

ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER



BUILT ON CHRIST OUR CORNERSTONE

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Hearing/Handicapped Assistance Available

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GROWING IN CHRIST'S FAMILY -In God's Grace - In God's Service

“Saying It Wrong vs. Not Saying It”

You've had those moments. You hear somebody say something that is just crying out for a Christian witness, or someone is struggling and you're pretty certain that they don't have faith in Jesus for security during the rough times. And what do you do? You clam up and say nothing. Instead of giving Christian comfort, you simply say something like, “I'll pray for you,” etc.¹ Yes, you've been there, done that. And so have I. The fact that later we feel terrible about it proves two things:

1. That we *did not* witness about our Savior the way we should have.
2. That we *are* still Christians, proven by the fact that we *do care* about our weak witnessing. (After all, an unbeliever wouldn't worry about this, would they!)

I believe one of the reasons we don't feel comfortable speaking about Jesus is because we are afraid we'll “mess it up” by saying something wrong and cause more harm than good. First, we are concerned about misrepresenting our Lord and the Scriptures. This is legitimate, because *only the truth* actually saves. But Jesus hasn't left us in the dark. He is with us to the very end of the age², working through His Spirit who comes to us through His Word. If we want to be more capable in our witnessing, let's use what the Lord gives us. Hence the previous articles on regular church and Bible study attendance, a healthy Biblically based devotional life, the doctrinal basics of the catechisms, and some basic apologetics knowledge. Through these the Holy Spirit is enlightening us for *knowledgeable* witnessing.

A second concern is that we'll say things in a way that offends the other person, turning them away from Christ instead of to Him. Again, there is legitimacy here. We all know that a person may say something correct, but if his or her attitude is one of arrogance, smugness, or any such thing, we simply don't want to listen to them.

But again, we're not left clueless. As mentioned in a previous article, we are to have a sincere, Christian love for the person to whom we are witnessing. Thus St. Paul reminds us to “speak the truth in love.”³ Despite what some people think, tact is *not* a bad thing. It does not mean that we don't speak the truth; it simply means we speak it in a way that doesn't immediately shut people down. While the time may come to “lay it on the line,” *even then* we can do so as one who truly cares for the person and their eternal welfare! Yes, they may not like the message that they're sinners, they may not readily receive the news of their Savior, but at least they will see what we're saying is from our heart and not simply some “church gimmick.” Again, through His Word and Spirit, Jesus is working in us such a love for others that sees them the way He does, precious individuals worth dying for, thereby moving us to speak to them in a truly caring way. *And He will bless what we say.*

We have received the incredible blessing of forgiveness of our sins and eternal life because we have been given faith in Jesus through the Gospel. We also have the honorable privilege and solemn duty to share that Gospel Word of Jesus with others so that they know that they have been saved by Him, receiving His gifts of forgiveness and eternal life as well.

¹ We certainly are to pray for all people, even our enemies, but merely telling somebody that we'll pray for them doesn't bring the saving message of Jesus (the Gospel) to them. At best, it tells them that we're at least somewhat “religious,” but recall that followers of false religions pray too.

² Matthew 28:20b.

³ Ephesians 4:15.

Therefore, let's work *to say it right*. But equally important, let's make sure we *do say it*. For even though it won't be perfect, the Holy Spirit will work in those to whom we have shared the Word. And we can rest in confidence that it is Him, and not us, who will do the work of changing hearts and minds!

Your fellow witness,
Pastor Nerud

APOLOGITICS ARTICLE: CAN A MERCIFUL GOD CREATE PARASITES?⁴

Sir David Attenborough of BBC fame is regularly asked by Christians why he will not give credit to God for the amazing creatures featured on his nature documentaries. He often replies:

My response...is that when Creationists talk about God creating every individual species as a separate act, they always instance hummingbirds, or orchids, sunflowers and beautiful things. But I tend to think instead of a parasitic worm that is boring through the eye of a boy sitting on the bank of a river in West Africa—that's going to make him blind. Are you telling me that the God you believe in, who you also say is an all-merciful God, who cares for each one of us individually, are you saying that God created this worm that can live in no other way than in an innocent child's eyeball? Because that doesn't seem to me to coincide with a God who's full of mercy.^a

This is exactly the conclusion any reasonable and compassionate person should reach. The creation we occupy is full of many things much worse than parasitism.

