

the GatePost

"I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved" John 10:9

Newsletter of the Central Illinois District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

2022: Issue 2



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Making Disciples for Life 

The 60th Regular Convention of the CID

July 17-19, 2022

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, IL

The 60th Convention of the Central Illinois District (CID) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and the 9th Convention of the CID Church Extension Fund, Inc. will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Illinois, on July 17-19, 2022. **Registration** for the convention and business sessions will be held at the Crowne Plaza from **3:00pm to 6:00pm on Sunday, July 17th**, and beginning at **7:00am on Monday, July 18th**.

All **nonvoting ordained and commissioned ministers** who are members of the Synod within the District shall serve as **advisory delegates**. They are entitled to voice and vote on a floor committee, if appointed, and to speaking privileges at the convention. All advisory members are expected to attend all sessions of the convention.

Guests, exhibitors, and others are welcome to attend, but are also to present themselves to the credentials committee at the registration desk for identification purposes.

Registration Fees

Each voting delegate will be assessed a fee of \$135 to cover convention costs and two meals on Monday. **Since June 1st, voting delegate registration is now \$185.** *Nonvoting ordained and commissioned ministers* who are actively serving and attending the convention will be assessed a fee of \$40 which does not include meals. If meals are desired add \$80 (\$35 for lunch and \$45 for dinner). For *emeritus ordained and commissioned ministers, guests, and exhibitors* there is no charge for registration, but the \$80 meal charge applies if meals are desired and at least one week notice of your attendance must be given before the convention convenes. Exhibitor space is available for \$50 per table desired. If an electrical connection is desired, an additional \$40 is required. Exhibitors will be assigned tables and a layout will be available so conventioners will know where each exhibitor is located.

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REMINDER:

The Convention Workbook is available online at www.cidlcms.org and each delegate is responsible for printing off their copy and bringing it to the Convention.

The 60th Regular Convention of the CID

"In Christ... Newness of Life"

Romans 6:3-4

2 Corinthians 5:17

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Hotel Information

Everyone is to make their own reservation with the hotels. Room rates which include 1 or 2 persons at the Crowne Plaza is \$119 (does not include breakfast) and at the Holiday Inn Express \$119 (which includes a continental breakfast). When you contact the hotels for reservation, tell them you are with the **Central Illinois District Convention/CID** to receive our special rates. If you have any difficulties, contact the District Office.

Crowne Plaza

3000 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 585-2830

Holiday Inn Express

3050 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 585-2830

Directions

From Interstate 55 take Exit #94 (Stevenson Drive) and travel west to Dirksen Parkway. Turn right (north) and travel a short distance to the hotels located on your right (East).

Schedule

The convention will start with an opening communion service on Sunday, July 17th, at 7:00pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, Springfield (220 South Second Street). Monday morning, July 18th, the sessions begin at 8:00am at the Crowne Plaza and will continue until 9:30pm. The only scheduled breaks are for lunch and dinner. **Bathroom and coffee breaks are on your own.** It is not good stewardship to have everyone heading to those areas at the same time. Our meals will be next door to our convention meeting area. Tuesday, July 19th, the sessions again begin at 8:00am and continue until 12 noon, if necessary. You will be on your own for Tuesday lunch.

Seating

There will be sufficient seating for all delegates in the delegate section. All voting delegates are asked to sit in the designated area. Advisory members and guests will sit in the areas to either side of the Voting Delegates.

Nominees for District President

The following three pastors have received sufficient nominations and have agreed to serve as District President should he be elected at the upcoming Central Illinois District (CID) Convention to be held in Springfield on July 17-19, 2022.

Rev. Karl F. Eckhoff

Biographical information:

A son of The Central Illinois District, I was born in Beardstown, baptized at St. John, Beardstown, and raised in Chatham, IL where the family joined St. John Lutheran, Chatham. As a youth I was active in OAFB and worked at Camp CILCA in various roles including Head Counselor and Program Director. I did my undergraduate work at Concordia, St. Paul, and Christ College, Irvine. From Irvine, I went on to attend Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, where I gained a Masters of Divinity in 1990. My first call was to St. Peter (Bell) Lutheran Church, Waterville, MN, and Bethlehem Lutheran, Elysian, MN, where I served as pastor until 1998. In the spring of that year I took a call to Zion Lutheran Church in Paulina, IA. I was pastor there until 2005 when I answered the call to be the pastor of Christ Lutheran in Peoria, IL. I also now serve as a part-time chaplain at The Lutheran Hillside Village. In these various callings I've had the opportunity to work in multiple parish and single parish settings in both rural and urban communities. I've had the privilege to work

with two Lutheran Schools alongside a number of gifted principals. I've assisted several Lutheran Camps and had the opportunity to serve on a number of district boards and committees. Most recently I've served as Chairman of the Board at Camp CILCA and as a member of CID's Endowment Committee.

