

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

2023: Issue 3



In This Issue...

- 2 From the President's Desk
- 3 A Dollar for Missions News
- 3 Administrator Training
- 4-6 Ordinations and Installations
- 6 Introducing Our Interns
- 7 Small Church Summit
- 8 Official Notices
- 8 Youth Bible Bowl Results
- 9 Keeping Christ on Campus
- 10 Why the Walkout?
- 10 Prison Ministry Materials
- 11 CID-CEF News
- 12 Organist Honored
- 13 CID LLL Illinois State Fair Booth
- 14 Camp CILCA Schedule
- 15 CID LLL Annual Retreat
- 16-17 CID-CEF Investment Form

**Making
Disciples
for Life** 

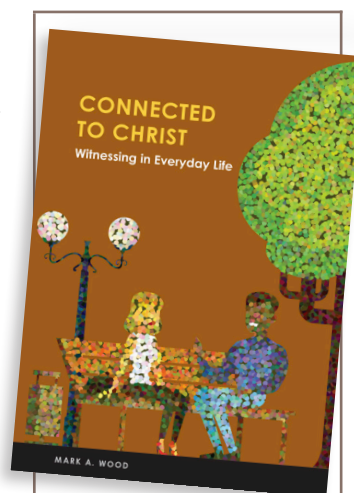
Missions: Not Only "Over There"

Missionaries are admired by their fellow Christians, and understandably so. These days the image may not be quite so vivid in our minds of a khaki-clad fresh seminary graduate wearing a pith helmet, standing on the deck of ocean-going ship and waving to well-wishers on the dock as he departs for some other continent. Still in all, we know that missionaries to other places in the world often make great personal sacrifices, labor against weighty opposition, endure oppressive living conditions, and sometimes even give their lives in the cause of bringing the lost and erring into fellowship with the Lord Who bought them.

Yet missions are not only "over there." Mission opportunities lie all around us. North America has turned into one of the world's most opportunity-laden mission fields, considering the significant number of nonchurched people within our easy reach. *But how can they call on Him if they have not believed in Him? How can they believe in Him if they have not heard of Him? How can they hear if no one preaches? How can they preach if they are not sent?* (Romans 10:14-15a). Those sent are on mission, and mission is not just "over there."

Now is no time to be silent. That certainly was not what the early church did. Even with much more arrayed against it in this world than we typically face in our country, the church at that time refused to remain silent about her Lord. Pastors told the Good News about Jesus. So did church members, in their vocations. *The people who were scattered by the persecution that broke out following Stephen's death went as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they spoke the word only to Jews. But among them were some men from Cyprus and Cyrene who came to Antioch and started talking also to the Greeks, telling the Good News of the Lord Jesus* (Acts 11:19-20).

continued on page 13



Dr. Mark Wood of our Synod's Witness, Outreach, and Revitalization office has written a short book that can help get you started. Called *Connected to Christ: Witnessing in Everyday Life*, it is available from Concordia Publishing House at www.cph.org or phone (800) 325-3040.

The book costs \$9.99. Bulk discounts are available.

Deadline for Dollar for Missions Grant Requests is September 1!

See more on Page 3

From the *President's Desk*

Your Attention, Please!

When something is of great importance, we stretch our minds toward it and wrap our brains around it. That is the original meaning of the word attention – derived from the Latin word for “stretch” (with also gives us the word tension) and the Latin preposition for “toward.” In many parts of the world – the Christian denominations that have the name “Orthodox” in their title, like Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, Eastern Orthodox, etc. – when the Word of God is about to be read, one of the assistants, called a deacon, calls for quiet in congregation by chanting or saying, “Let us attend!” The Word of God shapes our lives, gives us God’s grace, and by that grace works forgiveness in us. This Word is of utmost importance. We should certainly give our attention to this most precious and life-giving Word. This attention is given when we “read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest” this Word, which can happen any time we read and meditate upon God’s Word, but most regularly and importantly has been given by our Lord when we gather together as God’s people to hear those appointed by God to bring us His Word (the called ministers of Christ) proclaim and teach that Word among us.

Over the years, the meaning of the word “attend” has shifted somewhat, reflecting this basic reality: you cannot give attention to something or someone if you are present together with them. Parents cannot attend to the needs of their children if they are not present with their children. You cannot receive the Word if you are not present in the same room with that Word. In any given week, nearly 80% of our friends and neighbors are absent from receiving the gifts God brings in His Word. Of those who do receive God’s gifts in the divine service,

nearly 80% do not receive the fullness of the gifts our Lord delivers by departing early and absenting themselves from Bible Class.

