

ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER



BUILT ON CHRIST OUR CORNERSTONE

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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-In God's Grace - In God's Service

“Valentine’s Day and Love”

February 14th is Valentine’s Day. For many couples it is a special day in which they present each other with a card, maybe a gift, or perhaps do something “special” as *a couple*. For those who have children at home, this may be one of the few times through the year that a married couple actually takes a little time to “keep the romance” in their relationship. But how did this day begin?

Valentine’s Day is named after none other than *St. Valentine*. He was a priest, who was martyred around 270 A.D. at Rome, after bringing the Gospel to Claudius II, the Roman emperor at the time. While few specifics of his life are known, part of the reason that he is associated with love and marriage was that he performed illegal marriages for Christians.¹ It is also said that the daughter of his jailor had come to love him and so, when his martyrdom approached he sent her a note of encouragement, from which the custom of giving Valentine notes/cards has come down through the centuries.

I believe a noteworthy point or two can be brought out when comparing and contrasting St. Valentine and the current Valentine’s Day. While romance is a blessing from God within our marriages, intriguingly, when the New Testament speaks about *love*, it never once speaks about this aspect of love, that of “passion.”² Love in the New Testament always deals either with the love of families/friends or, more commonly, the self-sacrificing *agape* love. This is the love of God for undeserving sinners (John 3:16) and so, not surprisingly, is then the love that Christians are both towards God and towards others, especially their fellow believers (Matthew 22:37-39). This is the love that St. Valentine had, though he knew he could be killed for it. Actually, because he knew he could be killed for it. And he was.

While it would be easy to berate how Valentine’s Day has so devolved and degenerated, I would like to take this in a positive direction. After all, it is rather interesting that this self-sacrificing love is the love that God calls us to have *in our marriages*, and not just the passionate or even “family/friend” love. While these other nuances are not necessarily wrong if followed in a holy way and, in fact, are good to have in our marriages, God calls us to have that *agape* love that seeks the best for the other and does not worry about “what I get out of this.” Yet, this will not lead to abuse, because *one’s spouse is to have that same love towards you*. In other words, God’s will for a marriage is that a man is concerned about caring for his wife, and a woman is concerned about caring for her husband. Divorces and separations would be eradicated if couples truly understood and lived by this.

Unfortunately, not everyone is a Christian who knows God’s will and, much less, desires to live under it. (This is one more reason to look for a Christian spouse!) But even we Christians have our sinful nature that rises up with the selfish cry of “What about me!” So the selfishness that wants to receive while not giving, or giving

¹ While Valentine only married Christians, the actual law against marriage by Claudius II was to stop young men from becoming attached to wives and families so that there would be a larger pool of soldiers.

² There are four words for love in Greek, each with their own nuance. The New Testament uses only two.

only a little, in return is present. And once it is allowed to rear its ugly head, more sin will follow as each spouse reacts in sin as well.

The only way to struggle and overcome our sinful nature and the temptations of the devil is through the ongoing treatments of strong doses of God's Word. There we are condemned with the reality that our sins against our spouse, already causing enough problems, are far more serious than we might think, as they are also *sins against our God*.³ Crushed by that reality we return to Him in repentance and through Word and Sacrament are assured that Christ died for those sins as well.

And being forgiven and reconciled to God, we can both forgive our spouse and receive their forgiveness, and so be reconciled to one another. And being filled with the Holy Spirit and growing in obedience to our Lord's will, we will thereby also grow in love for one another, as we *both* fight against that selfish nature within us all the more valiantly. (Oh and by the way, when that self-sacrificing *agape* love is empowering our marriage, we *just might* enjoy those other nuances of love in our marriages more as well!) God make it so for Jesus's sake, in whom we have truly learned what love is. Amen!

Yours in Christ, *Pastor Nerud*

Apologetics: How dating methods work⁴

Addressing the students, I used a measuring cylinder to illustrate how scientific dating works. My picture showed a water tap dripping into the cylinder. It was clearly marked so my audience could see that it held exactly 300 ml of water. The diagram also showed that the water was dripping at a rate of 50 ml per hour.

I asked, 'How long has the water been dripping into the cylinder?'

Immediately someone called out, "Six hours."

"Good. How did you work that out?"

"By dividing the amount of water in the cylinder (300 ml) by the rate (50 ml per hour)."

"Excellent," I said. "See how easy it is to calculate the age of something scientifically? Every dating method that scientists use works exactly the same way. It involves measuring something that is changing with time."

People began to relax once they understood that the science of dating is not so difficult. Then I surprised them, "The problem is that six hours is the wrong answer."

They look puzzled and disbelieving.

"I set this experiment up and I can tell you that the water has only been dripping for *one* hour. Can you tell me what happened?"

After they had composed themselves, someone called out, "The tap was dripping faster in the past?"

"Perhaps," I said.

