

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

2025: Issue 5



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**Making
Disciples
for Life** 

December 19, 2025

Evangelism Extends the LORDSHIP OF JESUS

WE don't hear it in these terms very often, yet it's true: *evangelism extends the Lordship of Jesus Christ*. Of course, Jesus is already Lord and King over everything and everyone. We speak here, however, of extending His kingdom of *grace*.

This, in turn, forms a big hint about what is meant here by Jesus' "Lordship." It's not so much that Jesus is our boss. Better, He is our Rescuer. The Large Catechism says the second article of the Creed comes down to: "Jesus Christ has become my Lord." In other words, "He has redeemed me from sin, from the devil, from death, and from all evil. Before this I had no Lord and King but was captive under the power of the devil ... He ... has brought us back from the devil to God, from death to life, from sin to righteousness, and now keeps us there" (LC Creed 27, 31). Further on, explaining the Lord's Prayer's second petition, the Large Catechism also noted that Christ has redeemed and delivered us and brought us to Himself to "rule us as a king of righteousness, life, and salvation against sin, death, and an evil conscience. To this end he also gave His Holy Spirit to teach us through His Holy Word ..." (LC LP 51).

The letter to the Hebrews teaches that Christ destroyed him who had the power of death, the devil, and so delivered us—for otherwise the fear of death would have kept us in lifelong bondage (Heb. 2:14-15). When we are in Christ, the devil is not our Lord—neither is death, nor the fear of death. Jesus Christ is our Lord, and we are in His kingdom. We were and are baptized into this kingdom of grace. Christ used His church and her pastors to bring baptism to us.

Whenever Christ's living and life-giving Word goes out to the non-churched, it works. It extends His Lordship over more and more people. Not for nothing did Jesus

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From the *President's Desk*

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

Cravings

It's time for New Year's resolutions. One of the most popular resolutions as we turn a new year is to fight off giving in to our cravings. Go on a diet and lose 25 lbs. Stop nibbling on chocolate. Stop mindlessly nibbling on salty snacks. Stop... stop... stop...

But in this New Year, I want to challenge you to indulge in a craving. Cultivate it, feed it, make it a priority in how you order your life in this coming year. "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk," the Apostle Peter exhorts us (1 Peter 2:2a-NIV). Crave the pure Word of God, "so that by it you may grow up in your salvation" the verse concludes.

Cravings take hold of us, they invade our every thought until we either fulfill them or kill them. When you want that bit of chocolate, you begin to smell chocolate (even when it isn't there). You notice chocolate in things that you never before realized had chocolate in them. To borrow a phrase from a 1970s ad campaign: "Whatever it is I think I see becomes a Tootsie Roll to me!"

And so should our desire to be fed with the pure spiritual milk of God's Word. When the people of God gather to receive His gifts and we are not there, it should gnaw at us and knock us off of our game — as though we now had to finish the week's work left-handed (or right-handed, if you are a southpaw).

Our Lord delivers this pure spiritual milk of His grace and every blessing in a very public way. Because it is our own faith, and not the faith of another, through which we are saved, we sometimes mistake God's delivery of His grace as "just me and Jesus." Our Lord has called us into fellowship with Him, and in so doing, fellowship with one another. In the oldest surviving statement of the Christian faith outside of the Bible (the Apostles' Creed), this is expressed in a glorious double entendre. In the Third Article of the Creed, we confess the holy and universal Church to be "the communion of saints." But the word translated into as "saints" is simply the adjective "holy." Is the Church the oneness of the people of God who have been made holy by Him (the saints), or is the Church the

oneness of the people of God with those holy things by which God makes them holy (the sacraments)?

The answer, quite frankly, is "yes." The church is the gathering of God's holy people around His holy things. Apart from being gathered as holy people around the holy things of God, our faith smolders and dies like a coal removed from a fire. Our craving for the pure spiritual milk of God's grace and mercy should prompt us to action — the action of being where the holy things of God are there for us, either by coming to the Divine Service or (for those unable to come) by calling upon the pastor to bring the Divine Service into our homes.

