

the GatePost

"I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved" John 10:9

Newsletter of the Central Illinois District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

2022: Issue 1



In This Issue...

Convention Information

Page 2-3

President's Letter

Page 4

Church Planting

Page 5

CID Scholarship Sunday

Page 6

"Tomorrow is too late"

Page 7

Bring Giving Home

Page 7

Re:Vitality

Page 9

Camp CILCA

Page 10

Official Notices

Page 11

CID-CEF News

Page 12-13

Keeping Christ on Campus

Page 14

National Youth Gathering

Page 16

**Making
Disciples
for Life** 

175th Anniversary Reflections

April 26th is our birthday. This year, it's a big one.

Some 175 years ago, on April 26, 1847, representatives of a few congregations signed the constitution of a new church body, the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States, since re-named "The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod." The April, 2022 *Lutheran Witness* carries an article on these founding churches.

Why did they form a Synod?

The answer to this question does not amount simply to a piece of historical trivia. The reasons why they formed the Missouri Synod remain the best reasons for us to have the Synod still today.

These people knew that a synodical organization was not commanded by God. They did not have to create one, yet they did.

For they also knew that particular congregations need to concern themselves with Christ's church as a whole. Congregations agreed in doctrine and practice are to recognize that they are in church fellowship one with another, and endeavor to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3-6; 1 Corinthians 1:10). They should extend their help and support to one another in as many ways as they can.

C. F. W. Walther and others concluded that in practice they had little choice but to form a synod. Looking around at the American religious landscape, they seriously wondered whether unity in the faith could be maintained among them if they failed to organize. Walther wrote that "a preacher who, insisting on his freedom, wanted to remain independent with his congregation, although he was offered the opportunity to join an orthodox synod, would thereby be acting against the purpose of his office, against the well-being of his

continued on Page 3



"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved"

(Acts 4:12)

The 60th Regular Convention of the CID

July 17-19, 2022
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, IL

The 60th Convention of the Central Illinois District (CID) of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) and the 9th Convention of the CID Church Extension Fund, Inc. will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Illinois, on July 17-19, 2022. **Registration** for the convention and business sessions will be held at the Crowne Plaza from **3:00pm to 6:00pm on Sunday, July 17th**, and beginning at **7:00am on Monday, July 18th**. **Room reservations** will be available after May 1, 2022, at the **Crowne Plaza** and the **Holiday Inn Express** (next door). The Holiday Inn provides a continental breakfast, but the Crowne Plaza does not.

All **nonvoting ordained and commissioned ministers** who are members of the Synod within the District shall serve as **advisory delegates**. They are entitled to voice and vote on a floor committee, if appointed, and to speaking privileges at the convention. All advisory members are expected to attend all sessions of the convention.

Guests, exhibitors, and others are welcome to attend, but are also to present themselves to the credentials committee at the registration desk for identification purposes.

Registration Fees

Each voting delegate will be assessed a fee of \$135 to cover convention costs and two meals on Monday. **Voting delegate registration not received by June 1, 2022, will be subject to an additional \$50 fee.** *Nonvoting ordained and commissioned ministers* who are actively serving and attending the convention will be assessed a fee of \$40 which does not include meals. If meals are desired add \$80 (\$35 for lunch and \$45 for dinner). For *emeritus ordained and commissioned ministers, guests, and exhibitors* there is no charge for registration, but the \$80 meal charge applies if meals are desired and at least one week notice of your attendance must be given before the convention convenes. Exhibitor space is available for \$50 per table desired. If an electrical connection is desired, an additional \$40 is required. Exhibitors will be assigned tables and a layout will be available so conventioners will know where each exhibitor is located.



Hotel Information

Everyone is to make their own reservation with the hotels after May 1st. Room rates which include 1 or 2 persons at the Crowne Plaza is **\$119 (does not include breakfast)** and at the Holiday Inn Express **\$119 (which includes a continental breakfast)**. When you contact the hotels for reservation, tell them you are with the **Central Illinois District Convention/CID** to receive our special rates. If you have any difficulties, contact the District Office.

Crowne Plaza

3000 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 585-2830

Holiday Inn Express

3050 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 585-2830

Directions

From Interstate 55 take Exit #94 (Stevenson Drive) and travel west to Dirksen Parkway. Turn right (north) and travel a short distance to the hotels located on your right (East).

Schedule

The convention will start with an opening communion service on Sunday, July 17th, at 7:00pm. Monday morning, July 18th, the sessions begin at 8:00am and will continue until 9:30pm. The only scheduled breaks are for lunch and dinner. **Bathroom and coffee breaks are on your own.** It is not good stewardship to have everyone heading to those areas at the same time. Our meals will be next door to our convention meeting area. Tuesday, July 19th, the sessions again begin at 8:00am and continue until 12 noon, if necessary. You will be on your own for Tuesday lunch.

Seating

There will be sufficient seating for all delegates in the delegate section. All voting delegates are asked to sit in the designated area. Advisory members and guests will sit in the areas to either side of the Voting Delegates.

"In Christ... Newness of Life"

Romans 6:3-4

2 Corinthians 5:17

Important Dates

- ▶ **May 14, 2022 – Convention Floor Committee[s]**
meet at the CID Office in Springfield, beginning at 9:30am.
- ▶ **May 17, 2022** (*Date has been updated*) – **Congregational Nominations for District President** [Official Nomination Ballots will be sent to the congregations by the District Secretary] **are due at the District Office** (*must be postmarked by this date*).
- ▶ **June 1, 2022 – Convention materials** shall be made available to lay and pastoral delegates by email. Also, to be made available on the District Website – www.cidlcms.org. Deadline for registration and payment.

REMINDER:

The Convention Workbook will be made available online at www.cidlcms.org and each delegate will be responsible for printing off their copy and bringing it to the Convention.