My wife, Judy, has been my loving partner and supporter in this adventure since 1983. God has blessed us with four children along the way; seven grandchildren with an eighth on the way; and many friends and loved ones.

What I believe the District President's relationship is to District congregations and schools.

In His letter to the church at Ephesus, Paul reminds The Church that Christ gives *"the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,"* (Ephesians 4:11-12 ESV). District Presidents aren't specifically listed there, but they clearly do continue to shepherd and teach, as a pastor would in a parish. In this case, it's a

The 60th Regular Convention of the CID

much broader flock that contains many congregations and people. Like a pastor they provide oversight, needed correction; but also encouragement to congregations and those who have been called to serve them - Pastors, Teachers, Principals, Directors of Christian Education and Evangelism, Deaconesses, etc. As much as possible then, the District President visits or sends representatives to listen to needs, provide resources and set a vision for mission opportunities that might require the district's help or the combined efforts of others.

Rev. Mark Eddy

Biographical information:

I was born from above by water and the Spirit at five weeks in Walther Memorial Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, WI. I attended two Missouri Synod churches and parochial grade schools. My father's death when I was 8, my mother's re-marriage, and my second father's adopting me made me concerned about eternal salvation, and led me to deal with traditions and relationships in light of God's Word. Since 1969 the pastor who catechized me also made us aware of the divisions in our Synod, and taught us to rely on "Scripture alone." I attended one year of Lutheran High School, before graduating from a public high school and spending two years in the music school at Northwestern University. I finished the pre-seminary program at Concordia, Ann Arbor (1979), and graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN, in 1983. I married Nancy in 1981 and helped her home-school our 6 children. I learned a lot on vicarage and in my first parishes about dealing biblically with personal, cultural, and theological differences, and I learned the Bible best by translating it from the original languages. I started STM studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, finishing at Fort Wayne in 1993.

What I believe the District President's relationship is to District congregations and schools.

God's Word commands every Christian to love God above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves. The District president deals with everyone in the District as his neighbors, members of the household of faith, people for whom Christ died, and fellow-members of Christ's Body, the Church. The District president is assigned by the Synod and District constitution and bylaws to provide specific oversight functions for the congregations and their called workers. A District President should not involve himself in the workings of congregations or schools without being notified by them or their workers that they want his counsel and aid. If congregations and their pastors are working together according to God's word in Christian love, the District president will have little to do for them, until there is a vacancy or Satan attacks. In those cases he helps the congregation call new servants and helps resolve problems according to Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions.

Personal visitation and interaction with the called workers and congregations of the District helps the president to get to know the needs of those whom he serves.

Rev. Michael Mohr

Biographical information:

Rev. Michael Mohr has served in the Central Illinois District since his graduation from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1998. He served as pastor of Grace, Strasburg, 1998-2018 and Holy Cross, Vandalia, 2018-present. He has also spent all but the first year of his ministry serving the district at large, helping plan district pastors conferences, organizing an annual district wide social event (CID Day at the Ballpark), and two terms each as Circuit Counselor, Assistant Secretary, and Secretary of the District. Rev. Mohr just completed service to our LWML-CID as District Pastoral Counselor. In November of 2021, he was appointed to complete the term of Rev. Rick Milas as Eastern Regional Vice President.

What I believe the District President's relationship is to District congregations and schools.

We are called as God's people to walk together in our confession of His unchanging truth. In this life together, we comfort one another with the soothing balm of His grace through His Word proclaimed and His sacraments rightly administered. We teach our children His Word when we rise and when we lie down, as we walk along the way and as we rest. Some of these things are impossible to do on our own; others are more efficiently accomplished when we gather together, so our Lord gathers us into congregations.