We read in the prophets how our Lord responded to His people when their laziness dulled their craving for the pure spiritual milk of gathering in the Lord's house. "Work! For I am with you, declares the LORD of Hosts" Haggai prophesied. (Haggai 2:4) With the work of salvation accomplished for us by our Lord, Emmanuel (which means "God with us"), we show ourselves to be the workmanship of God's hand, prepared to work the labors He has set before us for the sake of our neighbor (see Ephesians 2:10). Our life together as God's people gathered around His holy things requires not only the labor of God's appointed messenger (the pastor), but of many others. Acts 6 describes this labor as "serving tables," and the congregation established additional offices to assist in such work so that life together could be well ordered and the devil would not distract and divide the Church. So also have we established offices to help with good order within the congregation.

As we turn the page to the New Year, let your craving for the pure spiritual milk of God's mercy and love prompt you to action — crave being in Sunday School or Bible Class, crave receiving God's gifts in the Divine Service every Sunday, crave serving as an officer in the congregation, crave creating your own avenue of service by asking, "How can I help?" — Crave the pure spiritual milk and the fully grown salvation that bears its fruit in every aspect of your life.

Winter 2026

Small Church Summit

THE SMALL TOWN LUTHERAN CHURCH



If you think your church is small,
YOU are invited to
the Small Church
Summit.

*And everyone
is welcome!*

The principal topic for the Winter, 2026 Small Church Summit (SCS) meeting will be **"The Small Town Lutheran Church."** New SID President Heath Curtis, author of a recent book on the small town Lutheran pastor, will speak both before and after lunch. Broadening his scope from the pastor to the entire congregation, he will offer observations and encouragement designed to meet small town churches where they are.

As usual, the SCS will include an opportunity for participants to get better acquainted with one another and the respective circumstances of their several congregations. This time, our "around the room" time will include the question: What unique customs or practices does your congregation have? Are any of them related to the church's location in a rural area or a small town? Why or why not?

Short sectional presentations are set to be offered in the afternoon. Participants will be able to choose one of the following:

- Additional discussion with President Curtis
- Introducing the re:Vitality module "Shepherding our Strays" with Pastor Mike Burdick of St. John Lutheran Church, Effingham, CID First Vice President
- Utilizing Technology in Small Churches with Pastor David Benning of Trinity Lutheran Church, Nashville
- Safety Standards for the Small Church with Mr. Trip Rodgers of CID staff

The Winter SCS is scheduled to meet on Saturdays in two locations:

- **Hope Lutheran Church, Highland**
January 10, 2026 (if weather is bad then Jan. 31)

- **St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lexington**
February 21, 2026 (if weather is bad then Feb. 28)

NOTE: This is a change in date at Lexington from what was first announced!

Participants can choose to attend either meeting. In both instances, sign-in will be at 9:30 am, opening devotion will commence at 10:00 am, and closing prayer will be at 2:30 pm. There is no cost.

Please be sure to register for winter SCS by January 3, 2026 at <https://forms.gle/eujwE5hmRC48wF7MA>



The Lutheran Witness magazine
Subscribe today at cph.org/witness



PARTNERS & PRACTICE in the Gospel

If you are retired or semi-retired, would you be interested in serving on an OAFC adult team for Partners and Practice in the Gospel? Do you know someone else who might be interested in this prospect?

Dr. Schurb would love to hear from you!

Evangelism involves a number of skills. Skills are learned not only by hearing about them but also through practicing them.

CID can offer your congregation help to practice witnessing skills. With this help, your members can:

- Engage in “dry run” practice (with one another) of
 - Beginning an evangelistic conversation
 - Listening discerningly to a non-churched person
 - Making a simple statement of the Gospel
 - Defending the resurrection
- Begin or augment evangelistic activity by a larger group than your pastor alone at a local nursing home
- (optional) Canvass a neighborhood of the church’s choosing

This opportunity is called “Partners and Practice in the Gospel.” Your congregation would receive help from a group of 3 to 5 adult volunteers from Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ (OAFC). Their work would come at no charge to the congregation, but the church would need to house and feed them while they are in your midst, whether for a couple of days or for a five-day period of time.

Details on Partners and Practice in the Gospel can be found via the web page and brochure at <https://www.cidlcms.org/ppg/index.html> Take a look. Ask whether your congregation could use this kind of help.