This, brothers and sisters, should not be! You know who these absent ones are. These are our brothers and sisters, these are our sons and daughters, these are our grandchildren, our neighbors, our friends. This is our mission field, and the riches of God’s grace are for them, as well. Please join me these next several weeks in preparing – select one person or family (don’t try to convert the world, focus on one – a neighbor, a friend, a family member) and spend the next week or two lifting them up in prayer. Then, as we approach that natural and cultural shift of the end of summer and the return to the routine of the school year, invite them to come to church. Perhaps for their first time back they would feel more comfortable in a casual gathering or non-worship social event. But invite them – and keep on inviting them. Talk with them about their experience. Help them unpack the gifts our Lord has given in His Word. **Then invite them again... and again... and again...** throughout the entire fall, through Advent and Christmas. No, it’s not a headline-inspiring grand mission gesture. But the mission of the church rarely is. One step at a time. One week at a time. One person, one family at a time.

Let us attend to those absent from God’s gifts. Let us attend to God’s Word as we join our brothers and sisters in inwardly digesting His marvelous grace.

Let us attend...

— **Rev. Michael W. Mohr**, CID President
mmohr@cidlcms.org



Rev. Michael W. Mohr, CID President

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absent from God’s gifts.
Let us attend to God’s
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A Dollar for Missions News

The current Dollar for Missions (DFM) project is \$35,000 for a 12-passenger van for University Lutheran Church, Champaign. This van will have two major uses: 1.) as a shuttle for students on Sunday mornings and 2.) for transportation to various activities, retreats, and service projects throughout the year. You can find details and video resources at <https://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-dfm-current-project.html>.

As of May 31, DFM has received \$11,706.38. In other words, almost halfway through 2023, DFM has received considerably less than half of the money necessary to fund this particular project.

More ambitious DFM projects to provide vicars for a new church start in Springfield and revitalization of Spanish language outreach in Beardstown ended up being unhappily cancelled when no such vicars for 2023-2024 were assigned in placement this past spring. The van for University Lutheran is the next item on the projects list approved by the District Board of Directors.

DFM presents us all a wonderful prospect. Each church member contributing one extra dollar every week can result in significant sums for new missions and mission augmentation.

If your congregation is already participating, thank you! If it is not, please prayerfully consider this prospect. Here is an opportunity for us all to do important things together.

For more on DFM, the project currently being funded, and the entire project list for 2023, see the Dollar For Missions page on the CID website, <http://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-a-dollar-for-missions.html>



Deadline for DFM Grant Requests: September 1

Does your congregation have a project to propose for Dollar for Missions funding in the year 2024? Please note that the application deadline is **Sept. 1, 2023**. DFM funds can be used for new church starts, mission-focused augmentations to existing ministries, and current CID missions.

For more information and for the application form, consult <https://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-dfm-apply.html>

You may also contact Dr. Ken Schurb at the District office, kschurb@cidlcms.org

CENTRAL ILLINOIS TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS ATTEND ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING IN ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN



The seven Midwest Education Executives developed the FLAME (Future Lutheran Administrator Mentioning and Education) program in which goals are to encourage current teachers to consider becoming a principal or to support new principals. During the three-day training, participants learned about topics that principals face. This year we had seven participants from the Central Illinois District. They were Becky Heppe and Carmen Yagow (Our Savior's, Springfield), Margeaux Buhrmann (ALIS, Altamont), Meghan Hagen (St. John's, Mattoon), Lisa Thompson and Cathy Huff (Trinity, Danville) and Nat Schmidtke (Christ, Peoria). This training was supported by the Central Illinois District's Board of Directors budget and a grant from the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund.

ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

A Warm Welcome to the Newest CID Pastors



Rev. Brian Johnston

Installed at Trinity, Taylorville on December 18, 2022

FRONT ROW (L TO R): Rev. Terry Strom (Faith, Monticello), Rev. Michael Mohr (CID President), Rev. Brian Johnston (Trinity, Taylorville), and Rev. Matthew Schneider (Good Shepherd, Sherman).