But there are some things even congregations are not as well suited to accomplish individually, so we have gathered together as a Synod. The Central Illinois District, as Synod in this place, is able to pool resources to assist congregations and schools, pastors and teachers, in the task of equipping the saints, preparing every believer to give an answer and bear witness of the hope that is ours in Christ Jesus. This most commonly occurs in training resources and workshops that are available, but also includes counsel and supervision regarding good and godly practices to make that good confession, especially in a world hostile to the Word of God. District also assists congregations in helping train (at the broader, Synodical level) and match pastors, teachers, and other commissioned workers to avenues of service in our congregations and schools. Finally, the district coordinates efforts and resources of all the congregations collectively in establishing new congregations and mission starts and supporting work among specialized populations, such as those in prison, those displaced from their home congregations as they attend college or university, those in a Hispanic cultural community, or those of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community.

RAMSEY+ Results



This summer, 16 CID churches are wrapping up a year of access to a suite of financial education and tracking tools that the District was able to give them, thanks to a generous grant from Church Extension Fund. These tools, all from the Dave Ramsey organization (known best for “Financial Peace University”), come in a bundle called “Ramsey Plus.”

Here’s how Ramsey Plus has gone for one congregation, the Lutheran Church of St. John in Quincy. Their answers to *The GatePost’s* questions below have been edited a bit for space.

Q: What were you expecting when your church started with Ramsey Plus?

A: The Ramsey Plus course offerings of Financial Peace University (FPU), Smart Money-Smart Kids, and The Legacy Journey appeared to address a number of decades along life’s journey. We expected FPU to help people learn biblical principles of the earning years: getting and staying out of debt, building an emergency fund, paying off their mortgage early, saving for their children’s college years, and building wealth for retirement. Smart Money-Smart Kids would help parents teach their children about managing money based on those same principles. The Legacy Journey would provide the basis for leaving a legacy of financial peace for future generations, to include charitable giving as God promised to bless in Malachi.

Q: What was the best thing about your church’s year of access with Ramsey Plus?

A: We were able to truly change the lives of the households attending FPU and Smart Money-Smart Kids. We had families who are now on their journey to financial freedom in ways they never thought possible. We have seen those families able to reduce their household debt significantly in just a few months. They are seeing what it means to have financial peace, many for the first time in their adult lives!

Q: What challenges did Ramsey Plus present you?

A: The biggest challenge was getting people to agree to attend the courses. We tried many different ways to publicize the courses to get greater participation. It was disappointing to have so few households willing to commit to attend training. We know they urgently need to learn and live these Biblical principles, for their own well-being and the well-being of their families. If we could just get them to understand that they are living a “generational curse” of financial bondage, and passing that along to their children and grandchildren!

Q: What would you like other CID churches to know about Ramsey Plus, or about their possibly getting involved in it?

A: We are very pleased with the quality of the Ramsey Plus videos and materials! For the households who attended, we received heartwarming stories about the changes they have seen in their marriages and lives from following godly principles of financial management. We were so pleased with the feedback from our first FPU course that we took advantage of a special discount from Ramsey Plus and extended our congregational subscription by two years. The extension gave us an unlimited number of household accounts. We have extended the course offerings and free accounts to the community and have had people who did not attend our church take the courses. In one case, a family of five has been attending our church since the parents enrolled in Smart Money Smart Kids. They are now attending FPU and are pursuing Church membership. What a blessing!!

For more information, contact Stewardship Executive Ken Schurb, kschurb@cidlcms.org



Trinity Lutheran Church

1201 West Jackson St., Auburn, IL 62615

Saturday, July 23, 2022
9am to 5pm

Registration begins at 8:30am

Register online at

http://www.lcms-lerc.org/need/detail/?need_id=701238

You must have previously completed the LERT basic training class to participate in this class.

LERT Chainsaw Training

The training will consist of 4 hours of instructional-based (Classroom Portion) and 4 hours of operational-based (Hands-On Portion). Volunteers should be between the ages of 18 and 85. The cost of the training is \$35.00. Lunch will be provided.