Questions? Contact CID Evangelism Executive Ken Schurb at kschurb@cidlcms.org



Bethlehem, Altamont, Rededicates Steeple

On September 21, 2025, Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Altamont rededicated it’s 100 foot church steeple after two years of restoration work. They also sang the hymn below written by Bethlehem organist, Dean Manuel.

The Cross Has Stood Above This Place

*For many a year, O God of Grace,
The cross has stood above this place
Upon this very steeple.*

*The cross on which our Savior died
That we may all be justified
With his unending graces.*

*Lord we thank you for your suff’ring, sighing, dying, cru-ci-fixion
And your glorious resurrection!*

Tune: Wie schon leuchtet – Phillip Nicolai, 1599
Text: stz. 1, Dean Manuel, 2025



Evangelism Extends the Lordship of Jesus

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make sure, just before telling His church to go and make disciples, also to tell them: “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth” (Matthew 28:18). He is Lord, for instance, over forces of nature. He is even Lord of the people who do not acknowledge Him. When the Holy Spirit creates faith in them through the Gospel, they too confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, *their* Lord.

Moving from the last few words in Matthew to the first few in Acts, we read: “In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with everything that Jesus began to do and teach” (Acts 1:1). Now, the “first book” to which Luke was referring—the Gospel according to Luke, which covers everything from Jesus’ conception to His ascension—turned out to be only the beginning.

For Jesus *continues* to do and teach. Yes, the Lord Jesus continues seeking and saving the lost, extending His gracious and saving Lordship. He does so in a somewhat different way than during His three-year ministry, yet He still does it. He acts through His church. The church carries out Christ’s disciple-making activity publicly through her pastors, yet the entire church is involved in this. And individual church members have their own appropriate roles to play in telling their neighbors the Good News about Jesus. The Large Catechism says that the church is the community through which the Holy Spirit speaks and does all His work (LC Creed 61).

Whether or not the church feels like it is “in the mood” at any particular time, and however meager we find our resources to be, the answer always remains clear to the question: Is the church to extend the Lordship of Christ? Of course she is! How could she not?

So the church will naturally be interested in and involved in evangelistic activity. For evangelism extends the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The above is based on an item that appeared in CID’s November, 2025 See? **WOW!** newsletter. An archive of all back issues of this evangelism-oriented newsletter is available at <https://www.cidlms.org/outreach-cwow.html>



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The Large Catechism says that the church is the community through which the Holy Spirit speaks and does all His work.

(LC Creed 61)

Official Notices

(December 17, 2025)

Ordained

Ordinations/Installations

- **Rev. David Daniel** installed at Faith, Monticello, on July 7, 2025
- **Rev. Patrick Gumz** installed as Executive Assistant to District President for Missions and Administration on July 15, 2025
- **Rev. Jacob Friedrich** ordained and installed at Our Redeemer, Jacksonville, on August 24, 2025

Transfers Into District

- **Rev. Clarence Rogers**, August 18, 2025

Retirements

- **Rev. Earl Kinnee**, August 21, 2025
- **Rev. William Duey**, August 21, 2025
- **Rev. Robert Frank**, August 22, 2025

WitnessingHELPS

Four Witnessing Helps sheets accompanied by two-minute introductory videos are available at <https://www.cidlms.org/outreach-witness-ministry.html>



Making Disciples for Life



Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund (CID-CEF)

Ministry Outreach Grants Awarded

Each year, the CID-CEF Board of Trustees awards Ministry Outreach Grants to applicants in April and again in October for mission, ministry, and outreach. This October, two applications were received. Both applications were for projects that would provide great outreach for the expansion of His Kingdom, and both were approved by the CID-CEF Board. Following are the two grants that were awarded:

- \$1,000 — *Sullivan Faith - Community Pantry, providing pantry items to meet community needs*
- \$15,000 — *CID - Digital Doorways: Website Renewal & Visitor Engagement Pilot*

The next opportunity for this grant is in April. Start preparing now to submit your application by April 1!



CID-CEF Investment Special Offering

Even though the Federal Reserve just dropped their interest rate, the CID-CEF is still offering their 11-month investment at 3.75%. This is a limited time offer, so please take advantage of this opportunity to assist our churches and schools in financing the expansion of their ministries while you receive the added blessing of a great interest rate!



Invest at
3.75%
for 11 months!

