# CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT

*of the* Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

November 2026

## *News You Can Use*

**Devotional Message**

Things don't always go according to our plan. Bad weather can strike at any time. Poor health can come upon us when we least expect it. Frustrations of everyday life can throw us off. But no matter what happens, we understand that God's plan for us is far better than our own.

God's plan for us is glorious. He sent His Son into the world to rescue us from sin and death. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven and saved. Not only does the Lord bring about our salvation through His death and resurrection but He has also restored us. Our life is one of gratitude and thanksgiving to God who has blessed us with both temporal and eternal gifts. It is our Lord's plan for us to live with Him in His full presence for all eternity.

As we wait for the Lord to bring us into His heavenly kingdom we trust in Him. God's love is greater than any obstacle we might face. Our Lord will continue to guide us through every storm, every detour and every frustration that comes our way. Let us give thanks to God, call upon His Name in prayer and trust in Him above all other things. God's blessings to you all.

In Christ,

Pastor Kevin Wendorf- St. John's Chatham – BOD member

**Pray for Our Central Illinois District Missions, supported by your church's regular contributions to the District**.

Please remember in your prayers all our CID campus ministries, especially Rev. William Jensen and Wittenberg Lutheran Center in Normal, serving students, faculty, and staff of Illinois State University and other institutions. And pray for the "Keeping Christ on Campus" campaign, building endowments to help CID support our campus ministries.

**Current Dollar For Missions Project**

Deaf ministry technology and instruction resources - Central IL Deaf Outreach

**Amount to be funded:** $7,000

New! Online Giving for Dollar For Mission

Online one-time and recurring donations can now be made at https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/LCMSCentralIllinoisDistrict/D4M

**November GatePost has been released; to read and sign up for the District electronic newsletter, visit** https://www.cidlcms.org/news-gatepost-newsletter.html

**Special (Zoom) Meeting of the CID Board of Directors 10/20/2026**

Because the previous District Treasurer, Mr. Joel Oschwald is now the Executive Director of CEF, the CID position of District Treasurer was vacant. President Eddy appointed Mr. James Bruns from Calvary Lutheran, Watseka, as District Treasurer. The board accepted the appointment of Mr. James Bruns as Central Illinois District Treasurer.

CID Handbook 2.22(d): "No two members of the same congregation may be members of the Board."

Because both Mr. Bruns and Pastor Uphoff are members of Calvary Lutheran, Watseka, Rev.Aaron Uphoff resigned from the CID Board of Directors. President Eddy appointed Rev. David Dunlop to serve the remainder of Rev. Uphoff's term as CID board member (parish pastor). The board accepted Rev. Uphoff's resignation and accepted the appointment of Rev. Dunlop.

**Announcing the 2026-27 CID Youth Bible Bowl topic**: "The Lives of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob" (Genesis 12-35; 49:1-50:13). Start planning now for who will guide your youth (grades 6-12) in the study of this part of God's Word, and what resources you can use. The District Bible Bowl (Sunday, April 12, 2027) is limited to 2 teams per circuit. So, if your circuit would like to hold a preliminary Bible Bowl to determine which youth will go to District (and [more importantly] to get more young people learning God's Word), you may contact either District President Mark Eddy or CID administrative assistant, Trip Rodgers. They have rules & guidelines for holding a Circuit Bible Bowl. We'll also get you on our list of participating circuits & congregations to keep you in the loop.
E-mail trodgers@cidlcms.org or meddy@cidlcms.org.

**Music For Missions** on Sunday, November 15, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.
– St. John's Lutheran Church in Pekin is once again hosting a Sacred Music Concert and Hymn Sing, this year in support of University Lutheran Church, our LC-MS Central Illinois District Campus Ministry at the University of Illinois in Champaign,

We will join together to sing hymns and listen to sacred organ, choir, vocal solo, and hand bell music, all under the theme, "Oh, Give Thanks to the Lord." Featured musicians will include guest organist Samuel Bishop, vocalist Allison Harley, and the combined choirs and hand bell ensembles of St. John's and Trinity, Pekin.

We will gather a free-will offering to support our University Lutheran Church in Champaign, served by Pastor Michael Schuermann. Refreshments will be served following the program.

Please set aside time to participate in and enjoy the music program and support our Central Illinois District mission work. The church is located at 711 Court Street in Pekin. For more information, you may contact the church office at 309-347-2136.

Save The Dates in 2027:

Jan. 30 (weather date Feb. 6)– **Small Church Summit** at Our Savior's, Washington, IL. Registration link: https://forms.gle/ t7p6VkR1o1rEWq7t5

March 6 **Lutheran Layman League Convention** – Effingham, IL (Saturday)

April 20 **Illinois Pro-Life March** – Springfield, IL (Tuesday)