All participants will need to bring the following items: Helmet, ear protection, eye protection, chaps, gloves, steel toed boots, chainsaw, chain-bar oil, and fuel. If members do not have these items, they will be provided to you at the time of training. During the training, you will learn the following:

- safe operation of a chainsaw
- personal protective equipment (PPE)
- injury prevention
- physics of cutting trees
- how to buck and limb fallen trees
- how to clear debris in a safe and beneficial manner

Bring your LERT disaster response vest and your LERT I.D. certification badge.

If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact Stephen Born at (217) 220-0162 or email bornstephen@yahoo.com.

Myth or Faith? Audio Available

Finding fresh ways to present timeless truths was a passion for Dr. Donald Deffner. Some years ago, he wrote a set of adult catechetical materials for Concordia Publishing House titled *Myth or Faith?* What he did was to lay out the content of the Christian faith as participants use Scripture to evaluate various popular myths — e.g., that Christians become angels after they die.

The *Myth or Faith?* materials themselves are out of print. However, participants in adult catechism study can still derive benefit by listening to *Issues, etc.* interviews that Ken Schurb did based on those materials.

CID's website now provides you access to 70 audio shorts, each dealing with a separate myth. Generally, each audio segment lasts between 5 and 10 minutes. You can listen by clicking on the one(s) you want.

Concordia Publishing House has graciously granted permission for this use of Dr. Deffner's copyrighted CPH course. We also thank Lutheran Public Radio for use of the audio.



Who might listen to this audio?

People engaged in catechetical study

Those wanting to review the basics of the faith

Those who find themselves curious about one or two of the myths

Friends of yours with whom you wish to share

Find the *Myth or Faith?* audio at <http://www.cidlcms.org/myth-or-faith.html>

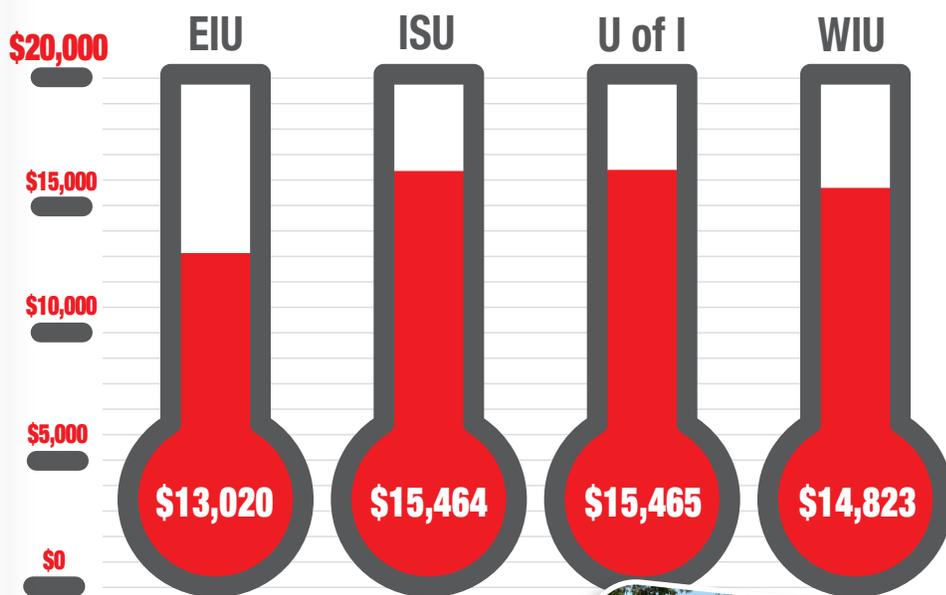


Keeping Christ on *Campus*

Help us raise \$20,000 for each of four funds to support campus ministry at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston (EIU); Illinois State University, Normal (ISU); University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (U of I); and Western Illinois University, Macomb (WIU).

Donations* will continue to be accepted and will be matched 100% through July 1, 2022!

Total raised as of February 1, 2022.



Act Now to Give a Matched Gift

Keeping Christ on Campus means, in part, supporting campus ministries. You have a unique opportunity to do just that, but you need to act quickly.

Every one of the four endowment funds that support CID campus ministries has room to grow. Gifts made to any of them by *July 1, 2022* will be matched, dollar-for-dollar up to a total of \$20,000, by Lutheran Legacy Foundation of Paris, Illinois.