Only through God's grace are these financial resources available to be returned to His ministry in the Central Illinois District — praise be to Him!

Lutherans For Life 2026 Illinois Essay Contest

Sponsored by the LFL Council of Federation Presidents

For Students in Grades 6-8 and 9-12

Any student in a Lutheran school or Lutheran congregation (e.g., confirmation class, youth group, Lutheran home school) is eligible when validated by their teacher or pastor, along with parental consent.



Contest Guidelines

Students will write a life-affirming essay based on the theme “**That They May Have Life**” using John 10:10, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

1. Examples of topics the essay could deal with are – but are not limited to – abortion, disabilities, adoption, foster care, infanticide, physician-assisted suicide, hospice care, sexual purity, etc. For more information on life topics, see lutheransforlife.org.
2. The first page of the essay must include the student’s name, grade, school or church, a personal mailing address, email address, and phone number (of the student or parent).
3. All entries must be submitted by a teacher or pastor and include their contact information.
4. Grades 6–8 should submit essays up to 400 words. The word count does not include the title, footnotes, or bibliography.
5. Grades 9–12 should submit essays up to 750 words. The word count does not include the title, footnotes, or bibliography.
6. Entries must be submitted digitally using **Microsoft Word** or **Google Docs** (PDF files or other formats will not be accepted). Email your entry to **Cathy Benning** at cathy.benning.os@gmail.com by March 15, 2026.
7. The omission of any of the following required items will cause disqualification of the essay:
 - a. The essay must include the entire theme and entire theme Bible verse as part of the written text.
 - b. Each essay must include a title. Using the required theme as a title is acceptable but does not replace using the theme and verse within the essay.
 - c. The essay must be in complete agreement with the Lutherans For Life mission to “Equip Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life”.
 - d. A Bibliography listing sources used is required.
 - e. Exceeding the appropriate word count is not acceptable.
8. Essays should make good use of standard essay writing components, including introduction and conclusion, main points, organization, style, mechanics, sources, and bibliography (See sidebar for directions on using these elements).
9. There will be a \$200 first-place award and a \$100 second-place award for each of the two categories. The two first place category winners will advance to the national contest.
10. The national award for the winning entry in each category is \$500 for first place, plus free conference registration to the 2026 Lutherans For Life conference for the student and his/her parents, one-night stay at the conference hotel for the student and his/her parents, \$200 travel expense reserved for conference travel only, and a framed certificate. The second-place award is \$250 and a framed certificate.
11. All entries, including exclusive copyrights, become the property of Lutherans For Life.
12. For support or resources on the sanctity of life, see lutheransforlife.org.

Helpful Information about Good Essay Structural Elements

Introduction and Conclusion – The reader is engaged by a well-developed introduction that creates interest. The conclusion effectively wraps up the essay by clearly drawing a conclusion to support the essay position.

Main Points – The main idea and statements are clear and may come from a variety of sources, including personal experience, observations, feelings, or prior knowledge. Supporting details are accurate and helpful to the main point. Statistics and other research, if used, are used effectively.

Organization – The essay shows a logical progression of ideas that enhance the essay. Transitions are graceful, with a smooth flow.

Style – The paper is honest and enthusiastic. The language is natural and shares a message from the heart of the writer. Writing is smooth, skillful, and makes sense.

Mechanics – Punctuation, spelling, and capitalizations are correct with no run-on sentences.

Sources – All sources for references, statistics, and quotes are referenced within the essay by listing the author or source in parentheses after the quote.

Bibliography – A simple bibliography/works-cited page gives references for the sources used including the author, source title, page number or website.



**LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE**



Anniversaries for CID Church Workers

The CID would like to thank and congratulate the following church workers who are celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2025.