Sir Attenborough's logic would be spot on if the literal interpretation of Genesis were not true. Rejecting the truth of man's evil heart, our rebellion, and the reality of the Curse makes observing our present circumstance of suffering and death considerably confusing, and perhaps a source of resentment.

But by rejecting the truth, they also have no hope of the gospel. Their unknowable god made a universe with time-and-chance evolution that resulted in the same predicament of parasitism—and for no good reason. Therefore, they should be even more upset with this supposed god and its millions of years of evolutionary suffering—but they are not.

So, what about this worm? Did the real God create a parasite that can live in no other way than a child's eye? Absolutely not! These worms are actually called nematodes. There are about 40,000 species of nematodes, and the majority are not parasitic at all! They exist quite well outside of the human eye. Only 35 of them are parasitic to humans.^b Christians need not shrink back from Sir Attenborough's questions because, like hummingbirds and orchids, nematodes are amazing!

Nematodes thrive all over the earth. They live in oceans, on mountains, and deep underground. One cubic meter of dirt can contain over a million nematodes. They can lay 200,000 eggs at a time, and they possess the strange ability to die and come back to life decades later in a process known as cryptobiosis (hidden life).

Since we know God made them to be not parasitic at the beginning, what function do they serve? The majority are incredibly beneficial. They feed on the nutritious insides of bacteria and algae and decompose organic matter. This fertilizes the soil, helping plants to thrive. They are not the bad guys after all.

But why are some parasitic? Interestingly, evolutionists also believe that nematodes started out harmless. Researchers published a 2009 paper in *Trends in Genetics* that explained the following: since nematodes already ride harmlessly on insects, the researchers think that when resources grew scarce, some species learned that they could feed on their insect companions.^c The behavior was just a matter of surviving. Unfortunately, this parasitism is how African river blindness is transmitted. Struggling nematodes learned that they can feed on blackflies. Blackflies learned that they can feed on humans. When an infected fly bites a human, it can transfer the nematodes and thus cause a child to tragically lose his sight.

Truly, all of creation groans ([Romans 8:22](#)). But because God is truly merciful, Jesus died for the guilty, and we will be with Him where there is no more suffering or death. Now that is amazing. I hope Sir Attenborough discovers this mercy soon.

References

- a. [Wild, wild life](#). *The Sydney Morning Herald*. Posted on smh.com.au March 25, 2003.

⁴ Scott Arledge. 2021. Can a Merciful God Create Parasites?. *Acts & Facts*. 50 (8).

https://www.icr.org/article/12934/?utm_source=phplist9532&utm_medium=email&utm_content=HTML&utm_campaign=August+Acts+%26+Facts+Is+Now+Available

Mr. Arledge is Research Coordinator at the Institute for Creation Research.

- b. Anderson, R. C. 2000. *Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates: Their Development and Transmission*, 2nd ed. New York: CABI Publishing, 1.
- c. Dieterich, C. and R. J. Sommer. 2009. How to become a parasite—lessons from the genomes of nematodes. *Trends in Genetics*. 25 (5): 203-209.

A LOOK at the LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS

In Article XI, Confession, we clearly confessed that, while condemning the abuses that had become connected to it, we rightly keep the good practice of private confession for the sake of the Absolution, that is, the direct giving of the forgiving Gospel to the hurting soul.

In Article XII, Repentance, we confess that true repentance consists of two things, terrors and sorrow over sin brought about by the Law (contrition), and faith in Christ's saving work revealed in the Gospel. While recognizing and teaching that true faith must and will bring forth turning from sin and good works, we confess that such works do not merit God's grace, for that is to take away from Christ and His saving work.

