

March 2011

KINDLE LIFE

Connecting, Equipping and Engaging

Celebrating 10 Years



Developing
Servant Leaders

Hope Lutheran Church in Wake Forest, North Carolina, is a young, vibrant, growing congregation established in 1996. The average weekend worship attendance is over 600 and a new worship facility was dedicated in the Fall of 2010.



Krista and her Implementation Team design their servant leader development path process during the October visit.

being servant leaders and to infuse a habit of servant leader replication within the Associate's specific ministry areas.

As the result of an October 22-23, 2010 onsite visit, Hope's Servant Leader Development Implementation Team created the following overarching goal for its youth ministry efforts: **"Through connecting, equipping and engaging, Servant Leaders will grow and develop through a faith relationship with God, in order to lead and mentor the youth in our community."** The graphic to the right pictures the servant leader development process Hope is following.

Hope's first connection with KINDLE came when its Director of Christian Education, Krista Young, enrolled in the 2009 Classic KINDLE Learning Cycle.

The congregation's second contact with KINDLE began last April when it entered Classic KINDLE Next Steps. Krista was excited to pursue this KINDLE initiative as a way to assess and strengthen the servant leader culture in Hope congregation.

A key ingredient in this 15-18 month process is the individual coaching that she receives. It is designed to improve congregational vitality through a simple, straightforward plan of engaging parish leaders in deepening their understanding of and commitment to



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"Hope Lutheran Church will benefit from our experiences with KINDLE Next Steps as we see passionate servant leaders engaging and equipping youth who will impact our congregation and community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ." — Krista Young

Dr. Jack Giles serves as Catalyst Team Leader at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lisle, Illinois.

**"For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you"
2 Timothy 1:6**



Second 2011 Classic KINDLE Learning Event

Four clusters of congregational church workers have been meeting online weekly since October 2010. Desiring to grow as servant leaders, they have encouraged, prayed for, studied together, coached, and listened to one another during their chats.



The Classic KINDLE group gathers for a photo after the Chicago snowstorm.

Then, for four glorious and snowy Chicago days in February, these KINDLE Associates were reunited for a second Classic KINDLE Learning Event. Highlights included daily morning, midday, and evening worship, great fellowship, and quiet time listening to God's voice. Learning modules focusing on the leader's life plan, stewarding of self, coaching skills, and working through challenges of being a Christ-like servant leader filled the week!

Now the 19 are back in their congregations implementing what they learned during a Chicago blizzard.

Lay Leaders Learn Leadership of Group Practices

KINDLE Servant Leader Workshops have received great reviews from those who have attended! Here are what a few lay attendees have said:

"The KINDLE Servant Leader Workshop helped me identify both strengths and weaknesses in my leadership skills. The weaknesses were addressed in a positive, non-threatening way and I was surprised to find that I had strengths in "Nurture Collaboration," an area I had formerly considered a weakness!"

— Bill Talty, St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN

"I have used what I learned at the Servant Leader Workshop in my daily life! I am a supervisor and when I have to work through a situation with my workers I find myself taking a step back, thinking through the situation, and then addressing it more calmly." — Paul Lewis, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Rochester, MN

The Servant Leader Workshop is a very affordable, high quality way to strengthen lay people committed to leading others. If there are currently no Workshops planned for your area, please email Diane Schuessler, kindle@kindledce.org and let her know about your interest in having this powerful resource offered near you.

Up-coming workshops include:

March 12, 2011 at Faith Lutheran, Topeka, KS

April 9, 2011 at Trinity Lutheran, Bloomington, IL

Time to Register for Three More 2011 KINDLE Learning Events

Initiative	Dates	Location	Cost	Register By
• KINDLE Associate-Grace Place Learning Event	July 18-22	Trego, WI	\$400 couple/\$250 single	June 1
• 2012 Classic KINDLE (1st of 3 learning events)	Sept 19-22	Mundelein, IL	\$2,400	May 2
• KINDLE for Recent Graduates	Sept 19-22	Mundelein, IL	\$400	May 2

Check the KINDLE website - kindleservantleaders.org - for more information and application forms.

Why not take the opportunity to ...

- **Order a copy of *Kindling the Heart of the Servant Leader* for congregational lay leaders?** Sales of this devotional resource continue to be strong; Order from strobickan.com. Cost is \$8.50.
- **Listen to Rick Herman, Current President of Wheat Ridge Ministries?** Rick is the fourth "Voice of Affirmation," congratulating KINDLE on its 10th anniversary. In 2000, Wheat Ridge was the first organization to affirm KINDLE's mission and support it with a generous grant.
- **Read Sue Steege's servant leader blog at kindleservantleaders.org?** Pithy and succinct, Sue brings KINDLE's 20 servant leader practices of a servant leader alive in an encouraging and realistic manner.
- **Boost KINDLE's Annual Fund?** This fund provides monies to underwrite the everyday, ongoing expenses of KINDLE. Thank goodness for the many people who simply say, "Use my gift as you wish," or "I want to support KINDLE's Annual Fund."

