



CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT

of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

October 2024

News You Can Use

Feed My Sheep, Tend My Sheep, Feed My Sheep

In John chapter 21, Jesus gave Simon Peter three charges regarding His sheep. These charges are now carried out by the pastors who serve our churches. Your pastor (Christ's under-shepherd) has the responsibility to feed and tend to you and the fellow members of your congregation. This feeding is grounded in the means of grace, His Word, and the sacraments. This feeding of His Word comes to us in their sermons and leading Bible studies. The pastor is also responsible for tending to the flock by providing Christ-like comfort and care.

In October, the LCMS has appointed two Appreciation Days— Pastors (13) and Deaconesses (25). With these two appreciation days, we can show appreciation for our pastors and deaconesses; this month is a time to thank God for the blessings of these two Callings. We can pray for their protection, health, well-being, and ability to stand firm in the faith so that they can, in the words of 1 Thessalonians (5:12-13), "We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves."

Let us unite in prayer for these workers in our churches, lifting them up in their noble service. Similarly, let's remember in our prayers all those individuals who are currently studying to become church workers so that they may be equipped and strengthened for their future roles. Let's also pray that all individuals will be open to considering God's calling into His ministry. (Other Appreciation Days are scheduled for Directors of Parish Music (April), Teachers (May), and Directors of Christian Education (June).

Mr. Trip Rodgers – CID Office

Pray For Our Central Illinois District Missions supported by your church's Mission Dollars to the District. Our Lord Jesus said, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the harvest." This month, please thank God for the outreach of the Gospel in Spanish at St. John's Lutheran Church, Beardstown. Pray for Pastor Pablo Dominguez, who travels to Beardstown from East Moline twice a month.

Items of Interest to Share

CID BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVIEW REPORT 09/24/24

Announcement:

- President Mohr announced the theme for next year's District Convention: "Witnessing Christ to the People" (Acts 13:31).

Action:

- Due to a vacancy, Rev. Andrew Smith (Our Redeemer, Bloomington) was appointed and approved as Bloomington South Circuit Visitor.

- Appointed Deaconess Elizabeth Froh of Christ, Normal, to our District's Human Care Committee.
- Approved Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb's semi-retirement plans beginning Sept. 1st, 2025.
- Granted a peaceful release for Pastor Phillips (Deaf Ministry on behalf of CID) due to his accepting a Call to the Michigan District
- Approved to cover the remaining cost of an air conditioning unit for UniLu.
- Approved St. John, Beardstown, and Trinity, Auburn's constitutional updates

Reports:

- Mrs. Chris Andersen reported good news about St. John's- Mattoon capital campaign, construction, and classes already expanding into high school grades.
- A list of repairs needed at CID Missions Sites for future consideration.

Presentation:

- CID Board of Directors and Circuit Visitors received LC-MS 1st Vice President Reverend Peter Lange and 2nd Vice President Reverend Ben Ball for their triennium visitation. Reverend Lange walked through the District Visitation Outline on behalf of our Synod to our Central Illinois District. Both Vice Presidents fielded questions from CID directors and circuit visitors.

Next meeting is set for Nov. 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

"Faith That Shines In The Culture" seminar

Saturday, October 19th, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Christ Lutheran Church, 311 Hershey Rd Normal IL

Rev. Dr. Alfonso Espinosa, senior pastor at Saint Paul's Lutheran Church in Irvine, CA and author of books, "Faith That Sees Through The Culture" (2018), "Faith That Engages the Culture" (2021), and "Faith That Shines In The Culture" (2023). The cost for this seminar is \$15 (which includes a light breakfast and lunch). **To sign up for the 2024 Hall of Tyrannus, please click on this link** Or visit their website: <https://www.christlutherannormal.org/>

Witnessing HELPS In early October, the CID will release a series of videos on key witnessing skills: • Beginning a spiritual conversation • Listening discerningly to a nonchurched person • Making a simple statement of the Gospel • Defending the Resurrection

2025 LCMS YOUTH GATHERING Adult Leader Training & Q&A All adult leaders are invited to participate in one of two opportunities to meet on Zoom. These meetings will cover Gathering basics, travel tips, fundraising strategies, how to pick your adult leader team, and Q&A with veteran Gathering leaders! So, even if this is not your first time, we welcome you to come with any tips, tricks, and hacks you have for the Gathering! Meeting dates and times are: Tuesday, October 8 and 22 at 7:00 p.m. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81659176415?pwd=px3iM954vTHPS9ij1UzhMj0BbiqUXK.1> Meeting ID: 816 5917 6415 Passcode: 996635