



"Make Disciples of All Nations"

Central Illinois District
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

February, 2016

Opening Thoughts:

Lots of blood was shed in sacrifice through time, in tabernacle and temple since animal skins covered the nakedness of our first and fallen parents. By these means, and from the beginning, our Father focused His children on the foundation of our redemption, the ransom price. In God's word [Lev. 17:11] Israel was told to take note that, "...*the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I [God] have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls.*" This is great instruction for sinners seeking comfort. "*If anyone sins we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is the sin-atoner, anger-silencing payment for our sins ... for the sins of the whole world.*" [1 Jn. 2:1-2] We begin our pilgrimage to Mt. Calvary to observe love and justice mingled in blood, the fulfillment of the word of the Law and the prophets in "*the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,*" and as our Communion liturgy reminds us that "*he [the devil] who by a tree once overcame would likewise by a tree be overcome.*" May God almighty, through Jesus Christ, bless your Lenten devotions as we head toward restored alleluias and an empty tomb!

Rev. Mark A. Miller, CID President

Pray For Our Central Illinois District Missions supported by your church's Mission Dollars... "*Finally brothers, pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored...*" (2Thes. 3:1)... Please Pray for the Hispanic Outreach through St. John's Lutheran Church, Beardstown (Pastor Doug Evenson and Vicar Phillip Fischaber).

Summer Camp Counselors Needed! What are you doing this summer? Have you considered serving the Lord as a summer camp counselor? Camp CILCA is now accepting applications for summer 2016! Find out how to apply at www.cilca.org under "Serve, Employment Opportunities."

Jacksonville Circuit Bible Institute, Sunday, February 21st from 4:00pm to 6:15pm at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 405 Massey Lane, Jacksonville. The topic will be *THE FAMILY ALTAR*. Most Lutheran families know that Christian education of their children is crucial to forming faith. Yet many parents (and grandparents) are

unsure how and what to teach. The family altar is a time when the family reads Scripture and prays together. Instead of depending on others to do this for us, parents can teach the faith in a simple way each day, beginning when children are very young. Pastor Jim Wright of Altamont will present the need for and a method of Christian instruction in the home that relates well to a congregation's worship and ministry.

2016 LERT (Lutheran Emergency Response Training) led by Randy Wolf and Stephen Born.

Saturdays 8 am – 4:30 pm (Sessions begin at 8:30 am).

February 20, St Paul's - Havana

February 27, Trinity - Bloomington

March 5, Our Savior's – Milford

March 12, Immanuel - Rock Island

June 11, Redeemer - Peoria

Chainsaw Training, Saturday, April 2, Lutheran Church of St. John - Quincy (9 am – 5 pm). You must have completed the LERT training to be eligible for chainsaw training.

\$35 Registration fee...Registration forms available at www.cidlcms.org or call CID office 217/793-1802

Excerpts from CID Board of Directors, January 26, 2016

- Rev. Pablo Dominquez presented a Mission Report on work being accomplished in the Quad Cities and Beardstown.
- CEF has authorized interest rebates; grants to the CID Scholarship Fund have been approved, and Scholarship Sunday is set for May 1, 2016.
- Youth Committee is planning for the National Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans.
- The search committee for replacing the Congregational Life/Education Executive has developed a job description.
- LERT training and work continues in CID—helped with recent flooding in the Watseka area.
- Christo Rey mission in Moline is planning a garage/multipurpose building expansion.
- The Board adopted two resolutions to be sent to the LCMS for consideration at this summer's convention...one condemning the conscription of women into the military and a second encouraging participation in the 2017 LCMS Life Conference.
- Constitutions for St. John - Geneseo, Christ - Normal, and Trinity - Springfield were approved.
- The CID 2016 Budget was approved and adopted.