BACK ROW (L TO R): Rev. Jeffrey Gross (Bethlehem, Petersburg), Rev. Joshua Traxel (Our Savior, Springfield), Rev. Martin Kaufmann (Trinity Auburn), and Rev. Gaylord Spilker (Trinity, Edinburg).

Rev. Adrian Piazza

Installed at Trinity, Casey and Our Redeemer, Robinson on April 16, 2023

FRONT ROW (L TO R): Rev. Gary Fortkamp (St. John's, Effingham), Rev. Steven Becker (Emeritus), Rev. Adrian Piazza (Trinity, Casey/Our Redeemer, Robinson), Rev. Michael Mohr (CID President), and Rev. Earl Brown (Emeritus).

BACK ROW (L TO R): Rev. Jim Wright (Immanuel, Altamont), Rev. Nathan Woolery (Holy Cross, Shelbyville), Rev. Mike Burdick (St. John's, Effingham, CID 2nd VP), and Rev. Tom King (Trinity, Indianapolis).



Rev. Dale Fjordbotten

Installed at Trinity, Cissna Park and St. John, Ash Grove on May 7, 2023

FRONT ROW (L TO R): Rev. Michael Ruhlig (St. Paul, Woodworth), Rev. Dale Fjordbotten (Trinity, Cissna Park/St. John, Ash Grove), and Rev. Michael Mohr (CID President).

BACK ROW (L TO R): Rev. J. Kevin Wyckoff (St. John, Buckley), Rev. H. Douglas Minton (Our Saviour, Milford), Rev. James Yonkers (Immanuel, Danville), and Rev. Aaron Uphoff (Calvary, Watseka).





Rev. Jacob Moore

Ordained and installed at St. John,
New Berlin on June 11, 2023

FRONT ROW (L TO R): Mr. Adam Hiles (Seminarian), Rev. Andrew Preus (Trinity, New Haven, MO), Rev. Jacob Moore (St. John, New Berlin), Rev. Michael Mohr (CID President), and Mr. Joe Moore (Seminarian).

MIDDLE ROW (L TO R): Rev. Matthew Schneider (Good Shepherd, Sherman), Rev. Matthew Hayter (St. Paul, Union, MO), Rev. Brian Johnston (Trinity, Taylorville), Rev. Kevin Wendorf (St. John, Chatham), Rev. Jeff Gross (Bethlehem, Petersburg), Rev. David Weaver (Trinity, Stewardson), and Rev. Gaylord Spilker (Trinity, Edinburg).

BACK ROW (L TO R): Rev. Brenden Harrell (Our Savior, Springfield), Rev. Keith Kettner (St. John, Beardstown), Rev. Ian Heinze (St. Paul, Havana), Rev. Robert Barth (Emeritus), Rev. Joshua Traxel (Our Savior, Springfield), Rev. Martin Kaufmann (Trinity, Auburn), Rev. Donald Pritchard (Zion, Pleasant Plains).

Rev. Brett Cornelius

Installed at Holy Cross, Vandalia on
June 18, 2023

FRONT ROW (L TO R): Acolyte Zoey Warner, Pr. Gail Heimgartner (Candidate), Altamont Circuit Visitor Rev. Ryan Meyer (St. Peter, St. Peter), Pr. Brett Cornelius (Holy Cross, Vandalia), Rev. Michael Mohr (CID President), and Acolyte Keegan Emerick.

BACK ROW (L TO R): Bibliofer Dashed Whiteman, Pr. Michael Feldmann (Salem, Salem), Pr. David Speers (St. Paul, Blue Point (Altamont)), Pr. Timothy Landskroener (Immanuel, Augsburg (Shobonier)), CID 2nd VP Rev. Mike Burdick (St. John's, Effingham), Pr. David Hoehler (St. Paul, Shobonier), Acolyte Braxton Emerick, and Crucifer Jayden Emerick.



Rev. Matthew Riley

Ordained and installed at St. James,
Quincy on June 25, 2023

FRONT ROW (L TO R): Rev. Marlin Rempfer (St. James, Quincy), Rev. Michael Mohr (CID President), Rev. Matthew Riley (St. James, Quincy), and Rev. Dr. Joshua Jones (Bethlehem, Rapid City, SD).