Pastors

10 YEARS

Daniel Ulrich

15 YEARS

Gail Heimgartner
Christopher Hull
William Jensen
Michael Schuermann

20 YEARS

Joseph Burns
David Ehlers
Timothy Nerud
Kevin Wendorf

25 YEARS

Mark Gruden
Steven Hayden
Clarence Rogers, III
Arthur Ohlwine

30 YEARS

Martin Eden
Michael Ruhlig
Gene Strattman
Terry Strom

35 YEARS

Karl Eckhoff
David Speers
Kene Whybrew

40 YEARS

Keith Pereira

45 YEARS

Rodney Blomquist
Wesley Reimnitz

50 YEARS

Richard Becker
Joel Cluver

55 YEARS

John Johnson
Ronald Miller

60 YEARS

Roger Eden

65 YEARS

Donald Ehlers
Louis Knief

Teachers

5 YEARS

Amy Barth, Bethel, Morton
Emily Brust, Salem, Jacksonville
Ashley Drake, Trinity, Stewardson
Stefanie Endress, Trinity, Bloomington
Bethany Malone, Salem, Jacksonville
Jennifer Norman, Good Shepherd, Pekin
Nan Russell, Bethel, Morton
Jenna Stevenson, Trinity, Bloomington
Tina Vaughn, St. James, Quincy
Lesli Wagner, St. Paul's, Woodworth

10 YEARS

Meridith Deverman, Bethel, Morton
Alicia Haggin, St. John, Champaign
Christina Martin, Salem, Jacksonville
Shannon Muench, St. Paul's, Woodworth
Renee Pendry, St. Paul's, Woodworth
Nathaniel Schmidtke, Christ, Peoria
Emily Zabel, St. Paul's, Woodworth

15 YEARS

Alicia Wagner, St. Paul's, Woodworth

20 YEARS

Adam Bulava, Lutheran High School, Springfield
Andra Carrel, Trinity, Bloomington
Robinette Flach, ALIS, Altamont
Ann Fuelberth, Good Shepherd, Pekin
Jennifer Lamberti, Christ, Peoria
Theresa McDonough, Good Shepherd, Pekin
Carley Meyer, St. Paul's, Woodworth
Andea Salo, St. James, Quincy

25 YEARS

Kay Bucher, Christ, Peoria
Rachel Cooley, Our Savior's, Springfield
Heather Daniel, Lutheran High School, Springfield
Sue Foreman, St. John, Champaign
April Myers, Trinity, Bloomington
Lisa Schuldt, St. Paul's, Woodworth
Doreen Whybrew, Trinity, Stewardson

30 YEARS

Kristi Scott, St. James, Quincy
Shawn Hoffmann, Trinity, Bloomington

35 YEARS

Julia Aaro, St. Paul's, Woodworth
Mary Bartholomew, Bethel, Morton
David Isham, Lutheran High School, Springfield

40 YEARS

Lori Claus, Our Savior's, Springfield
Joy Reitsma, Salem, Jacksonville
Eileen Wagner, St. Paul's, Woodworth

55 YEARS

Carol Liston, St. Paul's, Woodworth

A Dollar for Missions News

Current DFM Project

The current DFM project is for \$11,000 to replace original kitchen equipment in the sexton's apartment at Immanuel Lutheran Center in Macomb. The Student Center was dedicated in 1969, but some of the equipment in the kitchen of the apartment for the live-in student who takes care of the student center (the sexton) has not been replaced since then.



PRAYER

O Lord, open the hearts of your people to support the proclamation of the Good News about Jesus in ways large and small. Bless the Dollars for Mission that support mission work in unusual ways. In Jesus' name. Amen.



You can always find out more about DFM, including the present project at any time, at <https://www.cidlms.org/ministry-a-dollar-for-missions.html>



ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILDREN TO CONSIDER CHURCH WORK!

Christ's church will continue until He returns, and that church will continue to need church workers.

Set Apart to Serve (SAS) is an initiative of the LCMS to recruit church workers. Together, we pray for workers for the Kingdom of God and encourage children to consider church work vocations. Here are three easy ways you can participate in SAS:

- 1. Pray with** your children for God to provide church workers.
- 2. Talk to** your children about becoming church workers.
- 3. Thank God** for the people who work in your congregation.

To learn more about *Set Apart to Serve*, visit lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve.

SET APART TO SERVE
LCMS CHURCH WORK RECRUITMENT



75 **Camp CILCA**

Summer Report 2025
75th Anniversary

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.