Augsburg Confession Article XII: Repentance

Our churches teach that there is forgiveness of sins for those who have fallen after Baptism whenever they are converted. The Church ought to impart Absolution to those who return to repentance [Jeremiah 3:12]. Now, strictly speaking, repentance consists of two parts. One part is contrition, that is, terrors striking the conscience through knowledge of sin. The other part is faith, which is born of the Gospel [Romans 10:17] or the Absolution and believes that for Christ's sake, sins are forgiven. It comforts the conscience and delivers it from terror. Then good works are bound to follow, which are the fruit of repentance [Galatians 5:22-23].

Our churches condemn the Anabaptists,⁵ who deny that those who have once been justified can lose the Holy Spirit. They also condemn those who argue that some may reach such a state of perfection in this life that they cannot sin.⁶

The Novatians⁷ also are condemned, who would not absolve those who had fallen after Baptism, though they returned to repentance.

Our churches also reject those who do not teach that forgiveness of sins comes through faith, but command us to merit grace through satisfactions of our own.⁸

They also reject those who teach that it is necessary to perform works of satisfaction, commanded by Church law, in order to remit eternal punishment or the punishment of purgatory.⁹

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

All high school age and adults are invited to participate in any or all Bible studies offered at St. John's. We are thankful we can gather together around God's Word. You are welcome to attend anytime.



- Sunday morning Adult Bible class – 8:45am in the Fellowship Hall. Topic of study is the book of Ecclesiastes.
- Men's Bible Study – 7 pm the first Thursday of each month. Topic of study is, "The Genesis Academy".
- Adult Bible study – 1:30 pm the third Thursday of each month. Topic of study is, "The Genesis Academy".
- Life Light – 1:30 pm each Wednesday afternoon (Sept. 8 – Nov. 3). Topic of study is, "The Time Between the Testaments".

OFFICE INFORMATION

- Please call the office or Pastor if you desire private communion during this time.
- Please call the office when someone is ill, hospitalized, or homebound.
- Please use this email to contact the office: churchoffice@stjohnsgeneseo.org

⁵ Anabaptist means "rebaptizer." During the Reformation, the name applied to groups that insisted on rebaptism of people who were baptized as infants, as they favored adult "believers' baptism" (along with other unscriptural practices such as refusal to take oaths, serve in a governmental office, etc.). Modern groups most closely associated with Reformation Anabaptists include the Mennonites, Amish, Hutterites, and the various Brethren churches. Baptists arose later, but were influenced by Anabaptists as far as their denial of the Holy Spirit working through the means of grace and thus their unbiblical requirement to only baptize adults after they decide to "accept" Jesus (General Baptist).

⁶ Not all Anabaptists held to this teaching, but it was present among some. This teaching is contradicted by 1 John 1:8, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

⁷ Followers of Novatian (mid 200's A.D.) who defined the church as the community of holy ones so strictly that they denied that those who had fallen into grievous sins could ever be restored to the church.

⁸ No works, not even those of the new life in Christ, are to be mixed with *Christ's* work.

⁹ This deals with the Roman Catholic system of "satisfactions" which are imposed by the priest after confession is made.

- Website address – www.stjohnsgeneseo.org
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/St.Johns.Geneseo/> All Sunday services are ‘Live’ streamed at 10am and posted to our church website the following day.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Celebrate a special occasion with flowers given for a Sunday worship service. Sign the flower chart, found on the bulletin board next to the rest rooms. **NOTE: Cost for flowers has increased to \$30.** Put money in a yellow envelope (found by the chart). Fill in the date for the flowers along and occasion/memory and place envelope in the offering plate.



Witnessing is all about Jesus coming to being present with, delivering, and making people whole through His Church.

This grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. Ephesians 3:8-10

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Brad Barry
2 Nancy Wickwire
4 Lynne Daniels
5 Carl Freeman
5 Dakota Grant
5 Sandra Kane
6 Fred Magerkurth



9 Russell Blank Jr
9 John Erdman
10 Zane Roberts
12 Rev Timothy Nerud
14 Jonathan Barry
17 Nicole Magerkurth
18 Keagan Daniels