BACK ROW (L TO R): Rev. David Mahsman (Emeritus), Rev. Martin Eden (Redeemer, Quincy), Rev. Ian Heinze (St. Paul, Havana), Rev. Jacob Hercamp (St. Peter, LaGrange, MO), Rev. Marcus Jauss (Concordia, Warsaw/St. Paul's, Bowen), Rev. Chad Bolosan (Messiah, Sterling, NID), and Rev. Rory Karg (Immanuel, Olivette, MO).





Rev. Jonathan Sharp

Ordained and installed at Trinity, Springfield on July 9, 2023

FRONT ROW (L TO R): Rev. Michael Mohr (CID President), Rev. Paul Hemenway (Trinity, Springfield), Rev. Jonathan Sharp (Trinity, Springfield), Rev. Jon-Michael Schweigert (Faith, Knob Noster, MO and UCM Lutheran Student Center), Rev. David Weaver (Trinity, Stewardson)

MIDDLE ROW (L TO R): Rev. Micheal Strong (Zion, Farmersville, SID), Rev. Ken Schurb (CID Mission Exec.), Rev. Jeff Gross (Bethlehem, Petersburg), Rev. Oliver LaMie (St. Peter's, Prairietown, SID), Rev. Jeffrey Reuter (Hope, Rochester, NY), Rev. Richard Becker (Immanuel, Athens)

BACK ROW (L TO R): Rev. Matt Schneider (Good Shepherd, Sherman), Rev. Tom Radtke (Emeritus), Rev. Kevin Peterson (St. Paul, Addison, NID), Rev. Chad Bolosan (Messiah, Sterling, NID), Rev. Martin Kaufmann (Trinity, Auburn), Rev. Greg Barto (Zion, Hillsboro, MO), Rev. Jeff Harter (Concordia Village, Springfield)

NOT PICTURED: Rev. Joe Nehring (Trinity, Harvel, SID)

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.

Introducing our Interns

CID is again hosting two summer evangelism interns in June and July of 2023. This time, both are young men bound for seminary.

Caleb Gustavson is from Merrill, Wisconsin. He just graduated from Concordia University Chicago with a bachelor's degree, majoring in church non-profit business management and minoring in biblical languages. Caleb will enter Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, this fall. He will serve at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Springfield in June and at Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn during July.

Skyler Moyer will serve at Trinity Lutheran Church, Springfield during June and at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Sherman in July. He grew up in Syracuse, New York, but now lives in Mequon, Wisconsin where he is about to begin his senior year at Concordia University with a major in biblical studies and a minor in practical theology. A convert to Christianity while



Introducing CID's two summer Evangelism interns, Skyler Moyer (left) and Caleb Gustavson (right).

he was serving in the U.S. Army, Skyler has a keen interest in outreach.

Outreach will form the focus of activity for both interns this summer. CID's summer evangelism internships provide opportunity for church-workers-in-training to get real world practical experience, spreading the Gospel to the nonchurched. This arrangement figures to work out well for the interns, the churches to which they are currently assigned in CID, and any churches they will serve in the future as pastors. Please pray for our interns and their work!

Small Church Summit

RESOURCES AND IDEAS



Next SCS

The next Small Church Summit in CID will be at Faith Lutheran Church, Lincoln, on Feb. 3 or (if weather is bad then) on Feb. 10, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Facilities at Faith are all on one level.

President Timothy Scharf of SID will make a presentation on churches reaching out to their inactive members, but most of the day will be devoted to interaction. In the afternoon, participants will be able to choose four of six possible topics for short small group discussions.

Watch future *GatePost* issues for more information, but plan now to attend. The SID meeting will be held at Messiah Lutheran Church, Carlyle, on either Jan. 6 or 27. By the way, folks from CID may attend the SID meeting. The programs in CID and SID this winter will closely resemble each other.

The third semiannual Small Church Summit was held at Concordia Lutheran Church, Springfield, on Saturday, June 3. The guest presenter was Pastor Todd Kollbaum, Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Madison, Nebraska, and Director of Rural and Small Town Mission for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. A group of some 40 people attended, about evenly divided between Central and Southern Illinois District participants.

Pastor Kollbaum offered encouragement. He pointed to help available to small churches, such as partnership models for congregations who find themselves needing to share pastors and various resources. He also mentioned Stewardship and revitalization aids from other departments of the national Synod, as well as the workshops and training offered by his own department, LCMS Rural and Small Town Mission. To follow up or learn more about any of these, contact Ken Schurb at the CID office, kschurb@cidlcms.org



Toward the end of the day, participants concluded by consensus that the next time the Small Church Summit meets, early in 2024, there will be separate and parallel sessions—one in SID, one in CID. This will make the next Small Church Summit meeting accessible at more centrally located places in each of the two districts. See the accompanying article.



