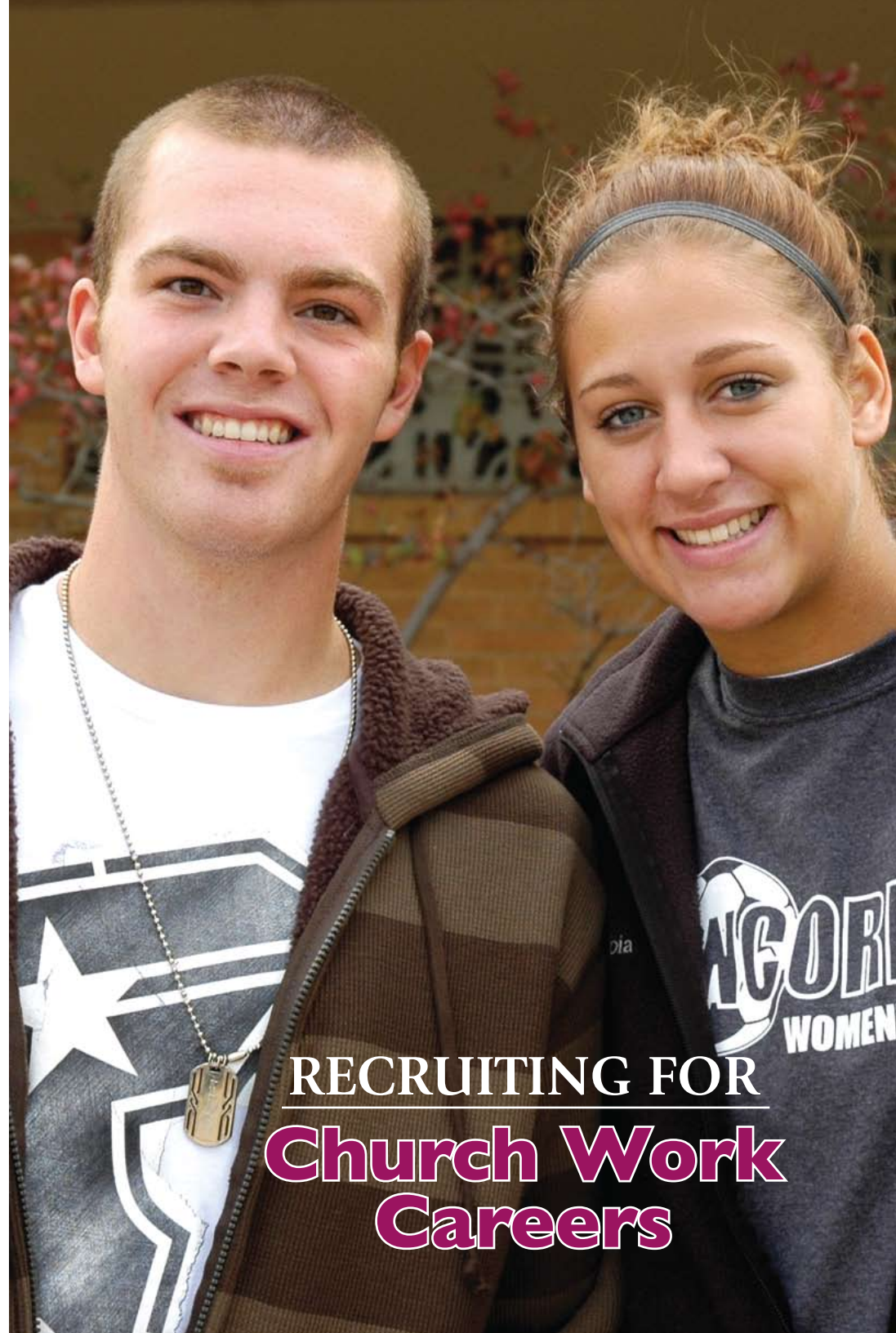
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RECRUITING FOR
**Church Work
Careers**

Congregation's Role

Support future and present church workers by:

■ Prayers

- Regularly include church work professionals in public prayers.
- Ask congregation members to include the name of a church work professional on his/her personal prayer list.
- Encourage members to pray for youth and adults to consider professional church work careers.