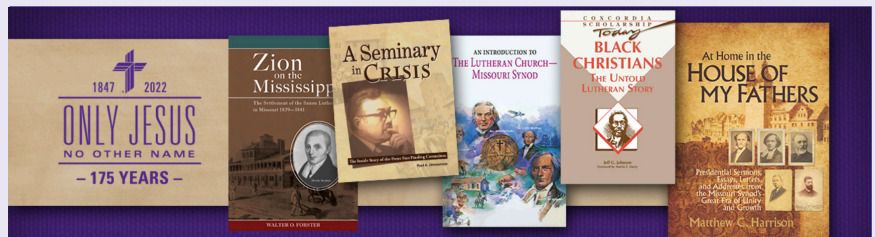
175th Anniversary Celebration Events

Sunday, April 24 (the Sunday before the April 26th anniversary date):

St. John Lutheran Church, New Minden, the only congregation in the Southern Illinois District to have been among the founding congregations of the Missouri Synod, will have a Hymn Festival to celebrate both its own anniversary and the Synod's anniversary. The festival will begin with an organ recital by Dr. Nancy Peterson at 2:30 p.m. Then at 3:00, favorite hymns from the *Lutheran Service Book* will be sung by all. The church's address is 15538 State Route 127, New Minden, IL 62263-2374.

Sunday, May 1 (the Sunday after the April 26th anniversary date):

At 3:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, Springfield, will host a hymn sing highlighting the works of LCMS composers and lyricists in celebration of the Synod's 175th Anniversary. Those present will raise their voices to praise God. They will also listen as the Trinity Wind Ensemble plays musical interludes between the hymns that are sung. The church's address is 220 South Second St., Springfield, IL 62701-1121, across the street to the northeast of the Illinois State Capitol building.



Want to learn more about the LCMS and its history?

Check out the suggested reading list at

<https://resources.lcms.org/history/a-reading-list-of-lcms-history/>

175th Anniversary Reflections

continued from Page 1

congregation, and against his duty toward the church as a whole and would show himself to be a separatist” (emphasis original).

While Walther served as pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Louis, he became the Missouri Synod's first president. In the latter capacity, he was to visit every congregation of the Synod. Supervision of doctrine stood out as vital in an organization that had been formed for the conservation and promotion of the unity of the true faith.

Relatedly, the Synod was also formed so together its members could do things that they could not do so well separately. During the last 175 years, these things have fallen into a couple of broad categories. . . .

For the rest of this essay, and helps for celebrating the Synod's 175th Anniversary, go to <http://www.cidlcms.org/news-lcms-175.html>

From the President's Desk

"The Sum of All Sacrifices"

*Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.*

Over a period of two thousand years, from the time of Moses and the establishment of the temple laws and rituals, how many sheep, goats, and oxen were daily slaughtered on the high altar for the sins and guilt of God's people? Just one sacrifice per day for that length of time would have cost the lives and blood of 730,000 animals, but even more than that were committed to the altar and knife... and still that wasn't good enough. Men kept on sinning and the cost could never be met on a human plain by any mere mortal being. God's justice and wrath could never be silenced through the old sacrificial system. The eternal punishment for sin would require an eternal payment and meager human lives could never meet that expectation or that price.

**Everything that we
are and have is from
the fountain and
source of life, the
living God, Father,
Son, and Spirit.**

The ultimate New Testament sacrifice was foreshadowed by the many sacrifices of the Old. On our part, there was a need for something higher and greater. Our heavenly Father had known that since before the foundation of the world. He already understood that before the fall of Adam. He already had a plan devised by which He would be reconciled to the whole

world, and that would come at the cost of His own beloved and eternal Son.

Sacrifice is never a partial thing. Even the incomplete token offerings in the temple demanded the full life and blood of the sacrifice. Sacrifice requires the totality of the object. In the sacrificial action that which was once alive becomes dead. What previously had blood coursing through its veins now had none, and the blood it once had, now stained the altar, being given up as atonement. The animals were indifferent to their fate, but not so the sacrifice of God's Son.

The second person of the holy Trinity knew what was being asked of Him. He was aware and accommodating to the cost. We are told that He willingly laid down His life. This was His glory, to become a curse to rescue the cursed, to give up His life for His friends that they, and we, might live though we, for our iniquities, deserved the fate He took upon Himself. We would have to remain dead forever if our death was to attempt to make payment for sin, and it still wouldn't attain the desired result. We would have to suffer the eternal death and torment of hell if God's justice was ever to be satisfied, and of what heavenly benefit would that ever be to a sinner? The greatness of the sacrifice of God's Son is that He did not remain dead! Sin and its affects had been conquered!

Jesus comes on the scene of human history, in the fullness of time, and His public ministry kept moving Him closer and closer to the cross. He was recognized as the sacrifice by which God and man would be made right! The Baptizer called Him the Lamb of God! How else could Israel understand that title than in the light of the fate of lambs in the Old Testament? He comes as a priest who would offer Himself and no other. He was our forever substitute! His sacrifice would be the final and acceptable compensation



Rev. Mark A. Miller, CID President

before the throne of heaven by which we would be viewed as innocent and righteous. His Paschal Lamb's blood would provide the signal to the angel of death that we are to be passed over and left to live!

Now living, for Christ's sake, there is a sacrifice that is asked of us for whom the Son of God died and rose again. We understand what is implied. Everything that we are and have is from the fountain and source of life, the living God, Father, Son, and Spirit. We would be nothing apart from what He has given as a gift. We would no longer exist should we no longer be an object of His consideration. Now everything we are and have is to be used in His service in thanks for all that He did to bring us back into the circle of fellowship with Him. This was not something He owed us as some debt, but something He did freely because He loved us! So, Jesus was the sum of all sacrifices as one perfect and eternal offering by which our sacrifices, as feeble and imperfect as they might be, are sanctified.

*But Christ, the heavenly Lamb,
Takes all our guilt away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.*

— **Rev. Mark A. Miller, CID President**
1 Corinthians 2:2



SPRING (Church) PLANTING SEASON

At its last convention, our Synod resolved “That congregations and circuits be encouraged and supported by their respective districts to investigate and identify new mission plants” (2019 Res. 1-02).

To enable pastors and others to begin talking about church planting, CID is cooperating with the Synod’s Office of National Mission to produce these resources: a.) a brochure, in two parts and b.) a set of four short videos. These tools will help inform and stimulate church plantings conversations in congregations. They should be available about Easter time, in mid-April, if not before.