20 Kurt Gehn
25 Kristen Wolfe
26 Nathaniel Helg
27 Carson Mitchell
28 Alan Eastburn
28 Katherine Wolfe

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

4 Daniel/Fern Kulpa (2014) - 7 yr
7 Tim/Kristy Wolfe (2006) – 15 yrs
21 Dennis/Cheryl Loenser (1971) - 50 yrs
21 Preston/Sabrina Smith (2000) - 21 yrs



22 Joel/Lynne Daniels (2005) - 16 yrs
26 Joel/Susan Goetz (1991) – 30 yrs
30 Roy/Linda White (1992) - 29 yrs
31 Dennis/Cathy Langdon (1981) - 40 yrs

OCTOBER BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

1 Gracelyn Kulpa
4 Cheryl Loenser
11 Alec Davila
11 Robert Wolfe
14 Jason Dahl
14 Cassandra Kulpa (Fern)



16 Tim Wolfe
19 Jessi Ague
19 Kelsey Ague
19 Lexie Ague
19 Memphis Ague
19 Rachael Himmelman

23 Carl Freeman
23 Madison Winchell
24 Brad Barry
24 Gary Post
31 Nicole Werling
00 Barb Miller

LWML NEWS



Lutheran Women in Mission

St. John’s LWML met Tuesday September 14, 2021 at 1:00 pm. There were 6 members present and Pastor Nerud. Liz Neumann opened our meeting in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Our promise verse for this month is: *“If you declare with your mouth, : Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved..” Romans 10:9-10*

Terri Hock read a devotion called, “Go & Tell – I love to Tell the Story” by Martha Hartwig. We then watched the convention speaker Linda Reiser instead of doing a Bible study.

Minutes from the July meeting were approved as written.

Correspondence: Received information on LWML Sunday in October. We also received a “Thank You’ from District LWML in gratitude for the gift from the Karna Hollatz estate. Liz asked to send this to Karna’s sister.

Treasurer’s Report will be filed for review: Receipts for August - Mites: \$236.16, Missions: \$55, Operating: \$40. Disbursements – Mites: \$236.16, Operating: \$25, Health Dept Fee: \$5. Aug. 14th - Balances (\$504.91): Missions: \$354.84, Operating: \$150.07.

OLD BUSINESS: Liz reviewed the job assignments and set up for the Rally next Tuesday. We currently have 61 to attend. Linda Aper and Sheila Magerkurth will be helping us that day. We spent the rest of the meeting stuffing the folders for the rally and putting candy in the table favors.

NEW BUSINESS: LWML Sunday is Oct. 10.

The next meeting is October 12th. Liz Neumann will lead the devotion and Bible study. We closed praying Mite Box Prayer #2.

THANK YOU!

St. John's LWML wish to thank those who helped with the Rock Island Fall Rally. Our group here at St. John's is small but God provided the willing hands to help us host a wonderful day. We especially thank Pastor Nerud, Jim and Joan Stonehouse, Bob Wechsler, Sheila Magerkurth, and Linda Aper.

LWML-CID MISSION GRANT MITE BYTES

Expanding Access at Camp CILCA..... \$16,000

Camp CILCA reinforces the work of pastors and congregations in teaching the faith to young people, adults, and families. These funds will be used to purchase materials and labor for heating and cooling in two large cabinets at the camp. These updated cabins will attract more campers and families to Camp CILCA to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and enjoy God's creation throughout the whole year.



How can I help? Pray that God uses Camp CILCA to spread the gospel to all who attend or participate in the camp activities. Support this grant by donating to your church's LWML group mite fund.



Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the Word and instruction of God in the Bible says we should give, and this is sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:7; Gal. 6:6).

But there's more to it than just obligation. We're not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we're not just doing what our Father said, we're also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up, they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents. But there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, and how they do and say most everything. Then children try to copy it.

This can be quite humorous when caught in the act. They do this even when parents don't want them to. Everyone has been in the uncomfortable – and embarrassing situation – where a child does or says something one of their parents have done or said that is less than polite. Sitcoms thrive on these. It only works because of the truth that children emulate their parents, and they do it because they want to be like them.

