



# CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT

*of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

August 2024

## *News You Can Use*

Rom 6:1-10

If you like character development, high drama, trash talk, and Royal Rumbles, you can get it all from the WWE. Week in and week out, someone is saying, I'm going to destroy you. I will lie, cheat, use sorcery, steal from you, essentially do what every it takes to do you dirty, defeat you and declare myself champion.

When you were baptized God put His signature move on Satan. Call it what you like, The Stomp, Claymore, RKO, 619, or Tombstone the result is the same. God defeated Satan – "1-2-3". God's gift of your Baptism told Satan, "You no longer rule the ring of the life of my Baptized. This is my Child. They died with me. They rose with me. My cross marks their forehead and heart.

So, we boldly sing:

Satan, hear this proclamation:

I am baptized into Christ!

Drop your ugly accusation,

I am not so soon enticed.

Now that to the font I've traveled,

All you might has come unraveled,

And, against your tyranny,

God, my Lord, unties with me! (LSB 594 st. 3).

Bruce Scarbeary, Pastor Trinity Lutheran Church Roanoke

**Pray For Our Central Illinois District Missions supported by your church's Mission Dollars to the District.** "Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored." Please remember in your prayers all our CID campus ministries, especially Pastor Chris Hull, Immanuel Lutheran Church & Student Center in Macomb, serving students, faculty, and staff at Western Illinois University. And pray for the "Keeping Christ on Campus" campaign, building endowments to help CID support our campus ministries.

### *Items of Interest to Share*

**Apply for Dollar for Mission funds in 2025:** All CID congregations are invited to submit proposals for projects funded with 2025 Dollar for Mission funds. Well-conceived projects will be considered in the following order of priority: first, brand-new church plants; second, mission-focused augmentations to existing ministries (e.g., adding a new ethnic ministry to a present congregation); third, established CID missions (e.g., Ministry in Spanish, Campus Ministry, Deaf

Ministry, Prison Ministry). **The application deadline is Sept. 1, 2024.** For more information, see <https://www.cidcms.org/ministry-dfm-apply.html>

### **Not Ashamed Conference**

We live in tumultuous times. It seems like everything is coming apart at the seams. Disorder, confusion, and distortion seem to rule the day. It is not how it was from the beginning. It is not how God created and intended it. This leaves us feeling helpless and hopeless. But we have more agency than we think. We have divinely instituted spheres of influence. That's good news!

Join us for the second annual Not Ashamed Conference, where Pastor Andrew Preus of Trinity Lutheran Church of New Haven, Missouri, will speak about *God's Answer For Our Chaotic Times*.

This one-day event will be held Saturday, August 17, 2024, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (doors open at 8:30 a.m.) at the Ironhorse Golf Club in Tuscola, IL. Event attendance is free but limited. Complimentary snacks and a catered lunch are included in the registration. This event is sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tuscola, Illinois, and made possible by a Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund grant.

If you'd like help registering, please call Immanuel Lutheran Church at (217) 253-4341 and leave a message with your name and phone number. Or online at <https://bit.ly/NotAshamedConf2024>

### **Growing Young Event**

Does your church struggle to keep your young people active after confirmation and graduation? Across the United States, churches are losing both members and vitality as increasing young people disengage.

Our Illinois districts have joined together to bring in Dr. Dave Rueter, who is a rostered DCE and is certified by the Fuller Youth Institute as the official LCMS Growing Young speaker. Dr. Rueter is the author of *Teaching the Faith at Home and Called to Serve (CPH)* and contributor to *Relationships Count* and *Connected for Life (CPH)*. Since 1998, he has served as a DCE for congregations in Huntington Beach, Rancho Cucamonga, and now Livermore, CA.

This workshop has a couple different options for both called workers AND lay leaders to gather and learn more about how your church can keep our young people plugged in.

- **Friday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30-5:30 pm at Camp Cilca**
  - This day will have more opportunities to dig deeper into the six core commitment strategies churches can do to involve and retain teenagers and young adults.
- **Saturday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30-3:00 pm at Camp Cilca**
  - This day will condense the six core commitment strategies for churches and allow for some time to connect with other leaders.

**The cost for this workshop is \$50.00 for both days or just \$20.00 for one day. Register right away!** <https://www.vancoevents.com/us/CLSZ>