



Central Illinois District  
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

*"Make Disciples of All Nations"*

March 2017

### Opening Thoughts:

Do you always keep your promises?

It's easy to make promises, but most of the time we aren't able to keep many of them at all.

In our daily life, we sin much. We can't keep our promises to be faithful to God. We can't obey the Ten Commandments. We fail to please Him.

Just as we feel a necessity for food, we should also feel a necessity to confess our errors. His forgiveness is vital. We are able to do this during divine worship on Sunday when we confess our sins and receive the absolution. We should gratefully thank God every day for sending His Son, Jesus Christ. He followed the law perfectly in our stead, and then suffered and died for us on Calvary. Romans 5:8 says "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us"

During the Lenten season, it's necessary for us to think about what Jesus did. He sacrificed His life for each one of us and for all humanity. Our sins prevent us from keeping promises we make, but God in Jesus Christ, fulfilled every promise He ever made.

Rev. Pablo Dominguez

**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..."* (2Thessalonians 3:1). For additional information regarding the CID's Mission projects, please visit the CID's website ([www.cidlcms.org](http://www.cidlcms.org)).

In your prayers give thanks to God for all the LCMS Recognized Service Organizations in our CID. They are here to serve us, and the people of our District. For more information regarding ROSs visit [www.lcms.org/rso](http://www.lcms.org/rso) or [www.cidlcms.org/news.html](http://www.cidlcms.org/news.html).

### **Engaging the Wandering - April 22**

An often ignored people in desperate need of outreach is the group often referred to as inactives or delinquents who need to hear the Word of God and be brought to the fellowship of the Body of Christ. The problem many encounter with this group, especially in rural congregations, is that we know them so well. They are our relatives, neighbors and/or friends. But because they are so "close" to us, we aren't comfortable bringing up the elephant in the room. Some churches either do nothing or make the misguided attempt at restoration through a Law-oriented letter. Neither of these approaches is a good option.

Find out how to support, invite, encourage, and reach out to these people in love and come to "Engaging the Wandering" a workshop led by Rev. Todd Kollbaum, Director of LCMS Rural and Small Town Mission. The cost is \$25 which includes lunch and will be held at St. John's (Sand Prairie) Lutheran church near Green Valley, Illinois, 9:30am-3pm on Saturday, April 22.

### **CID's Youth Bible Bowl**

*Date: Sunday, April 2, 2017 (3:00 p.m.)*

*Place: Trinity Lutheran School, Springfield  
515 South MacArthur Blvd.*

Topic: The Life of David (1 Samuel 16- 1 King 2:12)

The Bible Bowl provides an opportunity for our youth to be involved in Scripture study and thus to grow in their knowledge of God's Word and to grow in their faith. Circuits are encouraged to hold Bible Bowls at least a week before the District Bible Bowl, and send their top two teams to Springfield.

For more information on how you can hold a Bible Bowl in your circuit, contact Pastor Mark Eddy at Zion Lutheran Church, Taylor Ridge, Ill. (office 309.795.1063 or [zionlcms@juno.com](mailto:zionlcms@juno.com))

Why hold a Bible Bowl for junior and senior high school youth?

\*Because we believe the Bible is God's word (2 Tim. 3:16-17)

\*Because we believe in youth ministry (Eph. 6:4)

\*Because the primary ministry in the Bible is "the ministry of the word" (Acts 6:4)

\*Because youth ministry, therefore, starts with God's word (Ps. 119:9)

\*Because the "Bible Bowl" can be an effective way to get youth to study God's word.