



Opening Thoughts:

I know a man named Luis. He knows that I am a pastor. I've shared the Gospel and visited him several times in his home along with his family. One day I went to eat at a Mexican restaurant. There in that restaurant was the daughter of Luis. She was the cashier. When I paid the bill, I asked about her father. She told me that he was working on Saturdays and Sundays as an electrician. "I didn't know that your father was an electrician?", I said. She answered me, "My father studied and worked as an electrician in Mexico before coming to this country. It is the best thing he can do." Although I have known Luis for over 10 years, I never imagined that he was an electrician, because he never told me that.

On the last page of a church bulletin there was this phrase with large, underlined words, "If you love Christ Jesus... join Him in His mission and share the Good News". The people that know you, do they see that you believe in Jesus? Do you share the Gospel with your coworkers, neighbors and friends? As responsible Christians, we must tell those around us that Christ is our Savior and speak His message of love and salvation which is offered to all. St. Paul says in Rom. 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes."

Today, I encourage you to speak of Christ to everybody. Opportunities are always there.

Rev. Pastor Dominguez

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 our CID campus ministry workers, serving students spiritually: Rev. Ken Hoover and Mr. Greg Witto of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Charleston; Rev. Rick Milas of University Lutheran Church in Champaign; Rev. Michael Burdick of Immanuel Lutheran Church & Student Center in Macomb; and Rev. William Jensen at Wittenberg Student Center -Illinois State University in Normal. And pray for our CID campus ministry retreat in March!

Stay Connected with the Central Illinois District

CID's website: <http://www.cidlcms.org/>

CID's Gatepost (newsletter) <http://www.cidlcms.org/gatepost.html>

Subscribe to the *E-GatePost*: <http://www.cidlcms.org/>

CID Board of Directors Meeting Summary

CID Board of Directors met on January 22, 2019 at the District Office.

Rev. Chuck Olander gave a mission presentation on the 36-year history of district mission work in the prisons located in the district, starting with the Logan and Lincoln facilities.

Reports: President Miller reported 13 congregations actively calling, with 5 more whose call process is on a temporary hold. The district executives reported progress in their various areas of responsibility.

Financial Secretary James Frazee pointed out the giving trends in our district and throughout Synod, noting that best estimates are that the next ten years will mirror the previous ten years in giving trends, which means the district can anticipate at least \$342k fewer dollars (a 21% decline) from congregational contributions over the next decade. Treasurer Dale Dirks echoed the dire financial picture, pointing out the district has made cuts each year, but only so much can be trimmed without eliminating some areas of work being done.

A Summary of the 2019 District Budget will soon be available on the district's website, and the full budget is available by contacting the district office.

The next Board of Directors' meeting is March 26 at the District Office.

Don't forget to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars®

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let Choice Dollars expire.

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available are asked to direct any remaining Choice Dollars. Help support the Central Illinois District- Springfield, IL. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt. If you're an eligible Thrivent Financial member and have Choice Dollars available to direct, please keep us in mind.

The CID Lutheran Layman's League 2019 Annual Convention

Save the Date: Saturday, March 30
Location: Lutheran Church of St John, Quincy

Dr. Tony Cook, VP of Lutheran Hour Ministries- Global Ministries presentation will highlight findings of the Barna Group study on Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age. Attendees will discover ways to apply these findings in sharing their faith.

Being the Shepherd's Hands:

On Saturday morning, May 4 (10:00 am – Noon) Deaconess Rachel Jaseph of Shepherd of the City Lutheran Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind. will speak at Wittenberg Student Center, (Normal, Illinois) about the work done by this urban congregation in developing an outreach center, especially a two-pronged initiative to provide nutrition and after-school tutoring for neighborhood children. Her experience can be especially helpful for city or larger town churches that do not operate elementary schools at their sites. Others can learn from it too. Watch for further details but save the date!