Congregations are urged to use these tools during May, a month we might call “Spring (Church) Planting Season.” Talk church planting at Bible classes on four of the five Sundays in May. Devote time at a regularly scheduled meeting to a discussion of

church planting. Hold a special meeting for such discussion. Or encourage church members to view the videos and read the brochure, then talk amongst themselves.

The District will be discussing church planting at its convention in July. Why not “prime the pump” via congregation-level conversations during May?

On a related note, over the next year or so CID Mission Executive Ken Schurb and his predecessor Joel Cluver are attempting, between them, to visit every Circuit Winkel in the District to encourage discussion of church planting prospects. Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund has generously given CID a grant to help pay for these visits. It will also pay for subsequent visits to congregations showing particular interest in church planting.



“LOOK, I TELL YOU, LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND SEE THAT THE
FIELDS ARE WHITE FOR HARVEST.” JOHN 4:35 ESV

CID SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY

May 1, 2022

Each year our CID designates a special Sunday to encourage financial gifts to assist CID students who are studying for full-time church work vocations. Gifts will be used to support our 18 CID students (13 seminarians, 3 vicars, one deaconess, and 4 undergraduates) who are attending an LCMS seminary or university to become a pastor, teacher or other called church worker. Last year we were able to send \$119,000 to offset \$423,239 worth of unmet needs.

Please plan to make a generous gift on or before May 1st. Gifts may be designated "CID Scholarship Fund" to be used for the 2022-2023 school year or be designated "CID Scholarship Endowment Fund" and the income from your gift will be used to help CID students for years to come. Checks may be given through your church or sent to: Central Illinois District-LCMS, 1850 N. Grand Avenue West, Springfield, IL 62702-1626

Pray for, thank, and encourage those called church workers who are presently serving you, as well as those who are studying to serve the Lord and you in ministry.

the church, please speak to your pastor about them and send their name and contact information to the district president.

If you are considering a major gift, or would like to include scholarships for CID seminarians or church worker students in your estate planning or through a life insurance policy or IRA, please contact CID Planned Gift Counselor, Rev. Charles Olander, at (217) 416-8842 or c-olander@msn.com for assistance.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE CID AND ALL OF OUR MISSION PROJECTS.

Small Church Summit | June 11

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Farmersville, Illinois, is inviting members of small churches in the Central and Southern Illinois Districts to a "Small Church Summit" on St. Barnabas Day, Saturday, June 11, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This free event is for both pastors and laypeople.

What is a small church? "If your church thinks of itself as small, consider yourself invited," said Pastor Micheal Strong of Zion. "We want to encourage and help one another as Lutheran congregations."

After opening worship and introductions, participants will talk about positive points concerning their churches as well as challenges. After lunch at the church, they will apply various positives to various challenges identified that morning, and consider ways in which future small church summits might prove helpful.

Interested? Please contact the CID office:

PHONE: (217) 793-1802

E-MAIL: cid@cidlcms.org



Dr. Walter A. Maier III

CID LLL CONVENTION

The CID LLL held its 92nd Convention on March 5th, 2022, at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Decatur, Illinois. The Speaker was the Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III. He is the grandson of the first Lutheran Hour Speaker Rev. Walter Maier. He is also a professor at Concordia Seminary at Ft. Wayne, Indiana and also appears on Worship Anew. He spoke on the topic "The Lutheran Church in the 21st Century." There was also a presentation by Ralph Rivera who is with the Pro Family Group. He is a lobbyist who spends his time in Springfield alerting as many as possible about legislation coming down that is an attack on the family and religious freedom. He stressed that we need to take this seriously. Elections were held and Danny Magelitz was re-elected LLL President, Deloris Blessman LLL Treasurer and LLL Vice-President East Raymond Stuckemeyer. There was a short message from Lutheran Hour Speaker Dr. Michael Zeigler where Jesus tells us to "Come unto me ye weary and I will give you rest."

"Tomorrow is too late"

The following article, submitted by Pastor William Jensen, underscores one of the things our campus ministries do. Not only do they bring God's Word into the secular environment of a state university; they also serve to counter faulty understandings of God's Word also among groups that fly the flag of Christianity. As Pastor Jensen notes, campus ministries are eager to work in tandem with students' home churches in pointing to the real Gospel of the real Christ.

Greetings in the name of Christ Jesus from Wittenberg Lutheran Center at Illinois State! Wittenberg is one of the LCMS campus ministries supported by CID. I am reaching out to you with some urgency, due to a new development here in the Normal-Bloomington community.

There is a new campus ministry coming to our town that will go by the name "SALT COMPANY" or "SALT CHURCH." It is part of a larger body called "THE SALT NETWORK" that has been around for about five years. They currently have 21 established campus ministries across the Midwest, and are planting six more. SALT churches have their roots in Anabaptist doctrine, specifically the Disciples and Churches of Christ, and are associated with the Campbellite strain. After an extensive search, involving "a ton of cities and a ton of campuses", they have focused on the town of Normal and the campus of ISU because they sense the desperate need for "a church that genuinely loves and cares for students".

SALT churches have become known for aggressively pursuing and recruiting students who had been raised in mainline churches and baptized as babies, in an effort to "wake up the church." Their strategy and methodology is re-baptism for those whose faith is weak. According to one of their posts, "We believe that infant baptism is different than believer's baptism." They teach baptism as an "ordinance" (a law), rather than a means of grace that delivers God's gifts to us. They pressure students to undergo a 2nd baptism as "an outward expression of an inward decision" to put their faith in

Jesus. "Believer's baptism" is seen by them as a "symbol practiced by those who have begun their journey of following Christ." Obviously, students away from home and vulnerable to such false teaching and deceptive methodology are prime targets for them.

We have been told that this church is coming to town this summer with a staff of 40 missionaries and evangelists. (By comparison, the largest of the current campus ministries here in Normal have a staff of about 4.) My urgent plea, given in brotherly love and exhortation, is that you increase your efforts to prepare your young adults and youth for the challenge they will surely face when they go off to college.

