

## College is tough. People need Jesus. We're helping!

*Here is an item edited from the most recent "From the Pastor" (Rev. William Jensen) column in the newsletter of CID's Wittenberg Lutheran Center at Illinois State. This is the kind of guidance that is offered to students by our campus ministries.*

I've heard it said that adulting doesn't come with an instruction manual or playbook. I disagree. God's Word in Scripture tracks the nurture and up-bringing of several faithful children.

There's **Samuel**, who learned how to listen to God from an early age. Samuel anointed **David**, the shepherd boy who became King and a man after God's own heart. Then there's the boy **Daniel** who stood up for his faith. He too became a great prophet. **Mary** was just a girl when she trusted God's plan that included her direct involvement! **Timothy** was very young when he was taught the faith. He became one of the first missionaries in the early Church.

Some faithful children in the Bible aren't known beyond a simple act. Think of the little boy who volunteered his loaves and fishes for a miraculous meal. Or the little girl who coaxed Naaman to simply walk into the water to be cleansed of leprosy. We don't know their names, or what became of these young believers, but we can see the power their youthful faith exerted.

Beyond Scripture, there might not be a textbook for raising a faithful child. But a child's model for adulting also comes from observation. Godly parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles all provide examples by which we acquire an excellent education toward adulting. Children see and learn from the adults around them as these folks pray and live out their confidence in Christ their Savior.

Experience constitutes another teacher. Advance-placement adulting comes at various times while still under parental supervision. AP adulting includes being an older sibling ourselves, becoming an aunt or uncle, getting a driver's license, and working summer jobs. Along the way, we're strengthened by the on-going instruction we are given when we hear God's Word proclaimed to us.

Bachelor's level adulting begins when you are truly on your own for the first time. Family ties remain, but you're navigating life without the direct support you once had. At this point, a foundation of Christ and His Word is essential. When we stumble, when things prove harder than we imagined them to be, our safety net lies in God's sure promises given in Jesus Christ.

Master's level adulting comes with being a parent and raising infants, adolescents, and teens. Without God's Word, no one would be capable of carrying out such a responsibility with faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

The Doctorate of adulthood comes with matters of life and death. Here we come full-circle, and with child-like faith recognize our Lord's leading us home through the valley of the shadow.

Yes, God indeed provides written instruction for the process of becoming an adult! You hear it in church, and you get to partake in it personally, whether it's in Bible study or personal devotions and a daily pattern of Bible reading. Use God's primary means of grace to the fullest!

Pastor Bill

*The Bulletin Berg*, October, 2024

Please save us future stamps! Send your e-mail address to [amyholmes@cidlcms.org](mailto:amyholmes@cidlcms.org)  
To donate to endowments for Central Illinois District campus ministry:  
<https://www.lutheranlegacyfoundation.org/fund/central-illinois-district-campus-ministry/>



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### The Match Continues

Lutheran Legacy is continuing its generous offer to contribute money to the four endowments for CID's campus ministries. For quite a while to come, it will donate an amount equivalent to 20% of gifts to any or all of these endowment funds. In short, if you give \$5 to one of these funds, Lutheran Legacy will match with a sixth dollar.

For endowment funds such as these, growth comes not only from smaller gifts but also from larger ones. If you attended a CID campus ministry while you were in college or graduate school, you might remember it in your estate planning. Please consider this prospect!

We are delighted that CID's campus ministries are recognized outside our District for the quality of attention that they give students within a solid Lutheran setting. Needless to say, ministries of this sort prove expensive, particularly when they have facilities located as well as ours. The endowments provide additional funding sources for CID to draw upon in covering the many expenses entailed by robust campus ministry.

The role these funds can play in maintaining the very feasibility of these campus ministries will probably only grow as time passes. Thanks very much for your support. Please mention the four endowment funds to others!

### Campus Ministry Referrals

Help us to shepherd our churches' college students into CID and other LCMS campus ministries. The District office will refer students to CID campus ministries and to LCMS U chapters nationwide – not only those in Illinois!

Please send contact information on your congregation's college students, especially their addresses and e-mail addresses on campus, to [kschurb@cidlcms.org](mailto:kschurb@cidlcms.org) Thank you, in advance!

### CID Campus Ministries

#### CHARLESTON

Eastern Illinois University

CONTACT: Immanuel Lutheran Church office  
[office@immanuelcharleston.com](mailto:office@immanuelcharleston.com)

**As of October 15, 2024, \$15,975.75 has been contributed to the endowment to support this ministry, not counting matching funds.** In July, 2024, CID received \$2,019.00 from this endowment.

#### MACOMB

Western Illinois University

CONTACT: Pastor Christopher Hull  
[luther1546@gmail.com](mailto:luther1546@gmail.com)

**As of October 15, 2024, \$17,178.75 has been contributed to the endowment to support this ministry, not counting matching funds.** In July, 2024, CID received \$2,056.00 from this endowment.

#### NORMAL

Illinois State University

CONTACT: Pastor William Jensen  
[wittenberglcms@gmail.com](mailto:wittenberglcms@gmail.com)

**As of October 15, 2024, \$22,414.75 has been contributed to the endowment to support this ministry, not counting matching funds.** In July, 2024, CID received \$2,578.00 from this endowment.

#### URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

University of Illinois

CONTACT: Pastor Michael Schuermann  
[churchoffice@uniluchampaign.org](mailto:churchoffice@uniluchampaign.org)

**As of October 15, 2024, \$22,655.00 has been contributed to the endowment to support this ministry, not counting matching funds.** In July, 2024, CID received \$2,591.00 from this endowment.

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To donate to endowments for Central Illinois District campus ministry:

<https://www.lutheranlegacyfoundation.org/fund/central-illinois-district-campus-ministry/>