Earnings on these four funds help the District continue its support of ministry to the students, faculty, and staff at U. of I., ISU, EIU, and WIU. Examine the “thermometers” to see where contributions to each fund stood as of February 1.

It's all part of *keeping Christ on campus!*

For more information:

See the CID Website: <http://www.cidlcms.org/outreach-missions-campus.html>

Contact Ken Schurb at the District office: (217) 793-1802 or e-mail kschurb@cidlcms.org

To donate: <https://www.lutheranlegacyfoundation.org/fund/central-illinois-district-campus-ministry>

* Donations up to \$20,000 will be matched.



There is another way for you to support campus ministry, too. Send us the on-campus and/or home contact information on students from your church who attend the above-mentioned universities, or any other. CID will make referrals to LCMS U chapters throughout the country.

Send students' names, mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and/or telephone numbers to kschurb@cidlcms.org

Introducing our Interns

In the summer of 2022, CID is pleased to have two summer Evangelism interns from Concordia University System schools in our midst. Both have just completed their junior years as undergraduates, and both are daughters of LCMS pastors.

Their internships run for eight weeks. Each intern will serve one church for four weeks, then another for the next four weeks. The focus of their work will be on gaining practical experience in evangelism. Depending on the needs of the congregations, they will not only engage in telling the Good News about Jesus but also teaching about it and helping to organize for it.

Mikayla Kennaugh, from Batavia, Illinois, is a junior at Concordia University Wisconsin studying in the Director of Church Ministries program (in the past, variously called “Lay Ministry” or “Lutheran Lay Training Institute”). Her specialty is youth ministry. She will serve at Concordia Lutheran Church, Springfield and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Sherman.

Rebekah Whitmore is from Columbus, Indiana. She is a Deaconess student at Concordia University Chicago. Rebekah attended high school in Concordia, Missouri, at Saint Paul



Introducing CID's two summer Evangelism interns, Rebekah Whitmore (left) and Mikayla Kennaugh (right).

Lutheran High School, the only boarding high school in the Missouri Synod. She will serve at Trinity Lutheran Church and Our Savior Lutheran Church, both in Springfield.

We are thrilled to have these two interns with us in person this year. Our only previous Evangelism intern served in the summer of 2020, not long after the pandemic began. He ended up with a “virtual” internship, working remotely from his home in Rock Island to serve churches in the Springfield area. Mika and Rebekah’s on-site presence this summer will be better still! Rebekah will also be lending a hand at the District convention, which will take place right after the internships end.

These summer Evangelism internships have been made possible by a generous grant from central Illinois LWML. Please remember Mika and Rebekah and their work in your prayers.



CID is on Facebook, Instagram AND YouTube

Come find us @cidlms! Our pages are filled with prayer and encouragement for you to share with those around you. Join us to keep up to date on District happenings and learn about new and exciting things coming soon!

Sign-up now at
www.cidlcms.org
 to get
The GatePost and
News You Can Use
 emailed to you.



1850 North Grand Avenue West
 Springfield, IL 62702-1626

The GatePost for The Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is a supplement to congregational newsletters.

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in all things

JULY 9-13, 2022

LCMS YOUTH GATHERING

Ways to Connect

LCMS Youth Ministry Facebook Group

Lots of Gathering related content and collaboration, but all thing youth ministry too!

facebook.com/LCMSyouth

End Goals: LCMS Youth Ministry Podcast

All things youth ministry and some great episodes on the Gathering!

www.kfuo.org/category/lcms-youth-ministry-end-goals/

LCMS Youth Gathering Social Media Links

facebook.com/lcmsgathering

instagram.com/lcmsgathering

twitter.com/lcmsgathering

District Event

We are excited to be partnering with Northern Illinois and Southern Illinois for an All-Illinois District Event this year at the Gathering. This will take place on July 11 and there will be two opportunities to attend!

It will be held at “The Truck Yard” located just a few block behind the convention center where we will have great meal options from local food vendors, music, over-sized games, prize give-aways, a visit from Concordia Chicago, and the opportunity to ride a ferris wheel!

Registration for the District event opened on March 1st. There will be three packages to choose from: Event Only – \$25, T-shirt Only – \$15, or Event and T-shirt – \$35!