"I acknowledge one baptism for the remission (forgiveness) of sins."

Tomorrow is too late to reinforce our young people's confidence in their Baptism. These false teachers DO NOT strengthen people's faith, only weaken it by making it subjective. We know that our faith is grounded on the OBJECTIVE TRUTH found in Holy Scripture. Already, we are seeing students whose infant baptism was portrayed as "insufficient" and "impotent." It has recently become a point of contention within the circle of ecumenical campus ministries at ISU.

Parents, pastors, teachers and confirmation leaders, please raise the awareness of these spiritual predators with your young students. Once the claws get embedded in them, it's hard to get them back.



Bring Giving Home

The CID Stewardship and Mission education initiative "Bring Giving Home" began in 2019. It will reach an end this coming June 30.

Between now and then, President Mark Miller and Stewardship Executive Ken Schurb are most pleased to conduct *Bring Giving Home* follow-ups. They will preach and teach about Stewardship at your church, at no cost. A Church Extension Fund grant covers their expenses.

Dr. Schurb also does congregational Stewardship consultations at no cost.

What is your next step in Stewardship? Let's talk.

Congregational Life

During COVID

In the October 2021 *GatePost* issue, we began presenting perspectives on dealing with COVID and the stresses that come with that in a congregation. This issue we will hear from a teacher and a DCE.

My Ministry During COVID:

Teacher's View

By Janice Wirsing, Jr. High ELA teacher, Trinity Lutheran School, Bloomington, IL

March 2020 threw most schools into a period of uncertainty, and my school was no different. What I anticipated as perhaps a two-to-three week period of at-home online learning soon evolved into the remainder of the school year. Teachers, parents, and students felt a lack of control and wanted things back to the way they used to be. We felt cheated in missing those times of connection we had looked forward to: class trips, celebrations, bonding as a class.

We never, however, felt abandoned. We reminded ourselves each day who we are: "My name is Jan and I'm a child of God." We reminded each other daily of the never-ending gifts God showers on us. We trusted our help comes in God's time and in God's way. Our Lutheran school was a place of becoming secure in our faith, supported by our faith family.

I saw my students daily on a computer screen; I witnessed stress, fear of the unknown, the grief of loss. We craved togetherness. We shaped each day with our opening, time together in Word and prayer. Throughout the day we prayed for God's care, and we felt His presence. We knew He would never leave us. Each student volunteered to lead our prayers and devotions. Even from a distance, the positive message of the Gospel

led to feelings of security, developed hope for the future, and helped us process our emotions. We were affirmed in the safety God provides and His message of love.

On returning to in-person learning we experienced the enrollment of many new students at our school. Our message had spread to family, friends, and neighbors who also wanted the reassurance of never feeling separated again. Even during the pandemic, we found a place of safety — in the arms of our Savior.

My Ministry During COVID:

DCE's View

By Scott Rauch, Director of Christian Education, Trinity Lutheran School, Peoria, IL

Serving youth in their faithful walk with Jesus as part of our overall church ministries has grown in its challenges through the last couple years. Our American and world cultural influences have significantly changed. Our life schedules have been impacted in ways that are hard to navigate. COVID and other health issues have moved us to wonder how best to help our young people in our churches and communities.

Here's an encouraging word and a positively challenging word. Jesus still has us firmly in His hands and He continues to lead us, including our youth, in the way of eternal life. We now have the opportunity to faithfully lead and serve our youth in new creative ways that we haven't had to think about in a long time.

The biggest programmatic impact and influence a church can have for and with her youth going forward is to "think" and "operate" less programmatically. Think and operate more "relationally" and "globally." Think about Sunday morning worship & Bible study & service since most youth are together with the congregation at that time anyway. Think about scheduling time for hanging out together in conversation, food and devotional prayer (God's Word, a quick thought and prayer without a ton of study) either at church or at a home or somewhere else. Think about scheduling time for play that does not involve a lot of rules or props. Think about seeing youth ministry more as part of the entire congregation rather than just a unique grouping of age-specific people.

Be open to the Holy Spirit's leading in your heart and mind, and with the counsel of other adults in leadership, including your pastor. Be patient and persistent. Be inviting and encouraging. See this shift and challenge as a blessing to walk through and in. Jesus invited His disciples simply to follow Him, and they spent three years learning, serving, struggling, sinning, living in Christ's grace and love, and finally having to work through the challenge of the cross and empty tomb. Then they imitated Jesus as we see in the book of Acts. We do nothing different. We follow Jesus and we invite others to follow Him with and through us. It is a blessing, and it will impact and influence our world in ways that God knows best.

"THE LORD IS MY ROCK AND MY FORTRESS AND MY DELIVERER, MY GOD, MY ROCK, IN WHOM I TAKE REFUGE, MY SHIELD AND THE HORN OF MY SALVATION, MY STRONGHOLD."

PSALM 18:2



re:Vitality . . .

is a suite of resources offered by the Synod's Office of National Mission at no cost to LCMS congregations for church revitalization. These currently include:

Congregational Assessment of Development/Decline Status (CAD/DS)

The recommended starting point in *re:Vitality* is this 100-question electronic survey for church members and others to take. It identifies and organizes their perceptions of the congregation's strengths and weaknesses. The survey is available to LCMS congregations at no cost and no obligation. Churches need not commit to any of the *re:Vitality* modules before or after the survey. However, after seeing their survey results, churches may desire one or more of the modules. These currently include:

Connect to Disciple

This module helps a congregation lead people from their initial connection with the church's members to *discipleship*, being gathered around the Lord's Word and Sacraments with the rest of the congregation. For short, the name is *Connect to Disciple*. A new application of this material specifically to congregations with Lutheran schools is called *Beyond the Classroom*.

Like all other *re:Vitality* modules, *Connect to Disciple* is available at no cost as a self-directed study. CID also has generous funding from Central Illinois LWML to provide facilitators who can conduct a Friday night-Saturday

morning workshop at your church at very minimal cost to the congregation. Contact Evangelism Executive Ken Schurb about *Connect to Disciple*.

