"Make Disciples of All Nations"

Central Illinois District
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

January, 2016

Opening Thoughts:
After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. (Luke 2:9-10)

Our Advent and Christmas journey is complete for this year. Like the wise men, we rejoice greatly over all that the Lord has revealed to us about the birth of His Son, our Savior. We marvel that He became one of us, that He came to live a human life among us. We are filled with an exceedingly great joy that no circumstance in life can take away because He has won complete victory for us in His life, death and resurrection.

As we go on our way through life, we can be assured our Lord Jesus will go with us, and His presence will fill us with great joy. Then as the end of our journey draws near--either through age, sickness, accident or death itself--we can lift up our heads with joy and rejoicing, knowing that soon, very soon, we will enter our Lord's house and live in His glorious presence forever.
Glenn Goeres, CID staff for Education and Congregational Life

Prayers for CID Missions: *Finally brothers, pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored…" (*2Thess. 3:1)…Please Pray for the **University of Illinois Campus Ministry, Champaign** (Rev. Rick Milas).

Church Extension Fund Makes Grant
At their December Board meeting, the CID CEF board issued a grant of $10,000.00 to be used by rostered church workers to allow them to take a course in financial management. Church Extension will grant $50 to each worker for tuition to a course in financial management. Examples of courses that would apply are Dave Ramsey's courses *Financial Peace University* or *Legacy Journey*. Other courses may apply so if you are in doubt, tell me about it and we can investigate.

To receive the $50.00, you must submit a copy of the registration form, or a receipt showing that you have paid the full tuition. This grant will be available until the funds are gone, or December 31, 2016, whichever occurs first.
Any questions you may have can be directed to CID Church Extension Fund at 1-217-793-1802. Ask for Dave.

Job Openings at Camp CILCA
Camp CILCA seeks to fill the following three year-round part-time positions:

- Food Service Director, or Maintenance, or Housekeeping

If you or somebody you know may be a good fit, please contact Pastor Kurtis Bueltmann at kurtis@bueltmann.org or (920) 299-6912.

Germany Tours: Dr. David Bueltmann plans to lead tours to the Martin Luther sites in Germany in 2016. Dates of the tours are May 9-17, July 5-13, and September 26-October 7. For more information contact him at 217-691-1252 or **pastordave@Bueltmann.org .**

MISSION U Join us for this outreach training workshop from MISSION U, a program of Lutheran Hour Ministries. Become equipped through this one-day event to fulfill your mission with boldness to the diverse mission field around you.
Course: MU-201/301 - "Equipping to Share: A Culture of Outreach.
Location: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 511 S. Walnut St./Hwy. 32, Strasburg, IL
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2016, 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
Light lunch served ($10 fee to help cover costs).
Contact: Rev. Steven Becker at sejjb4@consolidated.net or 217/644-2226

Older Adult Retreat…mark your calendars: The 16th Lutheran Older Adult Retreat(LOAR) will once again be held at Pere Marquette State Park Lodge in Grafton, April 20-21, 2016. The theme for the 16th retreat is "Keep Walking…By Faith," based on 2 Corinthians 5:7.
Registration material will soon be found on the Southern Illinois District website in early January 2016… www.sidlcms.org