



### **Opening Thoughts:** The Lord of the Harvest

<sup>10</sup>“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”  
Is. 55:10-11

It is hard to be around central Illinois and not see fields of corn or beans. Traveling around we have watched the farmers preparing, planning, and caring for their fields. Soon we will begin to see them harvesting these fields. Farmers work their fields with the hope that the seeds will have the right amount of rain, nutrients, and sun to produce a bountiful harvest.

As Christians we are also working in the fields, with the help of the Holy Spirit we are also planting seeds. We are able to share God’s Word, grace, and mercy. As we go through our daily life, we have the ability to be a reflection of God’s sacrificial love. As members of congregations and of the larger church we join together to support various mission outreaches and programs to plant these seeds of hope and love. Unlike farmers we do not always get to see the fruit of God’s harvests.

There are many ways that we can support the planting of the seeds. Get to know the various activities and programs that are supporting the Lord’s harvest. Pray for these ministries and their workers, see if there are ways that you can support them with your gifts of time and or talents.

We know that the Word of the Lord will not return to Him empty. God has a plan to provide all that is needed to produce a bountiful harvest. The joy that we have is knowing that the bountiful harvest is not dependent on our expertise or abilities. Because as sinners, if we were left alone, we would fail.

As in the Hymn; **Come, Ye Thankful People, Come** (LSB- 892)  
*All the Lord, our God, shall come and shall take His harvest home,  
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of Harvest, grant the we, wholesome grain and pure may be.*

*Trip Rodgers- CID- Assistant to the President- Education/Congregational Life*

**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 the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia, a church body to which CID has given many gifts in the past, as she continues to work faithfully in a former communist and atheistic nation, proclaiming that we have a Savior from sin and death: our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **CID BOD Summary - September 24, 2019**

Meeting opened with a devotion (from Luke 16) by Pastor Mark Eddy. Newly appointed members, Robinette (Robie) Flach and Rev. Peter Glock, were approved and installed to the BOD. Minutes from May BOD meeting were approved and are on file at the District office. Pastor Steve Southward gave a mission presentation on prison ministry at Pittsfield, and his 29 years serving in prison ministry. He shared some insights on “One on One” ministry in prison work.

President Miller reported on district happenings and his activities the past several months. The president noted in the CID there are presently 10 actively calling congregations, 6 on hold, 5 permanent vacancies, and 4 calls accepted; in the Synod there are 503 vacancies, 428 congregations are being served part-time. CID needs laymen to serve as reconcilers. Pres. Miller is seeking nominations for National Mission Board.

Reports were also received from Mrs. Christine Anderson, CEF; Rev. Charles Olander, Gift Planning; Mr. Lewis Rodgers, Education and Congregational Life; Rev. Ken Schurb, Evangelism, Mission, and Stewardship; Mr. Dale Dirks, Treasurer; and Mr. Jim Frazee, Finance and Management (all reports are on file in the District Office and the Secretary of the CID). There was discussion on anticipated 2020 budget concerns.

Rev. Michael Mohr, Finance and Management, gave an update on the water issues at the CID office building. The BOD approved a request to send a letter to CID congregations for a special donation to cover the costs (\$25,000) of the repairs. The BOD also gave approval to begin exploring the possibility of best future housing of the CID office property.

**New Business:** the BOD directed the Stewardship commission to disseminate information to congregations and schools regarding district financial concerns. Information regarding scholarship distributions to CID students preparing for full-time church work was shared with the BOD. 26 students received funds. Total funding was \$115,000 for this year. Rev. Schuermann gave a brief LCMS Convention report. The next scheduled BOD meeting will be Nov. 26, 2019, at 9 am at the District Office. The meeting adjourned at 1:02 pm with prayer.

### **Other Items:**

#### **Junior High Lock- In**

Nov.8-9 Additional Information <https://cidyouth.weebly.com/>

#### **Life and Liberty Lecture – Seminar with Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer**

Bethany Lutheran Church- Naperville IL. Nov. 1 (9:00 am- 2:00 pm \$10.00) For additional Information contact Deaconess Kris Blackwell at 630-234-1491 or [kbwrk123@gmail.com](mailto:kbwrk123@gmail.com).