Participants also concluded that the Small Church Summit after that, the one in June of 2024, will indeed be only one—a single session inviting participants from churches of both districts. They see value in the “cross-pollination” that takes place between folks from congregations in CID and SID, and they want to retain this feature of the Small Church Summit.

There was agreement all around that the Small Church Summit fills a need.

Remember:

- If you think your church is small, YOU are invited to the Small Church Summit.
- It works best if you bring 2 or 3 others with you!

Almighty God, grant to Your church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Official Notices

Ordained

Transferred Out

- **Rev. Michael Grieve** — to Zion, Gwinner, ND, 6/5/2023
- **Rev. Michael Liese** — to Trinity, Henderson, KY, effective 8/21/2023

Transferred In

- **Rev. Richard Rikli** — Emeritus from Kansas, 5/1/2023

Ordinations/Installations

- **Rev. Jacob Moore** — St. John's, New Berlin, 6/11/2023
- **Rev. Matthew Riley** — St. James, Quincy, 6/25/2023
- **Rev. Jonathan Sharp** — Trinity, Springfield, 7/9/2023

Installations

- **Rev. Adrian Piazza** — Trinity, Casey/Our Redeemer, Robinson, 4/16/2023
- **Rev. Dale Fjordbotten** — Trinity, Cissna Park/St. John's, Onarga, 5/7/2023
- **Rev. Brett Cornelius** — Holy Cross, Vandalia, 6/19/2023

Called to Glory

- **Rev. Jerry Bagwell** (Emeritus) — 5/2/2023
- **Rev. Stephen Southward** (Emeritus) — 7/4/2023

**Making
Disciples
for Life**



CID YOUTH BIBLE BOWL RESULTS



The 2023 CID Bible Bowl was held on April 16th at Camp CILCA. Pastor Theilen served as the moderator. This year's questions focused on Judges and Ruth. The champions were team "A" from Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Galesburg. Team members were Seeley, Ezra, and Nikki. The second-place team was team "B" from Mt. Calvary. The team members were Daniel, Micah, Aaron, and Natalie. The third-place team was Good Shepherd, Sherman. The team members were Lara, Judah, and John.

Next year's topic for the 2024 Bible Bowl will be released later but will be from the New Testament.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS!



The 68th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will be held from July 29 to Aug. 3, 2023, at the Baird Center in downtown Milwaukee.

The Synod will gather under the convention theme, *"We Preach Christ Crucified,"* based on 1 Cor. 1:18–25. In a world of uncertainty, the church's proclamation, mission, and identity remain the same. **We preach Christ crucified.**

The Match is Back!

Keeping Christ on Campus



Your contributions to endowment funds that help to support CID campus ministry are again being matched by Lutheran Legacy Foundation of Paris, Illinois. These endowment funds are for the District's long-established ministries at the University of Illinois, Illinois State University, Eastern Illinois University, and Western Illinois University.

This is good news. Doing campus ministry well is expensive. Facilities on or near campus must be maintained, including repairs and upgrades. Of course, workers need to be supported. Costs keep rising. All in all, it grows increasingly difficult for CID to maintain a high level of support. The four endowment funds, one to support ministry on each campus, will help to address this need.

LCMS campus ministry has the motto: "College is tough. You need Jesus. We'll help." One way to help provide the Gospel and Sacraments as well as Bible-based spiritual counsel to college students, faculty, and staff is to grow these campus ministry endowment funds.

Here Lutheran Legacy is also continuing to help. It has recently announced that it will match 20% of contributions made to any of the four funds supporting CID campus ministries, up to a total of \$500,000 contributed to that fund or for a period of 10 years—whichever comes first.

So: contribute \$5, and you in effect give \$6 when the matching money is included. Here's a great opportunity to help assure that campus ministry will remain vibrant into the future—God willing, until our Lord Jesus Christ returns visibly and in glory.

Meanwhile we pray, in the words of the psalmist: "Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling" (Psalm 43:3). Let's continue to make God's light and God's truth available to college students and others on campus. The endowment funds are one way of keeping Christ on campus.