■ Financial and other support

- Include recognition of the service by church work professionals in a special church service. Consider hosting a special luncheon or other meal as a show of appreciation for their efforts.
- Designate the plate offering, coffee-hour or Sunday school offering to go toward the congregation's church work professional development fund.
- Encourage one or more church organizations to hold occasional fund raisers for the benefit of church worker scholarships for professional development.
- Establish an endowment to financially support students from your congregation who are preparing for church work professions.
- Form a Church Worker Recruitment Committee to organize and encourage recruitment efforts within the congregation.
- Help students attending non-Lutheran colleges make contact with campus pastors and nearby Lutheran churches.

■ Communication tools

- Establish a Career Center in your narthex or other prominent area including books, pamphlets, and videos that promote Christian vocations and service.
- Include reports of church work students and former members who have gone into church work in newsletters and bulletins.
- Designate a specific time each year to include "What A Way" curriculum into the day or Sunday school curriculum.

■ Presentations

- Invite the following individuals to speak for adult Bible class, youth group or confirmands:
 - * A team of church workers from an area congregation to relate their experiences as a team in ministry.
 - * A church work professional to share his/her story of making the decision to become a church professional and the implications for their life.

■ Opportunities for active involvement in the life of the church

- Offer opportunities for both youth and second career individuals who are considering church vocations to actively participate in the activities of the church.
- Support a congregation youth group. Contact the LCMS Youth Ministry department for help to organize and energize a youth group (1-800-248-1930, ext. 1155).
- Encourage youth to attend district/national LCMS youth gatherings.
- Hold one-on-one conversations with individuals who have the disposition for vocation as a church worker.
- Develop opportunities for participation in servant events in the community, nationally and/or internationally.

Church Worker Recruitment



Concordia University System's Role

The Board for University Education is very aware of the growing need in our churches and schools for professional church workers . . . men and women who are specially equipped to share the Gospel message. In its work with the colleges and universities of the LCMS, the Board uses opportunities to reach out and give encouragement to those considering or pursuing a career in the church, as well as to provide information to congregations and individuals about the various church careers and how to prepare for them.

- The Concordia University System newsletter, the *Concordia Chronicle*, frequently contains articles concerning church work careers and the need for workers within the church, as well as statistics on how well the System is doing in its part of filling that need. The *Chronicle* is included as a REPORTER insert three times a year.
- A number of endowment funds have been established by donors and are managed by the Board for University Education, with proceeds dedicated to church work recruitment or aiding students in church worker programs.
- A mailer, listing brochures to order, is sent to your congregation each January to encourage you to celebrate Concordia Sunday. An informational Web site (www.lcms.org/universities), describes the various church work careers and offers suggestions regarding recruitment techniques. Brochures are available for downloading and printing from this site, or can be ordered by calling 1-800-248-1930, ext. 1252.
- Recruitment pieces are mailed annually to 17,000 LCMS eighth graders.
- Lutheran College Fairs are held annually in several locations across the nation. Check out this Web site, www.lutherancolleges.org, for a current schedule and to learn more about the value of an education at a Lutheran college or university.
- "For the Sake of the Church" is a 12-year program that aims to double the number of LCMS students on CUS campuses and establish a \$400 million endowment to support their education. The campaign's endowment fund has reached \$184 million as of July 2008, and nearly 2,300 CUS students have chosen church work to share the Good News of the Gospel. For more information on FTSOTC, visit our Web site, www.lcms.org/sake, or call 1-800-248-1930, ext. 1252.
- "What a Way" is an initiative designed to support current workers and encourage others to consider church vocations. Among the available resources are curriculum materials for kindergarten through eighth grade students and resources to help congregations host a "Recruitment Sunday" or "Concordia Sunday." The Web site is www.whataway.org or call 1-800-248-1930, ext. 1254.

