



Opening Thoughts: "Looking Up!"

"Hardly any one looks up anymore." Walking on city sidewalks, most prefer their own private world than to catch the gaze of a fellow pedestrian. It's worse now with electronic devices. A magazine article once noted that if a comet were about to strike the earth, most wouldn't realize the impending danger until someone had posted the event on Facebook.

We, poor sinners, dependent on the Lord for everything that really and ultimately matters, are called upon to patiently await our redemption and in the meantime keep our eyes set heavenward. "Lift up your heads!" We ought not to be so absorbed by the worldly that we discount or ignore the heavenly. Our flesh has horizontal vision only, but those touched by the Lord and His Gospel have a vertical perspective. If we are too despondent and dejected because the world seems to be winning the war, then, hear the cry of the Psalmist, "I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence my help comes! My help comes from the Lord!"

— Rev. Mark A. Miller, CID President

Pray For Our Central Illinois District Missions supported by your church's Mission Dollars to the District... "Finally brothers, pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored..." Please remember in your prayers Redeemer Lutheran Church in Peru, Illinois, located in a county with a population of 114,000, 54% of whom are unchurched.

"Every One His Witness" Searching for a fresh approach to witnessing? Every One His Witness helps you tell the Good News about Jesus in your daily life. Dr. Ken Schurb will facilitate a basic "E1HW" workshop at St. John Lutheran Church, 13443 Townline Rd., Green Valley, on Saturday, March 17 from 9:00 to 3:30. Please pre-register by March 10. Call (309) 348-3180 or e-mail secretary@sandprairielutheran.org

Youth Bible Bowl It is time to be finalizing plans for this year's youth Bible bowl on the Gospel according to St. Matthew. Circuits which are holding Bible bowls need to contact Pastor Mark Eddy (zionlcms@juno.com) with the date of your Bible bowl, approximate number of participating teams, and contact information for the person who is to receive the questions. Pastor Eddy will get you the questions a week or two in advance.

If your circuit is not hosting a Bible bowl, but you have some youth who would like to participate, also contact Pastor Eddy. He may be able to direct you to a neighboring circuit, or make plans to include you in the District Bible bowl on Sunday, March 18th in Springfield at Trinity Lutheran School.

"The Two Kingdoms and the Role of a Christian in the Political Process" St. John Lutheran Church 509 South Mattis Avenue, Champaign, IL.

Former Lutheran Hour speaker Reverend Gregory Seltz and Congressman John Shimkus will team up to discuss "The Two Kingdoms and the role of a Christian in the Political Process" at the upcoming Lutheran Layman's League Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 17. Registration starts at 9:30 am, Convention begins at 10:30. Registration deadline is March 5. Registrations can be mailed to Bob Kassel, 20 Fairlane Circle, Altamont, IL. 62411. Cost is \$12.00 for adults—(includes lunch) children, students, Pastors and their wives are free. Make checks payable to Central IL LLL District.

CID Board Of Directors Summary January 23, 2018

Following the call to order, opening devotion, and acceptance of the minutes, Rev. Josh Theilen presented a mission report on Camp CILCA, detailing the summer schedule and activities at camp for all ages. A capital campaign is being pursued to upgrade and add facilities.

President Miller reported on vacancies in the district (12), pastoral changes, and the president's activities. The BOD approved the appointment of Rev. Chad Lueck as Circuit Visitor of the Bloomington South Circuit. The BOD was encouraged to promote the CID video "*Partnership in the Gospel*" that is available to circuits and congregations on the CID website (cidlcms.org).

Reports were given by Mr. Dave Rohe, Church Extension Fund; Rev. Chuck Olander, Gift Planning Counselor; Mr. Trip Rodgers, Education and Congregational Life Commissions; Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb, Evangelism, Mission, Stewardship and Social Ministry Commissions. All reports are on file at the District office.

The CID Treasurer, Mr. Dale Dirks, reported on the present financial status. District balance is declining, and cash flow in congregations impacts District cash flow as well. Hugh Shown reported contributions from congregations for 2017 still coming in. Mr. Bob Dalton, Financial Secretary, reported on the budget and remittances from congregations. Total communicant numbers are falling, directly impacting the budget. Eighty-four congregations have submitted pledges for 2018, sixty-eight have not.

The Board approved housing allowances for District workers.

Mr. Ray Stuckemeyer reported names are still being sought for CID District offices. Annual District LLL Convention will be March 17 at St. John's, Champaign.

Next BOD meetings are scheduled for March 20, 2018, and May 22, 2018. Meeting adjourned and closed with prayer.