We are the children of God – by grace through faith. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, “You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins. In exchange, He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit – by which we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

We are born again – born from above, born of water and the Spirit – to a new life in Christ as His children. We are sons of God in Christ through Baptism. Since we are sons, we are heirs who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace, mercy, and generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

This is why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We give to the work of the church

because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. It is because we have received our Father's gifts that we desire to give ourselves. His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As *Luther's Small Catechism* teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer:

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Are you making Sunday school a priority in the care and education of your children and yourself? Don't neglect this most import of living. Without Christ there is no true life.

We are looking for a director for the annual Christmas program. Please pray about this and consider volunteering. It is time to get plans in place. Contact Sandy Rahn for more information.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!

Mike and I want express our sincere thankfulness for the many cards and memorials sent to us in memory of mom, Betty Zimmerman. There is such a great comfort in experiencing love and tenderness from my brothers and sisters in Christ at St. John's.

Gods blessings to each and every one of you. Mike and Francie Kolb

I thank my Heavenly Father for making it possible for me to praise Him in playing the organ for all of these years. I would also like to thank St. John's members for the cards and gifts.

Praise the Lord! John

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH

You and your friends are invited to attend a new youth group at Immanuel Lutheran Church. The youth group is open to all churches in our Rock Island Circuit (7th grade thru High School). Meeting times are every Sunday from 6:30 pm—8:30 pm at Immanuel in Rock Island. The first hour includes a brief opening and devotion followed by a discussion with Pastor Astrowski on Apologetics—learning how to defend our faith. The second hour we will gather in the fellowship hall for activities and snacks. For any questions, please contact Kathy Welch at 309-714-5491.

Rock Island Circuit Youth Information & Activities:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/341362862713713/>

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

Pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. James 5:16b

Our Infrequent Attendees –pray the Holy Spirit bring them to the understanding of their need to be in regular worship in church on Sunday and that we as their brothers and sisters in Christ would reach out to them.

Our LWML Chapter– that God would continue to bless their work.

Sunday school – pray the Holy Spirit would direct and guide the students to a better understanding of God's love and mercy in Jesus Christ and that all parents would be diligent in bringing their children each Sunday.

Women's Ministry - we pray that a ministry would begin which would speak to the needs of all women.

Youth – pray the Holy Spirit would provide the means to work with our youth to keep them faithful to their confirmation promises. Bless and increase their numbers.

Elderly/Homebound - pray that this congregation would continually remember our Elderly and Shut-ins and minister to their special needs.

Stephen/Care Ministry – pray that God would guide us to the needs of others and supply willing people who will reach out to help provide for those needs.

Confirmation Students – pray that they will be eager to study, learn and grow in the teachings of the Lutheran church and their faith. May they see this is the beginning of a life lived for Jesus.



PRAYER WARRIORS

Currently, there are a few faithful ladies as our 'Prayer Warriors'. We invite and encourage others to join in this ministry. Only a small amount of time and a willing heart is needed. A prayer request is given to Pastor who

then writes an appropriate prayer. This is then sent by email to the Prayer Warriors who pray in their own homes. It is that simple and yet very powerful. *'What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer'!*

If you desire to become part of this ministry, just let Terri Hock know. Your name will be added to the email list. Anyone can be a prayer warrior. You will be a blessing and also be blessed.

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH COUNCIL/VOLUNTEERS

As this month is 'Pastor Appreciation', we are encouraged to pray for Pastor Nerud and all pastors. May they faithfully continue to stand firm and preach boldly the Words of God in all truth and purity. Pray also for their families. Be a strong support and encourager for all of them.

REMEMBERING THOSE IN NEED!

ST. JOHN'S FAMILY—O Lord, You are the great Physician of soul and body. We pray that You would show mercy these members of St. John's:

Drew Schillinger
Arlyn Helke
Richard DeWulf
Betty Firch

Linda Aper
Jim Rahn
Lois Esterlein
Lillian Hock

John Erdman
Paula Chapa
Lynne Johnson
Jim Dahl

Carolyn Werner
Marilyn Woods

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY/FRIENDS:

Don Eggers (son of a friend of Marilyn Woods)
Mike Miller (friend of Bob & Sherry Wechsler)
Jodi Martins (daughter of Gary & Darla Johns)
John & Anita Causling (missionaries in Kenya)
Marilyn Potts (wife of Cal, former LFC)
Karen Wright (wife of Pastor Gary Wright)
Virginia Miller (mother of Jamie Werling)
Kelly Wechsler (cousin of Bob Wechsler)
Jim Neumann (father-in-law of Brad Gehn's son)

Harley Hepner (cousin of Sarah Hock)
Delores Gonion (mother of Michele Barry)
Glen McAdam (friend of Bob/Sherry Wechsler)
Lonnie Anderson (employee of Brad Gehn)
Laurie Sanford (sister of Jan Dahl)
Sydney Busse (niece of Bob/Sherry Wechsler)
Rev Justin Kane (son of Sandra Kane)
Jo Verbout (friend of Bob/Sherry Wechsler)

MILITARY, THOSE SERVING & THEIR FAMILIES:

Mandy/Richard Davila (daughter/son-in-law of Linda Aper)
Luke/Nicole Thompson (son/daughter-in-law of John/Kindra Thompson)
Ken Willeford (husband of Alicia Willeford)
Karl Flynn (son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Flynn)

Zachary & Tiffany Gardner (nephew/wife of Lois Esterlein)
Casey Powers Jr (step-son of Lisa Powers)
Brittany Loenser (daughter of Gabe Loenser)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Sarah Nerud – Northland College, CMB#1124, 1411 Ellis Avenue, Ashland WI 54806

Cali McKibbon – Friley Hall Hutton, 212 Beyer Ct#2371, Ames IA 50012-1058

Lynne Johnson – Heartland Care Facility (please use Linda White's address if sending something to Lynne)



CENTRAL ILLINOIS
DISTRICT

of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

NEWS YOU CAN USE!

September 2021

"Do not be deceived"

"Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." (1 Cor. 6)

All of humanity shares in one common failing: we are thoroughly sinful from conception. This inherited sin expresses itself in a myriad of ways. If left in that sinfulness and sin, we are doomed—we will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But notice Paul's past-tense wording: "And such were some of you." In your Baptism, God called you out of the kingdom of darkness into His marvelous light. Your Sin is overpowered by the righteousness of Christ, now yours. The greatest sin, turned over to Christ in repentance and faith, is forgiven. The greatest sinner—washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of Jesus—inherits the kingdom of God.

The Rev. Michael Schuermann is pastor of University Lutheran Church, Champaign, IL.

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.” Our Lord Jesus said, “Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the harvest.” This month, please remember in your prayers all the students, particularly those from CID, who are studying at our Synod's colleges and seminaries to be pastors, teachers, and other kinds of church workers – many with the help of scholarship money from CID.

Stay Connected with your District

Looking for additional information visit <https://linktr.ee/cidlcms> or connect with the following items:

- † CID's GatePost (newsletter)
- † Subscribe to the E-GatePost/*News You Can Use*
- † Stay connect with us on Facebook and Instagram -- [Central Illinois District-LCMS](#)

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO SHARE

Pastors For the Future

At a Circuit Convocation in Effingham, Illinois, 65 people heard about men prayerfully considering being a pastor. In this video, some of the convocation speakers tell us a bit of what they said.

Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send workers into His harvest fields. Encourage men who might be good pastors. Watch this video on the CID's website main page or use the following link <https://youtu.be/taz9WhH5kU>

Wallace Schulz to preach in CID

Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz a former associate speaker of the Lutheran Hour, will be the guest preacher at a special service on Reformation Sunday, October 31, 2021 at 3:30PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 80 Chestnut St., Varna, IL.

Pastor Schulz, a native of South Dakota, has served in various capacities within the LCMS, including as a vice-president of the Synod, a missionary to Russia and other places, and a leader of the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. He is best known for his service to the Lutheran Hour Ministries, where he served as associate speaker from 1977-2002. Today he is the editor of the Good News Journal, a regular publication which instructs laypeople in the basics of the Lutheran faith. A supper is planned for after the events. Everyone is invited! Come and join us as we give thanks to God for His many gifts to us.