\$100K+

in total donations received



442

new campers compared to
summer 2024



11

states represented in our
campers this summer

Numbers



1015
total campers

9 weeks of camp

14 summer staff

Church Attendance

46

campers who never
attend church

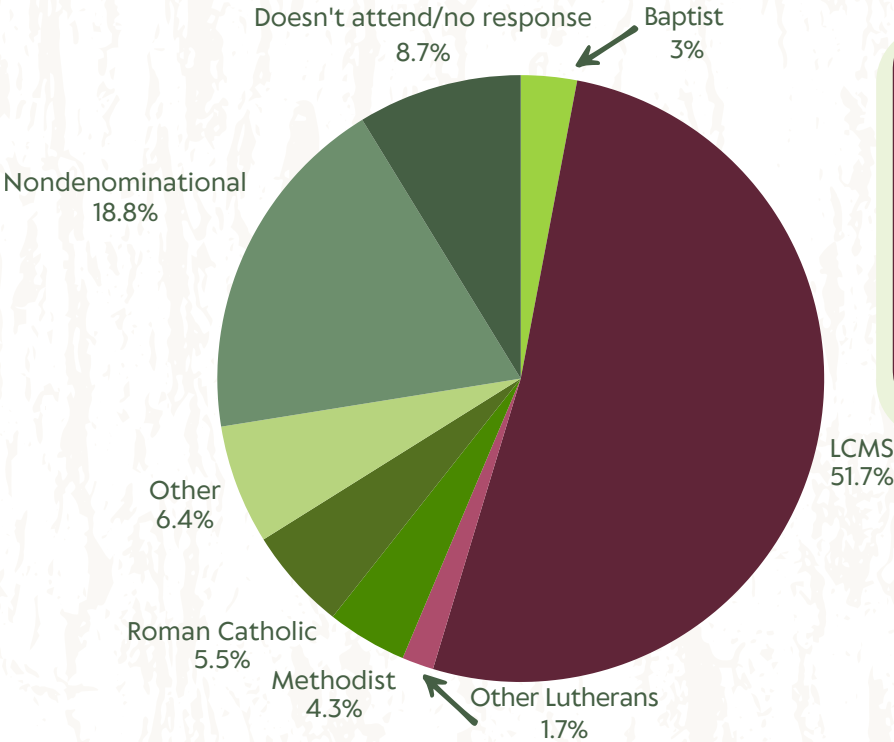
49

campers with no
information on attendance
or home congregation

90

campers who
seldom attend

Church Membership Statistics of 2025 Campers



THANK YOU:

To all the individuals, churches and businesses who donated money to the 75th anniversary celebration fund! We were able to tell and remind over 1,000 people that Jesus loves them.

- CILCA Board & Staff



4124 Camp CILCA Road
Cantrall, IL 62625

TIERED PRICING

We believe every child should experience the joy of camp, regardless of finances. To keep camp affordable while maintaining quality, we offer tiered pricing—allowing families to choose what works best for them and, if able, help support the true cost of a Camp CILCA experience.

- **Tier A** prices reflect the TRUE COST of a camp experience.
 - **Tier B** prices are partially subsidized by donors.
 - **Tier C** prices are significantly subsidized by donors.
- Prices below are listed Tier A/Tier B/Tier C

Register before **January 1, 2026** to receive a **\$25 discount** on your selected tier.
Register before **April 1, 2026** to receive a **\$10 discount** on your selected tier.

SUMMER PROGRAMS 2026

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.

Registration ages are based on the grade **completed** during the 2025-2026 school year.

DAY CAMP

Tiered Pricing: \$200/\$150/\$125

- May 28 & 29 (1st-8th) *\$60*
- June 1-5 (1st-8th)
- June 8-12 (1st-8th)
- June 15-19 (1st-8th)
- June 22-26 (1st-8th)
- June 29-July 3 (1st-8th)
- July 6-10 (1st-8th)
- July 13-17 (1st-8th)
- July 20-24 (1st-8th)
- July 27-31 (1st-8th)

MINI WEEKS

Tiered Pricing: \$200/\$150/\$125

- May 27-29: **Pathfinders I** (1st-4th)
- June 7-9 or 9-11: **Joyful Hearts** (13 years & older)
- June 28-July 1: **Intrepid Hearts** (9th-12th)
- July 1-3: **Intrepid Hearts** (9th-12th)
- July 5-7: **Bold Spirits** (4th-6th)
- July 8-10: **Dauntless Souls** (6th-8th)
- July 26-29: **Pathfinders II+*** (1st-4th)

