



Opening Thoughts: “Take the Time”

During Lent we set aside 40 days to prepare our hearts to experience Holy Week, Good Friday and the joyfulness of Easter. The world that we live in has many distractions that would lead us away from focusing in on the sacrifice of Christ. These distractions may cause us to de-value this season of Lent. But during the Lenten season, we have additional opportunities to focus on this sacrifice. Mid-week services, Lenten meals, and daily devotional studies can provide us with opportunities to prepare our heart and minds. Please take the time to remember that because of God's love for us, we are able to celebrate Easter every day.

Trip Rodgers
Central Illinois District Office

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...” In your prayers, please remember to thank God for our workers at St. John's Lutheran Church, Beardstown: Pastor Doug Evenson, Vicar Raymond Doubrava, and Maria Guijosa. The Lord is using them to bless the church's Latino outreach.

“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

Dates to Remember for the CID Convention

MARCH 15th

- Overtures to be submitted to the District Office
- Reports for the Convention Workbook from Officers and Commissions-submitted to the District Office.

Convention Dates July 8-10- Crowne Plaza Springfield IL

“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. Cost is \$12.00 for adults—(includes lunch) children, students, Pastors and their wives are free. Make checks payable to Central IL LLL District.

Interested in Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University*? Do you wonder about its theological perspective, though? LCMS Stewardship department recently released a “Preview and Review” of this popular resource, to help congregations and busy pastors navigate its waters while remaining scripturally sound and Christ-centered. You can access the “Preview and Review” from the Stewardship page of the Synod's website: <https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/national/stewardship-ministry>

Looking for College Students

Do you know a college student at University of Illinois-Champaign, Illinois State, Wesleyan, Eastern Illinois, Western Illinois, or University of Illinois-Springfield? Our campus ministries delight in meeting new people and connecting them with Christ! Send the student's contact information to kschurb@cidcms.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.