Shepherding our Strays

This module concerns a congregation's inactive members. It offers practical tools for outreach to them, helping a congregation to develop a realistic and effective plan to engage both short- and long- term inactives. Contact Ken Schurb for more information.

Serving in God's Mission

This module guides a congregation through a strategic planning process tailored to Lutheran churches. Through it, your congregation will work together to develop a Strategic Ministry Plan for its particular situation. Contact CID Congregational Life Executive Trip Rodgers if you are interested.

Members of One Body

This newest *re:Vitality* module focuses on the assimilation or incorporation of new people into a congregation. As of summer, 2022 it is in beta testing, but will be available generally soon thereafter. Contact Ken Schurb for *Members of One Body*.

For more information, see <https://www.lcms.org/church-revitalization>

"Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established"
(Proverbs 16:3)



SUMMER PROGRAMS 2022

The Central Illinois Lutheran Camp Association (CILCA) exists to foster and strengthen faith in Jesus Christ and fellowship with others in a unique outdoor setting. CILCA strives to reconnect Christians to Christ and Creation.

GENERATIONS

Campers age 4 thru 4th grade are introduced to camp with a 1-night stay with a parent or other adult. **\$65***

Session I : **June 10-11**

Session II: **July 1-2**

*per person

PATHFINDERS

1st- thru 4th-grade campers break out on their own with a 2- or 3-night stay.

\$150/*\$175

Session I; **June 1-3**

Session II: **July 5-8***

Session III: **July 14-16**

BOLD SPIRITS

4th- thru 6th-grade campers experience 5 nights of Camp CILCA. **\$325**

Session: **June 12-17**

DAUNTLESS SOULS

6th- thru 8th-grade campers gather for a screen-free week of life-changing outdoor adventure. **\$325**

Session I: **June 19-24**

Session II: **July 17-22**

ART & DRAMA WEEK

5th- thru 8th-grade campers choose one track-**Art** or **Drama**-for the week & are led by experienced instructors. **\$350**

Session: **July 17-22**

AQUA WEEK

4th- thru 6th-grade water-loving campers will enjoy a full week of water-based activities. **\$350**

Session: **June 26-July 1**

JOYFUL HEARTS

Campers of all ages with developmental disabilities experience the joys of the outdoors during a 4- or 2-night stay. **\$350/*\$175**

Full Week: **June 5-9**

Half Week: **June 5-7* or 7-9***

ATHLETICS WEEK

5th- thru 8th-grade campers focus on a new sport every day: soccer, volleyball, track & more! **\$350**

Session: **June 12-17**

NIGHT OWL

6th- thru 8th-graders experience camp while staying up all night and sleeping all day. Enough said! **\$350**

Session: **July 19-24**

INTREPID HEARTS

High-School students enjoy the rejuvenation of God's creation in a laid-back week before school starts. **\$325**

Session: **July 24-29**

ACT LIKE MEN CAMP

Men who have completed high school can explore new skills, test their strength, make new friends, and learn what it means to be a man of God.

\$150

Session: **July 31- August 5**

REGISTER TODAY!

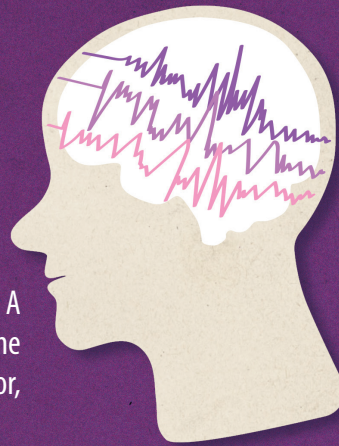
To find in-depth details on each camp & **register*** visit:

WWW.CILCA.ORG

*\$75 deposit due at time of registration

Seizures Strike Lots of People

Seizures are more common than you might think. A seizure is a brief disruption of electrical activity in the brain resulting in movement, sensation, behavior, awareness and speech.



Anyone with a brain can have a seizure. Think of the child who seems to be “acting out” at home or school but is really having a kind of seizure. Or consider the adult who just underwent brain surgery, has experienced two or more breakthrough tonic-clonic seizures, and is now diagnosed with epilepsy.

Or think about yourself. A mixture of societal stressors, navigating the virtual world, and one’s own inadequacies and inability to keep up with life can take a toll on our bodies. Stress can mount, then anxiety can step in to make your heart palpitate uncomfortably fast.

Would you like to learn more about seizures, and what you can do with respect to them? CID’s Human Care Committee is interested in increasing the level of seizure awareness in our churches and schools. Contact Human Care executive Ken Schurb at (217) 793-1802 or e-mail kschurb@cidlcms.org.

Official Notices

1/1/2022 – 3/31/2022

Ordained

Transferred In

- Rev. Matthew Schneider, IN
- Rev. Andrew Schroeder, FLGA
- Rev. Aaron Bird, NOW

Installation

- Rev. Matthew Schneider, Senior, Good Shepherd, Sherman 1/2/22
- Rev. Andrew Schroeder, IIP, Our Savior, Washington 2/20/22
- Rev. Aaron Bird, Associate, St. John, Decatur 2/27/22

Change in Status

- Rev. John Johnson, Christ, Mason City, to EM 1/31/22



CID is on Facebook AND Instagram

Come find us @cidlcms in both locations! Our page is filled with prayer and encouragement for you to share with those around you. Join us to keep up to date on District happenings and learn about new and exciting things coming soon!

**Making
Disciples
for Life**





Trinity Lutheran Church

1201 West Jackson St., Auburn, IL 62615

Saturday, May 21, 2022
9am to 3pm

Registration begins at 8:30am

Register online at
https://www.lcms-lert.org/need/detail/?need_id=66891

LERT Basic Training Event

LERT Basic Training participants will be introduced to the LCMS Disaster Response program and learn the basic nature of a disaster, the opportunities to respond to personal needs in such disasters, and how a Christians can support families, congregations, and the public, as the hands and feet of Jesus during trying times.

The registration fee (\$35.00) will include light breakfast, lunch, manual, credential card, and t-shirt. Walk-ins are welcome. Checks should be made out to Trinity Lutheran Church.

