

**The 124<sup>th</sup> MWC Ministry Celebration** was held in Lindsborg, KS, April 23-24, 2010, at the Evangelical Covenant Church. There were 122 delegates along with many guests. Events began Thursday evening for those involved with Women Ministries. The Ministerial Association met Friday followed by an afternoon workshop sponsored by the MWC.

Participants gathered at the Smoky Valley Auditorium in Lindsborg Friday evening and enjoyed group hymn singing and music by the adult and children's choirs from the Lindsborg church. A wonderful evening with Bob Stromberg was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone!

The meeting Saturday focused on the theme **"Looking Back, Pressing Forward"** emphasizing that looking back gives reason for praise and trust; and provides insights into the passionate faith and ministry priorities the pioneers of the conference had that have helped bring the conference to where it is today. **Photo gallery and "Highlights" can be viewed at: [www.midwestcovenant.org](http://www.midwestcovenant.org)**

**Mark your calendars now for April 15-16\*, 2011, when the 125<sup>th</sup> Ministry Celebration of the Midwest Conference will be held at First Covenant Church in Omaha, NE.** As a participant at these meetings, you will find that the traditional "business" meeting is no longer just a meeting! Time together is spent hearing personal witness of how ministry in your conference is truly sharing the gospel of Christ. You'll hear how God is working in personal lives and in churches. President of the Covenant, Gary Walter, will be with us, we'll say farewell to our conference superintendent and wife, Ken and Nancy Carlson, and participate in the election of the next conference superintendent. See you in 2011.

Ministry brochures, which replace the report books from past meetings, were distributed to delegates and sent to conference churches. Please make sure your church has opportunity to distribute these booklets which will help your congregation see that **we are in ministry together**—we can do so much more in building up God's Kingdom together than we can do alone!

**\*The original date of the meeting has been moved to April 15-16, 2011, due to a conflict in the Omaha area which greatly affected the cost of motels and flights. We appreciate your understanding.**



**June 2010**

**Conference Pastor Reflects on Trip to Haiti**

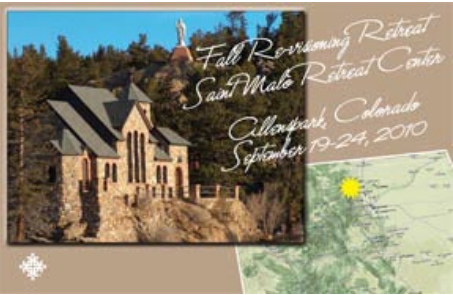


Dick Nystrom, interim pastor at Decorah Covenant Church in Iowa, arrived in Haiti April 10, three months after the earthquake that killed an estimated 230,000 people. He went to Haiti as part of a team sponsored by the organization World Wide Village. His role was to assist in whatever way he could. Says Dick, "I stepped off the plane into sweltering heat and climbed into a battered pickup that took our group to Leogane, a community at the epicenter of the quake. We passed the flattened Presidential Palace, the crumbled Catholic Cathedral, and campgrounds full of people living in tents and under tarps, the devastation was staggering. I saw firsthand the injuries that people were recovering from

and the terrible conditions they now live in. **The problems of Haiti are immense but the people of Haiti appear to be up to the challenge, considering the strength of their faith.** I found such evidence one afternoon as I stood in front of the place where 500 children and their teachers died when their school and church collapsed. I was a bit dazed by the thought of it all but surprised when I heard children singing and discovered on the far side of the rubble, a choir practicing for Sunday worship. My prayer is that we will keep the Haitians on our hearts and minds...and be open to whatever the Lord calls upon us to do."

**Fall Re-visioning Retreat in Midwest Conference!**

The **Fall 2010 Re-visioning Retreat** will be held **September 19-24, 2010**, at Saint Malo Retreat Center, near Allenspark, CO. The application deadline to attend this retreat is **August 6, 2010**. *Applications for the 10 available retreat spots are considered in the order in which they are received. Early application is encouraged.* Visit the Covenant website: [www.covchurch.org/spe/constancy](http://www.covchurch.org/spe/constancy)



- Full-time Pastors new to MWC since 4-1-10**
- Paul Austin, Director of Worship Ministries, First Covenant, Salina, KS
  - Craig Kubiszewski, Associate Pastor, Colorado Ridge, Westminster, CO
  - Frank Moyer, Associate Pastor, Alert Covenant, Leonardville, KS

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