



# CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT

of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

*News that You Can Use*

November 2020

## **You Shine Like Lights**

The Shadwells walked to church. Every Sunday. Their neighbors, the Kyles, watched them. For weeks, maybe months, maybe years. Then Royal and Lois Kyle made a decision to follow their neighbors to St. John's. They took instruction from Pastor Zimmerman, had their children baptized and catechized, and stayed members of the congregation. Two weeks ago, their great grand-daughter was confirmed here on Reformation Sunday. On November 2<sup>nd</sup> the funeral pall covered Lois' casket and she made her final entrance into St. John's, clothed in the righteousness of Jesus.

The Lord accomplished a lot through the Shadwells' three-block walk in the 1950s. We're not living in the '50s, and neighbors are less likely to follow you to church now, but think about the reverse side of it. If you don't go, neighbors -- including your own children and grandchildren -- will surely not go to church with you. So, go. Walk or drive. Every week. In-person, or virtually for a little while longer. God can accomplish a lot.

Christ gives you His light, through His Word and Sacraments. You shine with borrowed light. Let us not give up meeting together (Hebrews 10:24-25), but let's shine in this fearful and dark world.

"Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life...."(Philippians 2:14-16).

**Shine.**

- Pastor Mike Burdick St. John's Lutheran Church, Effingham

**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, Rev. Jacob Hercamp who is prayerfully considering the Call to Immanuel Lutheran Church (Macomb) and to provide Campus Ministry at Western Illinois University-Macomb.
- † Please remember in your prayers Cristo Rey (Christ the King) Lutheran Church, East Moline, and Pastor Pablo Dominguez. The "fields" in the Quad Cities are "ripe" unto harvest.

## **ITEMS OF INTEREST TO SHARE**

**Planning a Mission Festival?** Find help on the CID website. Our Mission Festival Toolkit offers a suggested sermon, a listing of CID missions and contact information on CID mission speakers, PowerPoint presentations on some CID missions, an archive of Mission Stories, suggestions on funding a Mission Festival, and more. Go online to <http://www.cidlms.org/missionfestivaltoolkit.html>

## **Central Illinois District Youth Bible Bowl (April 2021)**

Introducing the 2021 Central Illinois District Youth Bible Bowl: The Exodus. As, God willing, we have our own exodus from home confinement to meeting together as God's church in our various congregations, we seek God's guidance for our exodus by studying the historical portions of the biblical book of Exodus (chapters 1-20, 24, 32-34, & 40). Whether or not we can have an in-person District Bible Bowl. (or via Zoom?), we can study God's word in our homes and/or churches in the Christian hope of God's freeing us from the shackles of this world into His promised paradise through Jesus Christ. Contact Pastor Mark Eddy at [zionlms@juno.com](mailto:zionlms@juno.com) if you would like more information about how your congregation's youth might participate in this year's Bible Bowl.

## **ACROSS OUR DISTRICT**

**Keeping Christ on Campus:** The Central Illinois has important campus ministries at University of Illinois-Champaign, Illinois State University, Eastern Illinois University, and Western Illinois University. You can help keep Christ on these campuses by donating to their new formed Endowment Funds. So far people have contributed nearly \$13,000 to the endowment funds. If you would like additional information or to donate please visit

<http://www.cidlms.org/outreach-missions-campus.html>

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

- **Events that have been canceled or postponed can be found on the CID website <http://www.cidlms.org/events-calendar.html>**
- **Looking for a way to connect with your online visitors- visit our Website <http://www.cidlms.org/outreach-witness-ministry.html>**
- **November is the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martin Luther's "Freedom of A Christian".**

## **Stay Connected with your District**

Looking for additional information visit <https://linktr.ee/cidlms> or <http://www.cidlms.org/> connect with the following items:

- † CID's GatePost (newsletter)
- † Subscribe to the E-GatePost/Semimonthly "**News That You Can Use**"
- † Stay connect with us on Facebook and Instagram