For any questions related to the Gathering, please contact
Jonathan Guse, CID District Coordinator at
jonathan@bethelmorton.org or (309) 263-2417.

lcmsgathering.com



INVESTMENT APPLICATION



CHURCH EXTENSION FUND, INC. (CEF)

Central Illinois District - LCMS (CID)

1850 North Grand Avenue West

Springfield, IL 62702-1626

TELEPHONE: (217) 793-1802 FAX: (217) 793-9454

EMAIL: cef@cidlcms.org www.cid-cef.org

New Investment: \$ _____

Make check payable to:
CID Church Extension Fund

-OR-

Existing CID-CEF Investment Certificate # _____

(signed Investment Certificate or Lost Certificate Agreement must be returned with Application)

Reinvest \$ _____ Redeem \$ _____

INVESTMENT CERTIFICATES - Minimum Investment: \$500 - Interest paid/applied and statement sent semi-annually

- 1.25% 5-year term 1.00% 3-year term
 0.60% 1-year term 0.30% 6-month term

Special Term and Rate – Limited Time!!!

- 1.00% 2-year term

INTEREST PAYMENT METHOD (Choose one)

- Accumulate interest and add to investment
 Investment check semi-annually (if over \$25)
 Direct Deposit – requires completed enrollment form
(Go to www.cidlcms.org or contact CEF to request the form)

INTEREST RATES ARE EFFECTIVE 1/1/2021 AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE – CALL TO CONFIRM CURRENT RATES

FLEXIBLE SAVINGS – Interest added to account monthly, statement sent quarterly

- Regular Flexible Savings Account Interest Rate: 0.25% Minimum: \$25 – available to all customers
 Capital Campaign Flexible Savings Account Interest Rate: 0.60% Minimum: \$500 – available only to religious organizations

Account Ownership (Complete A, B, or C. Please print)

A. Sole or Joint Owners (One or more owners as joint tenants with full rights of survivorship and not tenants in common. Beneficiaries may be designated on "Beneficiary Designation" form. Interest is reported to the IRS using the Social Security number of the first owner listed.)

1. _____
Last or Religious Organization Name First MI Social Security # or TIN Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)
2. _____
Last First MI Social Security # Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)
3. _____
Last First MI Social Security # Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

- Check if "Beneficiary Designation" form is attached Check that all joint owners have signed application

B. Trust ("Certificate of Existence of Trust and Authority to Act" must be completed and sent with application)

Name of Trust Social Security #/TIN

C. Custodian Investment for Minor (Under the Illinois Uniform Transfers to Minors Act)

MINOR Last First MI Social Security # Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

CUSTODIAN Last First MI Social Security # Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

CONTINUE TO BACK OF PAGE

Contact Information for Account

Address

City

State

Zip

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email Address

Supporting Investments

(Please provide the organization to be recognized for current or future investment requirements)

Your Home Congregation

City

---OR---

Other LCMS Organization

City

Investment Certification and Signature – Signatures of all account owners are required.

By signing this application (“I” refers to all applicants, whether one or more), I certify that:

- All information provided is true and correct.
- I am of legal age and not a minor.
- I authorize the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund to initiate any correcting debit or credit that may be necessary.
- I have received a current Offering Circular of the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund.
- I am a member of, contributor to, or participant in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or any district or other program, activity, or organization which constitutes a part of the Synod or any of its districts, or I am an ancestor, descendant, or successor in interest to such person.
- I am a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien).
- The Social Security or Tax ID number shown for me on this application is correct.
- I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) the IRS has not notified me that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding. Please draw an “X” through the preceding sentence if you ARE currently subject to backup withholding. Due to IRS regulations, the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund cannot record your investment until your Taxpayer Identification Number is provided and the above certification signed. The IRS does not require your consent to any provisions of this application other than the certifications required to avoid backup withholding.

Signature of Account Owner/Trustee/Custodian/Authorized Signer

Date

Signature of Account Owner/Trustee/Custodian/Authorized Signer

Date

Signature of Account Owner/Trustee/Custodian/Authorized Signer

Date

The CID-CEF is a nonprofit religious organization, therefore CID-CEF investments are not FDIC-Insured bank deposit accounts.

The Mission of the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc. (CID-CEF) is to aid member congregations and agencies in the Central Illinois District of the LCMS in building and expanding their facilities and their ministry for the growth of God’s Kingdom.