College is tough. People need Jesus.
Won't you help?



Help campus ministry to help your congregation's college-bound students this fall. Provide their contact information to the LCMS campus ministry for the schools they are attending.

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Ken Schurb to make a campus ministry referral. His e-mail address is kschurb@cidlcms.org

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>

Why the Walkout?

Almost 50 years ago, on February 19, 1974, the vast majority of students, faculty, and staff members of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis literally left. In full view of news cameras, they *walked out* of the seminary—hence, the term “Walkout.” No longer wanting to be associated with an institution they considered legalistic and un-Lutheran, they claimed to be striking a blow for the freedom of the Gospel.

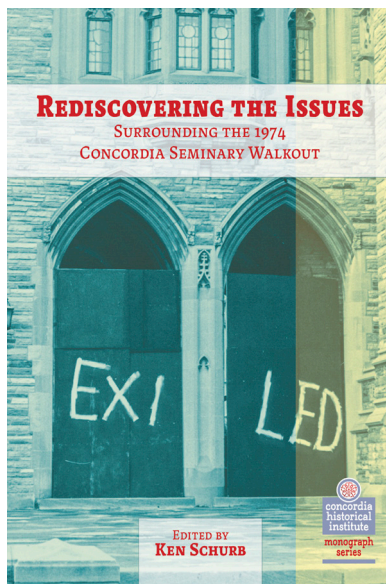
The Walkout turned out to be the number one religious news story in the country for the entire year. It had massive repercussions within the Missouri Synod, many of which reverberate to this day.

But why? Why the Walkout?

There were many reasons: some personal, some generational, and some church-political.

One reason towers above all the rest, though: theology. Theological issues had been building up for years before the Walkout.

A new book, *Rediscovering the Issues Surrounding the Concordia Seminary Walkout of 1974* provides coverage of a variety of these



theological and doctrinal issues. The eleven chapters take up, for example, “Gospel and Scripture,” “The Historical-Critical Method,” “The Third Use of the Law,” also “The Mission Staff Walkout.” A final chapter explores various works written by departing faculty members over the next few years.

This book shows that the Gospel was indeed at stake, but not in the way that Walkout participants claimed. When Scripture is forsaken as the standard for teaching and life in the church, the saving Gospel of Christ becomes clouded and eventually distorted. If the Gospel we believe and teach is not the Gospel of Scripture, it is not really the Gospel!

Why don't you see for yourself?

Check out this new book, edited by Dr. Ken Schurb of the CID staff. Single copies are available from Concordia Publishing House for \$19.99. Bulk discounts are available. You may telephone CPH at (800) 325-3040 and ask for item number 531260 or order online at www.cph.org.

You Buy Prison Ministry Materials; *We Reimburse*



You or your church can be financially reimbursed for donating up to \$200 worth of Gospel-centered materials to a nearby state or federal prison or county jail in Central Illinois. Even if you never personally cross the threshold of a prison or jail, here is a way you can still make a contribution to prison ministry, thanks to a grant from Central Illinois LWML.

A list of pre-approved materials to donate to a prison or jail (e.g., Bibles, devotionals, catechisms and hymnals) can be found at www.cidlcms.org/outreach-missions-prison.html. You can also find there the form you can use to request reimbursement. See the instructions on that web page before you purchase any materials.



Lord Jesus Christ, Who died also for those who are behind bars, make us Your hands and feet to bring Your Word to those who need it in prison. Bless our gifts of Bibles and other materials, which can be where they are needed even when chaplains cannot visit. Accompany Your Word, as You have promised, with Your Spirit and power to create and sustain new life in Christ. In His name. Amen.

Questions? Contact CID Prison Ministry Coordinator Rev. Rodney Blomquist at prisonministry@cid.lcms.org

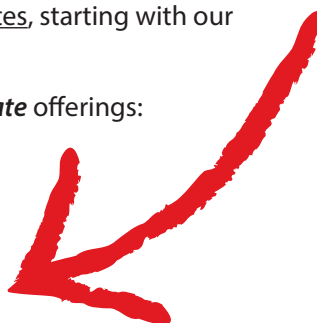
Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund (CID-CEF)

CID-CEF New Investment Interest Rates!

Yes, we've raised our investment interest rates, starting with our 18-month Special Offering at **4.00%**!