* \$225/\$175/\$150

FULL WEEKS

Tiered Pricing: \$450/\$350/\$275

- May 31-June 5: **Bold Spirits I** (4th-6th)
- June 7-11: **Joyful Hearts** (13 years & older)
- June 14-19: **Dauntless Souls I** (6th-8th)
- June 14-19: **Art, Drama, Athletics** (5th-8th)
- June 21-26: **Survival** (6th-8th)
- June 28-July 3: **Intrepid Hearts** (9th-12th)
- July 12-17: **Bold Spirits II** (4th-6th)
- July 12-17: **Aqua Week** (4th-6th)
- July 19-24: **Dauntless Souls II** (6th-8th)
- July 19-24: **Night Owl** (6th-8th)

GENERATIONAL CAMPS

- June 5-6: **Generations I** (4 years & older) - \$75 per person
- June 21-23: **Family Camp** (all ages) - \$100 per person
- June 26-27: **Generations II** (4 years & older) - \$75 per person

WE NEED YOU!

9th-graders and up, serve as a Junior Counselor or Joyful Hearts Volunteer and make lifelong camp memories for free!

- Joyful Hearts Volunteer - **June 7-11**
- J.C. Training - **May 17 or May 26**

REGISTER TODAY!

Find in-depth details on each camp & register on our website!

Ages based on grade **completed**.

WWW.CILCA.ORG



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.

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CID Church Worker Scholarship Fund Receives Grant

Praise be to God for the generosity of congregations of the Central Illinois District and their members. Recently, we received a \$30,000 contribution for church worker scholarships from the ladies of the LWML – Central Illinois District as the first Mite Project of their annual convention cycle. Through generous gifts like this one, your CID Scholarship Fund was able to award more than \$170k in church worker scholarships this past year.

The CID Church Worker Scholarship Fund supports full-time undergraduate work leading to certification as a church worker (teacher, DCE, deaconess, or other commissioned worker) or the Pre-Seminary major in preparation for entrance to the pastoral ministry. Scholarships are also provided for seminary students in preparation for ordination. A small portion (about 10%) of funds are also set aside each year to support teacher colloquy to help non-certified laity teaching in our schools to become theologically trained and rostered teachers. At our current funding levels, we are able to guarantee covering 30% of the unmet financial need of students from our CID congregations going into church work.



LWML-CID Vice President of Mission Grants, Pat Heinecke, presents CID President Michael Mohr with a check for the first Mite Grant Project of 2025 — \$30,000 for Church Worker Scholarships.

Scholarships are provided through four main sources of income. Contributions for immediate use (such as those made by members on Scholarship Sunday or at other times throughout the year) account for about 10% of the funds used each year. A private donor trust through LCMS Foundation generates about 20%, and the annual LWML Mite Grant generates about 20%. The remaining 50% (roughly) is income generated by the CID Endowment Fund.

Some skepticism is often raised about endowment funds. "They never use my contribution, only the interest earned. I want my contribution to go towards the church worker scholarships," some might object. Thanks to the wise investment strategies and stewardship-minded work of the Endowment Board, those dollars contributed have not only been used for scholarships, but are being leveraged to maintain value in the face of inflation, and will continue to provide for scholarships long after the original value has been spent. For example, in about two years, the Endowment Fund will have given more towards church worker scholarships that it has received in donations in that same amount of time, but will still have more than double that amount to continue to generate interest, dividend income, and market appreciation to be awarded for scholarships for years to come.

Over the last ten years, CID scholarship funds have assisted 84 different students. In recent years, awards have averaged around \$12,750 for seminarians and \$3,800 for undergraduate students. Students enrolled at a Concordia can receive an "District Financial Aid Application" from their financial aid office. If you would like to contribute to current scholarships or to the Endowment Fund, send your check to the district office (1850 N Grand Ave. W., Springfield, IL 62702) with a note on the memo line indicating "Current Scholarships" or "Scholarship Endowment."

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

- ☐ 2.50% 5-year term ☐ 2.25% 3-year term
☐ 2.00% 1-year term ☐ 0.75% 6-month term
Special Term and Rate – Limited Time!!!
☐ 3.75% - 11-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.