If you are already LERT certified, the event is considered continuing education (no charge for re-training, but \$15 if you want a manual and/or t-shirt). A \$5 to \$8 offering is welcome to help pay for food.

For further information, please contact Stephen Born at (217) 220-0162 or bornstephen@yahoo.com or Cindy Steinwedel at cmsteinwedel@gmail.com.

CID Church Extension Fund

Mortgage Interest Rebates

It is important to the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund (CID-CEF) that our Central Illinois District (CID) congregations, organizations, and schools utilize their financial resources for the benefit of their ministries. One way we can assist them in doing so is through our Mortgage Interest Rebate program. This Program returns to our borrowers under our standard interest rate program part of the interest they have paid during the year, thereby reducing the cost of their loans and returning financial resources to them for the expansion of His Kingdom.

Thanks to the blessings and guidance of our Lord during this challenging time, the CID-CEF will award Mortgage Interest Rebates for the seventeenth year in a row to those borrowing churches and entities that qualify for the rebate. All borrowers under our standard interest rate program are eligible to earn this rebate. To qualify for the rebate, all loan payments must be up to date at the end of the calendar year. For the year ending December 31, 2021, \$150,000 has been designated for mortgage interest rebates, to be awarded across all borrowers qualifying for the rebate.



Praise God for blessing our churches, organizations, and schools with the financial resources enabling them to meet their loan payments, and His blessings to their congregations for providing those funds!

CID Church Extension Fund

Grants Awarded in 2021

During 2021, the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund (CID-CEF) lowered mortgage interest rates for its borrowers while maintaining interest rates for its investors, but God has again blessed His ministry by enabling us to approve nearly \$61,000 in grant requests throughout the Central Illinois District (CID). We wanted to share with you where you can expect to see the fruits of God's blessings through the use of these grant funds within the CID:



- **Springfield Immanuel and CID**

"Red Church Preaching Station" – \$1,185

This is the most exciting endeavor presented to the CID-CEF for funding and one with tremendous opportunity for bringing new souls into His Kingdom. Springfield Immanuel established and is supporting a new preaching station at the church building on the CID grounds, reaching people in an area on the fringes of other LCMS churches in the city.

- **Springfield Our Savior's**

"Outreach Community Support Groups" – \$1,000

Reaching out to the community with a focus on grief and on marriage enrichment, two areas of concern heightened by the pandemic.

- **Sullivan Faith**

"Acts 2:42" – \$2,750 matching grant

Renewing and enhancing children's ministry as well as reaching the greater community through playground development.

- **Jacksonville Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf**

"Overhead Projector and Security System" – \$3,000

Funding an overhead projector for worship and a security system for the facility.

- **Normal Wittenberg Lutheran Center**

"Handicap Accessible Doors, Light Tables" – \$1,500

Providing accessibility to the Lutheran Center for those with disabilities.

- **Schools throughout the CID**

"Funding CID Schools Now and Forever" – \$20,000

Partnering with an anonymous donor and the Lutheran Legacy Foundation in the last year of a 3-year program providing matching funds and grant funds to schools raising an initial \$5,000 endowment.

- **Altamont Lutheran Interparish School**

"ALIS BBQ Fundraiser" – \$3,000

Assisting in the establishment of an annual fundraiser reaching out to the community for the future growth of Lutheran education in the Altamont greater area.

- **CID Grants:**

- *"Parking Lot" – \$10,000*

Fourth installment on refurbishment of the CID parking lot.

- *"Mission Videos" – \$9,000*

Producing videos for the CID Spanish and Deaf ministries and for the 1.1.1 mission funding as introduced by the Synod.

- *"Promoting Church Planting in the CID" – \$5,400*

Initiating communication, interest, and commitment to the planting of new churches in the CID as emphasized by the Synod.

- *"LERT Background Checks" – \$4,000*

Supporting our Lutheran Early Response Team volunteers through reimbursement for background checks as newly required by the Synod.

We pray God's Blessings on these ministry projects — may they enhance the spiritual life of our congregations and cultivate new believers for His harvest!

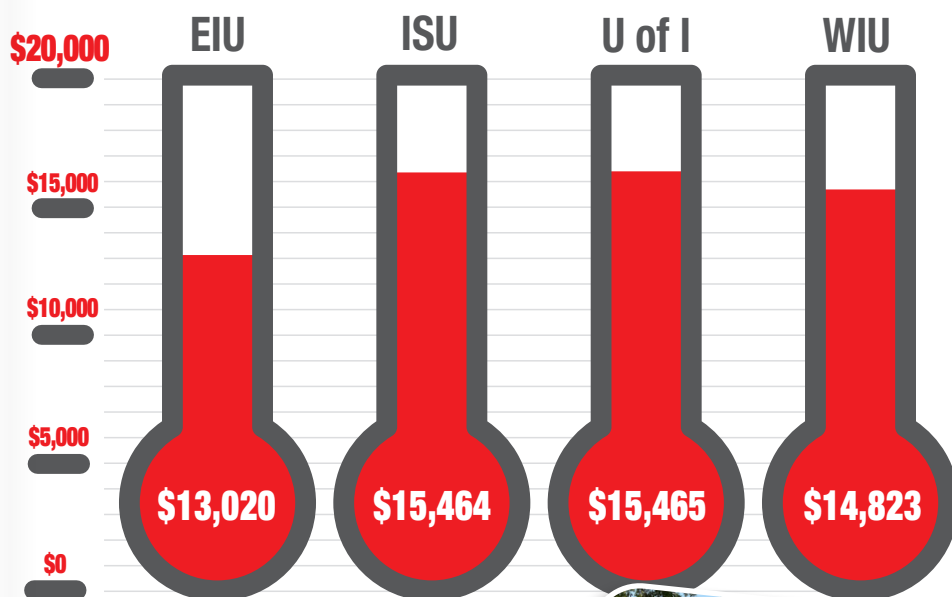


Keeping Christ on *Campus*

Help us raise \$20,000 for each of four funds to support campus ministry at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston (EIU); Illinois State University, Normal (ISU); University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (U of I); and Western Illinois University, Macomb (WIU).