Following are the rates on all of our **Certificate** offerings:

6 Month	0.75%
1 Year	2.25%
3 Year	2.50%
5 Year	2.75%
18 Month Special	4.00%



Rates have also increased on our **Flexible Savings Accounts**:

Regular Savings	0.40%
Capital Campaign Savings	1.00%

Please note that we are **not** increasing the interest rate charged on loans as we strive to provide low-cost funding to our LCMS churches, schools, and organizations in our District.

Did you know that your Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund is the only church extension fund in the LCMS that provides loans to churches and schools in the Central Illinois District? It is easy to confuse the CID-CEF with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), which serves the districts that do not have their own independent church extension fund. The CID-CEF focuses all of our financial resources solely on our churches, schools, and organizations within our District. We do this through your investments—partnering our investors with the churches, schools, and organizations needing funds to expand and grow His Kingdom.

As your Church Extension Fund, we are here to support you, as you support our LCMS churches, schools, and organizations throughout our District with your investments. Thank you for enabling us to do so as together we share in the blessing of growing His Kingdom!

Ministry Outreach Grants

The Board of Trustees of the CID-CEF awarded the following Ministry Outreach Grants (MOGs) in the first round of MOGs for 2023:

- \$4,000 *Cristo Rey* – Weekly Spanish Radio Broadcasts
- \$4,000 *Tuscola Immanuel* – Community Conference – The Good News in a Bad News World
- \$925 *CID Office* – Small Church Summit
- \$600 *Macomb Immanuel Student Center* – Outreach Through Reusable Water Bottles

May God bless these endeavors to reach out to the unchurched in our communities!

Please note that submissions for the *second round of MOGs* for 2023 need to be received by the CID-CEF no later than *October 1*. Please visit our website at www.cid-cef.org for more information and an application or email us at cef@cidlcms.org or call the office at (217) 793-1802, and we will send you an application.

70 Years of Service



Not many can say they have served in the same job for 70 years, but for Janet Homann, she has served as an organist at St Paul's Lutheran Church in rural Mattoon, Illinois, for 70 years. On July 23rd, Janet will play her final service as a regular organist.

The first service that Janet played was on July 5, 1953, at the age of 14 years old. Janet has played the same organ in the same location ever since. After graduating from high school in 1956 she gave up playing regularly because she started working another full-time job, staying in the job market until she started a family in 1959. Janet returned to the organ bench in the 1960s and has continued to serve as a sub or the regular organist ever since then.

When she started playing in 1953, Janet was paid \$45.00 every three months and it didn't matter how many services she played for. It was \$15.00 a month and if you had extra services, like Lent, Easter and Christmas, the pay was still the same. Janet said, "At that time that was pretty decent pay for a 15-year-old."

Throughout the years, she has shared the bench with 10 other organists and served under 10 pastors. During her time as an organist Janet worked in various secretarial positions. She and her husband, the late Leonard Homann, raised four sons and she has nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Janet says; "I've always enjoyed playing the organ even though playing for weddings always made me nervous and I always was very relieved when they were over. Now that I'm coming up on 70 years of having played for church, I wish I had kept track of the number of weddings and funerals that I've played for."

In the mid-1960's, Janet started giving piano lessons. Later, she also gave organ lessons. Her teaching brought at least eight others to the bench at St Paul's to help with services. A few of those have gone on to be organists at other churches.

While Janet is quick to downplay the importance of her service over the years, her service to the church at the organ bench and to her piano and organ students will continue to proclaim God's word through church music well into the future.

Reflecting on her retirement, Janet says; "Certainly playing the organ over the last seventy years has been a huge part of my church life. And as I prepare to give it up very shortly now, I know I will also miss playing every Sunday. However, I hope to continue doing all the other church activities I'm involved in for as long as I'm able to do so."

During her final service on July 23, 2023 at St Paul's, special music will be played and some of Janet's favorite hymns will be sung at the worship service. A lunch and reception will follow.

WALKING TOGETHER IN DISASTER RESPONSE



The 2023 LCMS Disaster Response Conference will be held September 6-8, 2023, at The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod International Center in St. Louis. Learn more at www.lcms.org



We need volunteers!

Illinois State Fair CID LLL Booth

The CID LLL Booth at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield will be open August 10-20, 2023. We are looking for **volunteers** to man the booth each day and evening. This ministry, which has been going on for many years, gives away tracts, children's books and Bibles to fair goers. Won't you please consider volunteering your time? I can tell you that this is a really rewarding experience.

