



Central Illinois District
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

"Make Disciples of All Nations"

February 2012

Opening Thoughts:

One of the most remarkable events in our Savior's ministry is His transfiguration. We cannot help but be impressed by this supernatural occurrence. Shortly before the transfiguration took place, Jesus had shocked His disciples when He said, "*The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.*" In order to strengthen their faith Jesus took Peter, James, and John with Him to the top of a high mountain to pray. You can read the account in Luke 9:28-36.

Here we have crosses to bear, tribulations to endure, sicknesses to suffer, conflicts to meet, and other difficulties. We need strengthening and encouragement in our day. We know Christ came for us and we look forward to the glory that is to come. We can join with St. Paul and say, "*I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*"

After this conversation of Jesus with Moses and Elijah, Peter wanted to stay on the mountain top. All of us like this "mountain-top Christianity," but there is work to be done down in the plains. There are many that need to know about Jesus and His love. Use Transfiguration Sunday (Feb. 19) and the Lenten Season to bring others to hear the Good News of Jesus. *President David Buelmann*

Prayers for Cid Missions

During the next 30 days please include these missions in your church's and your personal prayers:

Grace Lutheran Church, Canton: that God might continue to use them to reach unchurched people in the Canton area as they share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

University Lutheran Church, Champaign: for God's blessings on their serving over 300 University of Illinois students during the 2011-2012 school year.

Calendar:

February 24-26: Men's Retreat at Camp CILCA

March 4-10: National Lutheran Schools Week

March 17: LLL Convention

March 25: CID Bible Bowl

LLL convention @ Christ Lutheran Church, Normal, on Saturday, March 17, 2012. Speaker will be Rev. Nilo Figur, Area Counselor for Latin America and the Caribbean Lutheran Hour Ministries. At 9 A.M. Julia Wehrenberger will speak on mission work in South Africa. This will be followed by tours, servant events and marking New Testaments for the IL State Fair Booth. The convention begins at 1 P.M. with sectionals on various Lutheran Hour Ministries, Bible study, a mission trip to Latvia, and some CID LLL business. A banquet will begin at approximately 5:30 P.M. Rev. Nilo Figur will speak after the banquet. Register by simply sending your name, address, and check payable to Zone 2 LLL and send to Herbert Renken, 6 University Ct., Normal, IL 61761. The per person cost is \$10 for the noon meal and convention and \$12 for the banquet.

CID Board of Directors Notes: at its meeting on January 24, 2012

- Board of Directors selected Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Sherman as the place for the opening worship of the District Convention.
- A reminder: the deadline for submission of convention overtures is March 15.
- The Family Friendly Planning Network informational meeting took place January 14. Congregations unable to attend the informational meeting may contact DCE Mary Bloebaum (Trinity-Bloomington) for information. Congregations have until mid-April to register with the network.
- The Evangelism Committee will be conducting several workshops this year. A rural/small town workshop will be conducted this fall, and Lutheran Hour Ministries Mission U courses will be conducted in the spring and/or fall.
- Mission Commission will provide to each congregation a set of printed hymnal bookmarks that highlight the mission work of the district.
- The Board adopted the 2012 Budget, reflecting a 5.3% reduction for a total budget of \$2.34 million. Even with the cuts that were made, this budget is approximately \$44k greater than projected revenues and reflects a predicted \$30k reduction in projected revenue. Please prayerfully consider your gifts and offerings to the district that we may continue the work of the Lord in 7 mission congregations, 8 special missions, 4 campus ministries, and an international partnership, as well as providing support and services to the 150+ congregations of the district.