Church workers Retirement Workshop

On Saturday, November 6, CID's Human Care Committee hosts a “preparing for retirement” event for church workers. Rev. David Fleming of DOXOLOGY will make a presentation entitled, “Still Bearing Fruit: Retirement as Joyful Receiving and Giving.” CID Gift Planning Counselor Rev. Charles Olander and Mr. Scott Radden of the LCMS Foundation will talk about charitable giving in retirement and beyond.

The workshop will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Sherman, starting at 10:30 a.m. and ending at about 2:00 p.m. (Doors will open at 10:00.) Register before November 1 by e-mailing Ken Schurb at CID office, kschurb@cidlcms.org

THE 2021 CID JR. HIGH LOCK IN IS GO! - SO FAR!

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12 - BEGINNING AT 9 PM!
AT FIVE POINTS IN WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS.**

**GREAT FELLOWSHIP AND FUN – SAVE THE DATE
GET YOUR GROUP TOGETHER – SEE YOU AT FIVE POINTS**

Please note that Five Points Washington will be following the guidelines announced by the Governor of Illinois along with guidance from the CDC and the IDPH.

Five Points WILL NOT ask or require proof of vaccination; however, we do encourage you to continue to use your best judgement to continue to protect your health and that of others. Stay connect to current CID Youth Lock in Information at <https://cidyouth.weebly.com/>

UPCOMING SEMINAR... Dr. Joel Biermann of Concordia Seminary St. Louis will be coming to Christ Lutheran, Normal, IL the weekend of **October 9th & 10th**. He will be preaching at the services and teaching Adult Bible Class. **On Saturday, October 9th, Dr. Biermann will be leading an all-day seminar, 9am-3:15pm, in the Parish Hall on “Men, Women, and Marriage”.**

\$10 Registration fee includes light breakfast, lunch, and drinks.

Register by Tuesday, October 5th, 2021 at this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSerqnOJdUPTaZpKEy3ywYD3eU7Ka_JrwKSVv6RKLS5yDNW3w/viewform?usp=sf_link



The Camp CILCA Lowdown

October, 2021

217-487-7497 / camp@cilca.org

4124 Camp Cilca Rd.

Cantrall, IL 62625

Calling All Vendors: Oct 23

CILCA is seeking vendors to set up shop at the 2021 Homecoming. 11am-2pm have access to G.R.I.T. runners and Homecoming participants. \$15 per table. Contact director@cilca.org to reserve your spot.

Fall Work Day: Oct 30

As the camping season ends, help is needed putting items in storage and getting the grounds ready for a long winter's nap. Work will be done from 8:30am-11:30am with lunch served afterward for all volunteers.

HELP NEEDED!

Do you enjoy cooking and need some extra income? Camp CILCA is seeking to fill the position of ***Assistant Cook***: \$14/hr, part-time, mostly weekends in the Fall-Spring. For more information contact the camp office today!

G.R.I.T. Run 5K CILCA HOMECOMING 2021

Saturday, October 23, 2021

10:00am

\$30 per runner. Runners age 6-18 run for \$10. Children under 6 run for free!

**Trails, creek beds, mud, steep hills, sand, stairs, and scenic views. You will get wet! An alternate route will be available for anyone who does not wish to climb through the creek bed.

Register On-Line at www.cilca.org/homecoming



(Each race participant will receive a Camp CILCA backpack. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each age category, and to the top male and female finishers will receive a CILCA hoodie.)