To volunteer, please call Deloris Blessman at (309) 361-1461.

— Danny Magelitz, CID LLL President

Missions: Not Only “Over There”

continued from page 1

Such people, as well as their pastors, had a Gospel-powered desire. They wanted to bring this saving Good News to others. They wanted to bring them Christ.

So new churches formed. New people were added to the church. It was a miracle.

It still is. The great and Good News of our crucified and risen Lord has lost none of its power. Through this Spirit-empowered Word, Christ still calls lost sinners out of darkness into His marvelous light. He doesn't only do this “over there,” either.

Proposed Resolution 1-01, to be considered at our Synod's convention starting later this month, would resolve that *the Synod encourage its congregations, their pastors and other church workers to take serious and realistic stock of how often and how well they employ recurring parish education opportunities (including, but not limited to: Bible and catechism classes; youth ministry; retreats, etc.) to teach church members key witnessing skills (such as listening discerningly to nonchurched people; beginning a spiritual conversation; making a simple statement of the Gospel; defending the resurrection), including the provision of opportunity to **practice** such skills.* The GatePost hopes this resolution is resoundingly adopted.

Resolution or no, however, we have our mission moment. It's right here. Our Lord Jesus Christ made Himself the complete covering for our sins. Not only ours either, but also for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2:2)! A world full of lost sinners needs to know, very much including people right under our noses.

The Lord wants them to know. In fact, He sends the Holy Spirit to accompany our witness with the same power with which He created the world. This is the power that has called every single Christian to faith throughout history.

Wouldn't we want to learn ways to tell this Good News about Jesus, then tell it?

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:

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Shawn Hoffmann



CAMP CILCA SCHEDULE 2023

Learn more at cilca.org

May 31-August 3 SUMMER PROGRAM

August 5 Homecoming - Food, music, games, and more!

September 3 Chicken Fry & Auction

September 16 **ACT LIKE MEN** Shooting Retreat
(Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult)

September 22 Whippoorwill Golf Outing

October 7 GRIT Run!

November 4 **ACT LIKE MEN** Workday

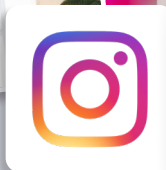
ACT LIKE MEN EVENTS

For men of all ages to make connections across generations, learn and sharpen new skills, and grow strong in the Lord.

"Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong."
- 1 Corinthians 16:13

CID is on Facebook, Instagram AND YouTube

Come find us @cidlms! Our pages are 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!



INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

RETREAT

CID LLL Annual Retreat

September 9, 2023

9:00am - 2:00pm

Camp CILCA

4124 Camp CILCA Rd | Cantrall, IL

Registration from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Registration fee \$25.00 (includes lunch)

Speaking on: God's Living Word Today - Survey of First Peter

Special Guest Speaker:

Rev. Timothy Scharr, District President - Southern Illinois District LCMS

Register by September 5 by sending fee to: Deloris Blessman, 24204 CR 1850N,
Topeka, IL 61567; phone: 309-361-1461 or email: delorisblessman@yahoo.com



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

www.lhm.org

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 Affidavit and Indemnity
Agreement must be returned with Application)

Reinvest \$ _____ Redeem \$ _____

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

- ☐ 2.75% 5-year term ☐ 2.50% 3-year term
☐ 2.25% 1-year term ☐ 0.75% 6-month term
Special Term and Rate – Limited Time!!!
☐ 4.00% - 18-month 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 SUBJECT TO CHANGE – CALL TO CONFIRM CURRENT RATES

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

- ☐ Regular Flexible Savings Account Interest Rate: 0.40% Minimum: \$25 – available to all customers
☐ Capital Campaign Flexible Savings Account Interest Rate: 1.00% 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 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 SIPC- or FDIC-Insured deposit accounts.

The CID-CEF reserves the right to call this investment for redemption upon 60 days’ written notice and reserves the right to request 30 days’ notice of redemption prior to maturity on certificates and 15 days’ notice on flexible savings accounts. Certificates renew automatically unless the CID-CEF is notified otherwise within 10 days after maturity. Certificate is non-negotiable, redeemable with the CID-CEF upon proper endorsement, and subject to an early redemption penalty.

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.