



CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT

of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

News You Can Use

February 2023 mid-month

What Does This Mean?

In each of the six parts of his Small Catechism Dr. Luther asks: “What does this mean?” We might ask this question as we contemplate the significance of Christ’s resurrection.

Christ’s resurrection means that God’s Word is true and He keeps his promises. The Old Testament prophecies concerning Christ’s life, death, and resurrection were all fulfilled in Jesus. (Ps.16:10; Ps.22; Is.53, etc.) This means that God’s promises of forgiveness, new life, and eternal salvation for us are true and will never be broken.

Christ’s resurrection means that He is truly God as well as man. Psalm 49:7 states “no man can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for him”. Someone might give their life in an attempt to save another person from a tragedy as firefighters or policemen sometimes do. But only God himself can save us from eternal death!

Christ’s resurrection means that His sacrifice on the cross was sufficient ransom for all mankind. God wants no one to die, but for all to be saved. (John 3:16; 1 Tim.2:4) He rejects no one. Though many reject him. Jesus, the second Adam, removed the curse of death that the first Adam had placed on all humankind. (Rom.5:18)

Christ’s resurrection means that all who trust in him as Lord and Savior have a new and eternal life. (Rom.6:3-11) This new life begins not with our physical death, but with faith. (John 5:24; 11:25-26; 10:10b; 17:3). This new life in Christ includes peace, hope, love, meaning, and strength.

Easter is celebrated by many people – believers and unbelievers. The chocolate egg candy makers claim that they know what Easter is all about. Though I enjoy those delicious cream-filled eggs, I contend that they know nothing about the true meaning of Easter. On that special day we who trust in Jesus celebrate that He rose from the dead. And we celebrate all that this wonderful event means for us!

Rev. Jeff Harter

ATTENDING THE ILLINOIS MARCH FOR LIFE ON MARCH 21

The rally preceding the **2023 Illinois March for Life** will begin on March 21 at noon at the Lincoln statue on the front (east) lawn of the state capitol building in Springfield. The **March** itself, walking a perimeter around the capitol complex, will follow at about 1:00 p.m. Thereafter, **March** participants from Illinois are encouraged to visit the offices of their state legislators.

Preceding all these events, at 10:30 a.m. Trinity Lutheran Church will conduct a Matins service commemorating Joseph, Guardian of Jesus. Central Illinois District (CID) President Michael Mohr will preach. (He will also speak at the noon rally.) The church is across the street from the capitol building (on the northeast corner of 2nd and Monroe streets), about a block north of the Lincoln statue.

Please consider attending on March 21. You might find these notes helpful:

Transportation

There are several parking garages downtown. In addition, parking will be available at the former campus of Lutheran High School, 3500 W Washington St., Springfield, IL, 62711-7923. If you plan to travel to the **March** in a private vehicle (not a commercial bus or school bus, for example), you can consider parking there. NOTE: The building there will **NOT** be accessible for restroom use, filling water bottles, etc.

CID strongly encourages people to share rides to the March 21 events. It will provide shuttle service downtown and back from the Lutheran High parking lot for **DRIVERS ONLY**. If, for instance, you drive from Quincy with two or three passengers in your car, please drop your passengers off downtown, then head out to Lutheran High. We have bus capacity to shuttle the drivers of vehicles, but not all of their passengers. Plan to pick up your party downtown at the end of the day’s activities.

Shuttles will begin leaving the Lutheran High parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Seven shuttle runs will leave between 9:30 and 10:10. If you live in or near Springfield and wish to park a vehicle at Lutheran High, please arrive early so your driver can be on one of the first shuttle runs of the day, allowing the later runs to transport drivers who are traveling from a greater distance.

At the end of the **March**, shuttle runs will depart from downtown starting at 1:45 through 3:05, with “straggler” runs at 3:50 and 4:00. If you are the driver who brought the two or three from Quincy, they can look up their legislators while you go and fetch your vehicle. Later in the afternoon, you can all rendezvous at a time and place of your choosing.

Food

A light lunch will be available at Trinity Lutheran Church for those attending the Matins service. It will consist of: a 4-inch Subway sandwich (ham or turkey), a bag of potato chips, a chocolate chip cookie, and a bottle of water. Suggested donation: \$5. Please use a \$5 bill. It’s a fitting Illinois thing to do, since Lincoln is on the \$5!

Issues, etc.

Issues, etc. will cover the **Illinois March for Life**, recording in-person interviews at Trinity starting at 11:30 and continuing to record through the early part of the afternoon. These will be broadcast on KFUE (850 AM, audible in southern and much of central Illinois) that same afternoon between 3:00 and 5:00. The entire program can be live-streamed or accessed on-demand at www.issuesetc.org