Homecoming to follow

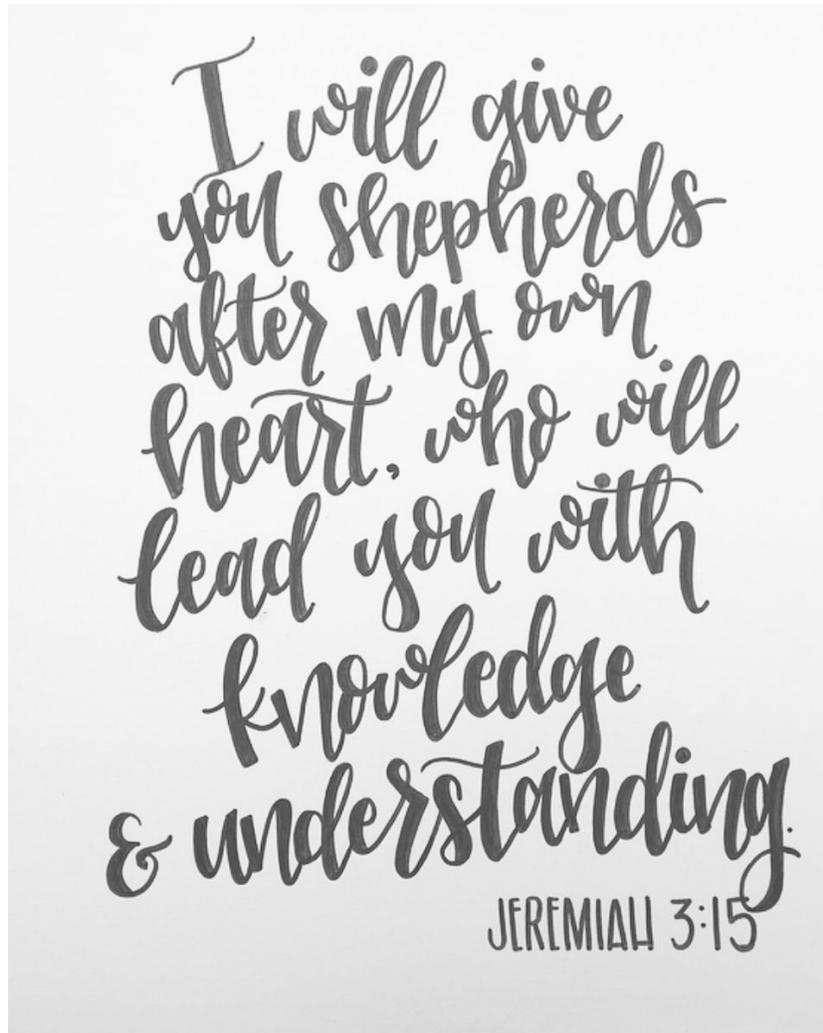
11:00am-1:30pm ~ Food, drinks, music, games, bonfire, and “German Beverages”.

Contact Camp CILCA at any time for more information.

Office: 217-487-7497 / director@cilca.org

Camp CILCA exists to strengthen and foster faith in Jesus Christ and relationships with others in a unique outdoor setting.

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH



During this month, remember the gift God has given to St. John's through the faithful men He sent as shepherds. They have been many and varied but all have been given to the teaching of God's Word in truth and purity.

Especially remember the man God has placed in our midst today, Rev. Timothy Nerud. We want to pray for him and his family regularly and often. Support and encourage his work among us. Praise and thank God for Pastor Nerud's faithful and loving service to the members of this congregation.



The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.

1 Timothy 5:17

October

2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 SS/Adult/Youth Bible Study 8:45am Worship/Comm 10 am	4 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	5	6 Life Light 1:30 pm Confirmation 5 pm	7 Elders 6 pm Men's Bible Study 7 pm	8	9
10 SS/Adult/Youth Bible Study 8:45am Worship 10 am LWML Sunday	11 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	12 LWML 1 pm Council 6:30 pm	13 Life Light 1:30 pm Confirmation 5 pm	14	15	16
17 SS/Adult/Youth Bible Study 8:45am Worship/Comm 10 am	18 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	19	20 Life Light 1:30 pm Confirmation 5 pm	21 Bible Study 1:30 pm	22	23
24 SS/Adult/Youth Bible Study 8:45am Worship 10 am Voters' Assembly 11 am	25 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	26 Teachers' meeting 6:30 pm	27 Life Light 1:30 pm Confirmation 5 pm	28	29	30
31 SS/Adult/Youth Bible Study 8:45am Worship/Comm 10 am	ELDER Aaron Raschke					



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
8948 N 1900 AVE
GENESEO IL 61254-8941

Sunday school/Adult & Youth Bible Class - 8:45 am

WORSHIP SERVICES 10 am - (Communion -1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays of this month)

Live Streaming each week on Facebook

