

See? **WOW!** News and Encouragement for CID Circuit **W**itness & **O**utreach

Workers

Nbr. 6 – March 1, 2019

Repentance and Evangelism

The church is odd. Of all groups of people, who else gets together and engages in true confession right away? We do. We tell God – and in public confession, everyone else – what louses we are. Entering Lent, we will emphasize repentance still more. That's different! It's downright odd.

It is also important for evangelism.

If we don't confess our sins, a culture that dismisses Christians as self-righteous and bossy will conclude that its assessment is right. Whether or not the unchurched are precisely like the prodigal son, they will have us pegged as the older brother.

Repentance is important for evangelism.

But this isn't only a matter of appearance. We sinners are always prone to raise ourselves up by stepping on others, even in small, subtle ways. We need to confess. We need God's forgiveness.

See? WOW! He does forgive. No one can talk about the sweetness in the Good News of Jesus the way we can when we've confessed and received absolution. We have tasted and seen that the Lord is good. So good that He died for us is He, and so good that He rose and rules. Your sin stands removed far as the east is from the west. Yours!

Isn't repentance important for evangelism?

Articles on Outreach by Mark Wood

The Synod's website has a series of four articles on Outreach by Mark Wood. Some of

"Connect to Disciple" is in these pieces. You can access them easily off CID website's Evangelism page: <http://www.cidlcms.org/evangelism.html>

Recall: Please don't copy p. 2 of this newsletter.

Ongoing training for C-WOWs:

Our recently appointed C-WOWs – Pastors Mark Gearig and Brian Lesemann and DCE Scott Rauch – will meet with me on April 29 at Zion, Lincoln for a day similar to what we offered last fall. Everyone will then play off the same page!

It is not too early for us to think about a second training round for fall, 2019. Ask yourself: 1.) Would it be best to get all C-WOWs together, or to offer training via a different format? 2.) If we gather physically, which dates, times, locations might be good? 3.) What do YOU think you need for help in your work as a C-WOW? Note: I will take a course on Assimilation this summer, and I hope to have some learnings to share with you by fall.

Reminder: Outreach in cities or larger towns

From 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday, May 4 at Wittenberg Student Center, Normal, Deaconess Rachel Jaseph of Shepherd of the City Lutheran Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind. will report on her work on an initiative to provide nutrition and after-school tutoring for neighborhood kids. Rachel's insights can perhaps be helpful for city or larger town churches that do not operate elementary schools at their sites, but others can learn from it, too. Please help us spread the word in your Circuit.



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***Connect to Disciple* workshops now scheduled:**

- April 5-6: Salem, Chandlerville & St. John, Bath
- June 14-15: Christ, Clinton
- Sept. 6-7: Immanuel, Rock Island
- Sept. 27-28: Our Savior, Springfield

We are still looking for two more churches for this fall, then four in winter/spring, 2020. Interested churches should submit three possible workshop dates to me. Thanks for your help in advertising!



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