Donations* will continue to be accepted and will be matched 100% through July 1, 2022!

Total raised as of February 1, 2022.



Have you heard? Our Keeping Christ on Campus endowment campaign to support our CID campus ministries is **STILL GOING!** A gracious and generous donor increased our match and we have until July 1, 2022, to have your dollars matched 100% as we raise \$20,000 each to support endowment funds for four campus ministries!

No donation is too small! Each donation will be matched dollar-for-dollar and will be appreciated by each campus ministry for years to come!

Check out the graph above to see where each campus ministry stands currently. We have a ways to go, but we get closer with your prayerful donation through the Grace of God.

If you would like to donate to the future support of these campus ministries, please click our link here <https://linktr.ee/cidlcms> and donate through Lutheran Legacy Fund.

Please continue to pray for our college students and the campus ministries serving them, even if you are unable to donate. Your prayerful support means so much to the continuation of spreading the Love of Christ to these students.

It's all part of keeping Christ on campus!

For more information:

See the CID Website: <http://www.cidlcms.org/outreach-missions-campus.html>

Contact Ken Schurb at the District office: (217) 793-1802 or e-mail kschurb@cidlcms.org

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

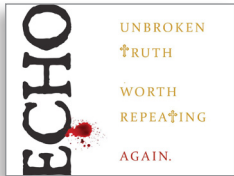
* Donations up to \$20,000 will be matched.



Another method of support for campus ministry is to provide the District contact information on students attending one of the above-mentioned universities. In fact, CID will make referrals to LCMS U chapters all over the country.

Send students' names, mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and/or telephone numbers to kschurb@cidlcms.org

CPH FaithCourses for Free!



Concordia Publishing House (CPH) has recently started offering its video studies called CPH FaithCourses® at no charge to the online user. This forms a great opportunity for both individual and group study.

Basically, there are two types of CPH FaithCourses. Some, designed to accompany books published by CPH, feature the author talking about the book's contents. For example, Dr. Andy Das, who wrote the *Concordia Commentary on Galatians*, has 6 video lessons available on that epistle. Dr. Alfonso Espinosa describes *Faith that Sees through the Culture*. Pastor Jonathan Fisk echoes his book *Echo*.

Other CPH FaithCourses were designed from the start as Bible or topic studies. Rev. Wayne Palmer provides a short overview of the Bible in *God's Great Plan*. Dr. Lane BURGland teaches the book of *Revelation*. Dr. Jan Lohmeyer teaches *Apologetics*. CID's Dr. Ken Schurb teaches *Paul's Missionary Journeys*.

Get a look at the full range of available studies at <https://cphfaithcourses.com/browse/>. You will have to sign up to access CPH FaithCourses, but the price could not be better!

CPH FaithCourses® is a product of Concordia Publishing House

Did you know?

In 1844, C. F. W. Walther founded the German magazine, *Der Lutheraner*, for the members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). Walther set out of a fourfold purpose for the newsletter: First, to make known the doctrine, treasures and history of the Lutheran Church. Second, to show how the Evangelical Lutheran Church is the true visible church of Jesus Christ on earth. Third, to help Lutherans know how to believe, live and die in the faith. Fourth, and finally, to uncover the false doctrine afflicting Lutherans of his time. *Der Lutheraner* served these purposes until the LCMS stopped publishing it in 1974.

Even though *The Lutheran Witness* was founded in 1882 by the English Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States, it still carries on the tradition begun by C. F. W. Walther. *The Lutheran Witness* is now one of the oldest denominational magazines in the world.

Source: <https://witness.lcms.org/about/>



in all things

JULY 9-13, 2022 LCMS YOUTH GATHERING

Gathering Update

Ways to Connect

LCMS Youth Ministry Facebook Group

Lots of Gathering related content and collaboration, but all thing youth ministry too!

facebook.com/LCMSyouth

End Goals: LCMS Youth Ministry Podcast

All things youth ministry and some great episodes on the Gathering!

www.kfuo.org/category/lcms-youth-ministry-end-goals/

LCMS Youth Gathering Social Media Links

facebook.com/lcmsgathering

instagram.com/lcmsgathering

twitter.com/lcmsgathering

Registration

Registrations continue to come in to the Gathering Office and CID is well represented! 26 CID congregations have officially registered and will be sending students and their adult leaders this summer to Houston! *Registration remains open if your congregation is interested.*

District Event

We are excited to be partnering with Northern Illinois and Southern Illinois for an All-Illinois District Event this year at the Gathering. This will take place on July 11 and there will be two opportunities to attend! It will be held at "The Truck Yard" located just a few block behind the convention center where we will have great meal options from local food vendors, music, over-sized games, prize give-aways, a visit from Concordia Chicago, and the opportunity to ride a ferris wheel! Registration for the District event will open on March 1st, so keep your eyes on your email! There will be three packages to choose from: Event Only – \$25, T-shirt Only – \$15, or Event and T-shirt – \$35!

Bible Studies

The Gathering Office has released five Bible studies for congregations to use in preparation for this summer! Those can be found at <https://lcmsgathering.com/resources/>

For any questions related to the Gathering, please contact **Jonathan Guse**, CID District Coordinator at jonathan@bethelmorton.org or (309) 263-2417.



PRISON MINISTRY

Inside and Out

Rev. Rodney Blomquist, CID Prison Ministry Coordinator

Last year, the Central Illinois LWML decided to award CID a \$10,000 multi-year grant for resourcing and restructuring the District's prison and jail ministry. This grant will help two groups of people. The first group is those who take the Gospel into jails and correctional centers. The second group consists of others who from the outside support the first group. For those who go into prison settings with the Gospel, the grant funds will provide training, materials and support.

The emphasis in the present article, though, falls on the second group. These are congregations or individuals in CID congregations who can donate needed materials without themselves entering a prison or jail. Maybe this includes you.

A list of pre-approved materials for you to donate (e.g., Bibles, devotionals, catechisms and hymnals) to a jail or prison is available. It is being expanded.