A Grand Gesture by a DCE and His Congregation



In early January, Michael Harvey, DCE at Redeemer Lutheran in Rochester, Minnesota, and a 2006 KINDLE Associate, sent KINDLE two checks. The first check, for \$100, represented Michael's honorarium for chairing a Servant Leader Workshop event in the Twin Cities on November 13, 2010. Here's what his letter conveyed: "\$100 is a rather significant amount for a seven-person, single income household. While this honorarium is appreciated and could be used in many ways, I can see no better way than to put it to work within KINDLE. KINDLE has truly rekindled my ministry!"

The second check, for \$858.64, represented a tithe of the offerings from Redeemer's Christmas services. As Michael indicated, "Redeemer takes several opportunities a year to support ministries outside of our immediate congregation with our offerings. I brought up KINDLE as a worthy and powerful ministry to support, and the Stewardship Board agreed. This should be an annual opportunity for Redeemer to lift up KINDLE's goal to multiply servant leaders."

Momentous KINDLE Board of Directors Meeting

On February 16-17, 2011, the KINDLE Board interviewed a person who it then asked to serve as its part-time Executive Director. All involved were very excited by the many gifts that this individual could bring to the gift-raising efforts of KINDLE. A decision is due March 4, 2011. Also, under the leadership of DCE Dave Rahberg, the Board:

1. Rejoiced that Les Schmidt, Elvin Harms Jr. and Keith Loomans indicated a willingness to continue serving on KINDLE's Board of Directors;
2. Received the news of a sizable gift to KINDLE from an organization affiliated with Lutheran Mutual Fire Insurance Company; and
3. Continued its search for a new Treasurer.

Any questions regarding Board activity, please contact Dave at dave.rahberg@princeofpeace.org.



\$50,000 Anniversary Thank Offering Goal Surpassed!

YES! Thanks to the wonderful giving of many people, over \$52,185 dollars have been received for KINDLE's 10th Anniversary Thank Offering ... **and guess what!** There is still time to express your gratitude for God's work through KINDLE during these past 10 years. Your gifts are helping KINDLE strengthen its endowment, enhance its program initiatives, and focus the efforts of its executive leadership. If you haven't already, please consider using the enclosed envelope.

How About Contributing Your Thrivent "Choice Dollars" to KINDLE?

The race is on among organizations to gather "Choice Dollars" from its donors. If you have been given Thrivent Choice Dollars, we would welcome your doing the following:

1. Log into the Thrivent website at thrivent.com.
2. On the opening page, look for "Thrivent Choice" under the heading Thrivent Community.
3. Look for "How Do I Direct my Designated Choice Dollars?" and press "Get Started."
4. Type in KINDLE after Organization;
5. Type in Woodbury, Minnesota (MN) for city and state;
6. Select "Other Lutheran Organization;"
7. This should get you to a page with KINDLE information and a "Direct Now" link.

Many, many thanks for including KINDLE in your discretionary giving!



KINDLE'S Mission:
***"To enhance the church
 by fostering and multiplying
 servant leaders"***

How to contact KINDLE:
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Please Pray For:

KINDLE's 10th Anniversary Year (April 28, 2010-April 27, 2011)

March 12, 2011	4th KINDLE Servant Leader Workshop, Faith Lutheran, Topeka, Kansas
April 9, 2011	5th KINDLE Servant Leader Workshop, Trinity Lutheran, Bloomington, Illinois
April 11, 2011	Those making a final gift to the 10th Anniversary \$50,000 Thank Offering
April 15, 2011	Those planning to attend or still considering 2012 Classic KINDLE (Deadline: May 2)
April 22, 2011	Those planning to attend or still considering KINDLE for Recent Graduates (Deadline: May 2)
April 27, 2011	That the KINDLE 10th Anniversary celebration concludes joyfully, hopefully, gratefully
May 15, 2011	Those planning to attend or still considering KINDLE Associate-Grace Place Learning Event (Early Registration Deadline: June 1)
May 31-June 2, 2011	KINDLE Board of Directors Meeting, Mundelein, Illinois
July 18-22, 2011	KINDLE Associate-Grace Place Learning Event, Trego, Wisconsin
August 15-18, 2011	2011 Classic KINDLE Learning Event #3, Mundelein, Illinois
September 19-22, 2011	2012 Classic KINDLE Learning Event #1, Mundelein, Illinois
September 19-22, 2011	KINDLE for Recent Graduates, Mundelein, Illinois