A grant form has been developed for your use in requesting monetary reimbursement for materials you donate. See the voucher, guidelines, and materials list at cidlcms.org/outreach-missions-prisons.html.

Make sure the materials that you wish to purchase are not only on the CID pre-approved list but are also approved by the appropriate facility. Each facility has regulations concerning receiving and distributing materials.

Contact Rev. Rodney Blomquist to answer questions. You can contact him at prgb@ctitech.com or call (217) 825-6160.

Jails are presently stressed by over-crowding, so please be patient in dealing with them. The state correctional centers are on high alert concerning the spread of COVID. Both jails and correctional centers may for the moment be closed to volunteers, even family visits. The situation changes constantly.

The first group, people who go into jails and prisons with the Gospel, stands out as important. And so does the second group. Yes, you can donate Christ-centered materials for use in prisons or jails. But you can also give words of encouragement to others, especially the young. You can be willing to tell them of the grace and forgiveness of God. You can listen as well as talk. You might even take someone's keys away. All of this will help keep many out of "the system." And for those you help to reach within the system, the proverb proves true: "Start a youth out on his way; even when he grows old he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6, CSV).

Thank you, LWML, for supporting this work! Reader, please consider helping to provide Christ-centered reading material to a jail or prison that may be difficult to get into otherwise.

God bless and keep you all in His grace.

Sign-up now at
www.cidlcms.org
 to get
The GatePost and
News You Can Use
 emailed to you.



1850 North Grand Avenue West
 Springfield, IL 62702-1626

***The GatePost* for The Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is a supplement to congregational newsletters.**

Submit all articles to the Editor:

Lewis "Trip" Rodgers
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 Springfield, IL 62702-1626
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Rev. Mark Miller, Advisor
 Lewis "Trip" Rodgers, Editor
 Rev. Bob Bruer
 Jim Deverman
 Shawn Hoffmann
 Tim Mathis

INVESTMENT APPLICATION



CHURCH EXTENSION FUND, INC. (CEF)

Central Illinois District - LCMS (CID)

1850 North Grand Avenue West

Springfield, IL 62702-1626

TELEPHONE: (217) 793-1802 FAX: (217) 793-9454

EMAIL: cef@cidlcms.org www.cid-cef.org

New Investment: \$ _____

Make check payable to:
CID Church Extension Fund

-OR-

Existing CID-CEF Investment Certificate # _____

(signed Investment Certificate or Lost Certificate Agreement must be returned with Application)

Reinvest \$ _____ Redeem \$ _____

INVESTMENT CERTIFICATES - Minimum Investment: \$500 - Interest paid/applied and statement sent semi-annually

- ☐ 1.25% 5-year term ☐ 1.00% 3-year term
☐ 0.60% 1-year term ☐ 0.30% 6-month term

Special Term and Rate – Limited Time!!!

- ☐ 1.00% 2-year term

INTEREST PAYMENT METHOD (Choose one)

- ☐ Accumulate interest and add to investment
☐ Investment check semi-annually (if over \$25)
☐ Direct Deposit – requires completed enrollment form
(Go to www.cidlcms.org or contact CEF to request the form)

INTEREST RATES ARE EFFECTIVE 1/1/2021 AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE – CALL TO CONFIRM CURRENT RATES

FLEXIBLE SAVINGS – Interest added to account monthly, statement sent quarterly

- ☐ Regular Flexible Savings Account Interest Rate: 0.25% Minimum: \$25 – available to all customers
☐ Capital Campaign Flexible Savings Account Interest Rate: 0.60% Minimum: \$500 – available only to religious organizations

Account Ownership (Complete A, B, or C. Please print)

A. Sole or Joint Owners (One or more owners as joint tenants with full rights of survivorship and not tenants in common. Beneficiaries may be designated on "Beneficiary Designation" form. Interest is reported to the IRS using the Social Security number of the first owner listed.)

1. _____
Last or Religious Organization Name First MI Social Security # or TIN Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)
2. _____
Last First MI Social Security # Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)
3. _____
Last First MI Social Security # Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

- ☐ Check if "Beneficiary Designation" form is attached ☐ Check that all joint owners have signed application

B. Trust ("Certificate of Existence of Trust and Authority to Act" must be completed and sent with application)

Name of Trust

Social Security #/TIN

C. Custodian Investment for Minor (Under the Illinois Uniform Transfers to Minors Act)

MINOR Last First MI Social Security # Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

CUSTODIAN Last First MI Social Security # Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

CONTINUE TO BACK OF PAGE

Contact Information for Account

Address

City

State

Zip

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email Address

Supporting Investments

(Please provide the organization to be recognized for current or future investment requirements)

Your Home Congregation

City

---OR---

Other LCMS Organization

City

Investment Certification and Signature – Signatures of all account owners are required.

By signing this application ("I" refers to all applicants, whether one or more), I certify that:

- All information provided is true and correct.
- I am of legal age and not a minor.
- I authorize the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund to initiate any correcting debit or credit that may be necessary.
- I have received a current Offering Circular of the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund.
- I am a member of, contributor to, or participant in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or any district or other program, activity, or organization which constitutes a part of the Synod or any of its districts, or I am an ancestor, descendant, or successor in interest to such person.
- I am a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien).
- The Social Security or Tax ID number shown for me on this application is correct.
- I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) the IRS has not notified me that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding. Please draw an "X" through the preceding sentence if you ARE currently subject to backup withholding. Due to IRS regulations, the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund cannot record your investment until your Taxpayer Identification Number is provided and the above certification signed. The IRS does not require your consent to any provisions of this application other than the certifications required to avoid backup withholding.

Signature of Account Owner/Trustee/Custodian/Authorized Signer

Date

Signature of Account Owner/Trustee/Custodian/Authorized Signer

Date

Signature of Account Owner/Trustee/Custodian/Authorized Signer

Date

The CID-CEF is a nonprofit religious organization, therefore CID-CEF investments are not FDIC-Insured bank deposit accounts.

The Mission of the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund, Inc. (CID-CEF) is to aid member congregations and agencies in the Central Illinois District of the LCMS in building and expanding their facilities and their ministry for the growth of God's Kingdom.