"The cylinder was nearly full when you started?"

"Maybe. But can you see what you are doing?" I asked. "In order to calculate an age you made assumptions about the past. You assumed the rate had always been 50 ml per hour and that the cylinder was empty when it started. Based on those assumptions you calculated the time of 6 hours."

They nodded.

"You were perfectly happy with that answer. Not one of you challenged it." They agreed.

"Then, when I told you the correct answer, do you realize what you did? You quickly changed your assumptions about the past in order to agree with the age I told you."

Every scientist must first make assumptions about the past before he can calculate an age. If the result seems okay then he will happily accept it. But if it does not agree with other information then he will change his assumptions so that his answer does agree.

It does not matter if the calculated age is too old or too young. There are always many assumptions a scientist can make to get a consistent answer.

Suddenly the lights went on. My audience saw, in a nutshell, the way dating methods work.ⁱ Scientific dating is not a way of measuring but a way of thinking.

³ Cf. Psalm 51:4 where David confesses his sin of adultery with Bathsheba and the murder of her husband Uriah. Clearly, he sinned against them and that is not denied. The point is that these sins were not *only* against fellow humans (bad enough!), but against God Himself who protects life and marriage with His commandments.

⁴ by [Tas Walker](https://creation.com/how-dating-methods-work); <https://creation.com/how-dating-methods-work>.

How it works in practice

A layer of volcanic ash in East Africa, called the KBS tuff, became famous through the human fossils found nearby.ⁱⁱ

Using the potassium-argon method, Fitch and Miller were the first to measure the age of the tuff. Their result of 212–230 million years did not agree with the age of the fossils (elephant, pig, ape and tools) so they rejected the date. They said the sample was contaminated with excess argon.ⁱⁱⁱ

Using new samples of feldspar and pumice they ‘reliably dated’ the tuff at 2.61 million years, which agreed nicely.

Later, this date was confirmed by two other dating methods (paleomagnetism and fission tracks), and was widely accepted.

Then Richard Leakey found a skull (called KNM-ER 1470) *below* the KBS tuff, a skull that looked far too modern to be 3 million years old.

So Curtis and others redated the KBS tuff using selected pumice and feldspar samples, and obtained an age of 1.82 million years. This new date agreed with the appearance of the new skull.^{iv}

Tests by other scientists using paleomagnetism and fission tracks confirmed the lower date.

So by 1980 there was a new, remarkably concordant date for the KBS tuff, and this became the one that was widely accepted.

Which illustrates that, contrary to popular belief, the dating methods are not the primary way that ages are decided. The dating methods do not lead but follow. Their results are always ‘interpreted’ to agree with other factors, such as the evolutionary interpretation of geology and fossils.

References and notes

- i. For further information see: Sarfati, J., [Diamonds: a creationist’s best friend](#), *Creation* **28**(4):26–27, 2006; creation.com/diamonds, and Walker, T., [The way it really is: little-known facts about radiometric dating](#), *Creation* **24**(4):20–23, 2002; creation.com/dating-reality.
- ii. For more information see Lubenow, M.L., [The pigs took it all](#), *Creation* **17**(3):36–38, 1995; creation.com/pigstook.
- iii. Fitch, F.J. and Miller, J.A., Radioisotopic age determinations of Lake Rudolf artifact site, *Nature* **226**(5242):226–228, 1970.
- iv. Curtis, G.H., *et al.*, Age of KBS Tuff in Koobi Fora Formation, East Rudolf, Kenya, *Nature* **258**:395–398, 4 December 1975.

A Look at the Lutheran Confessions

In Article XV, Church Ceremonies, we clearly confessed that it is profitable to keep good, historic traditions and rites for good order in the service, engendering proper reverence, and as tools for teaching the faith. However, they must never be seen as commanded by God (since they are not) or as a means of appeasing God or earning forgiveness since such is received freely through faith in Christ.

In Article XVI, Civil Government, we confess that civil government with all of its functions is a gift from God through which He cares for our temporal⁵ lives.⁶ This made it clear that we disagreed with the radical reformers who rejected all forms of authority in Church and State, going so far as even rejecting their homes and families to be “more spiritual.” We confess that a true spiritual life⁷ is worked out in our earthly vocations. Augsburg Confession Article XVI: Civil Government⁸

Our churches teach that lawful civil regulations are good works of God. They teach that it is right for Christians to hold political office, to serve as judges, to judge matters by imperial laws and other existing laws, to impose just punishments, to engage in just wars, to serve as soldiers, to make legal contracts, to hold property, to take oaths when required by the magistrates, for a man to marry a wife, or a woman to be given in marriage [Romans 13; 1 Corinthians 7:2].

⁵ That is, “in time,” thus “here on earth.”

⁶ The earthly government and civil order is under God’s kingship, but is distinct from the Church. Thus the civil government is called “the kingdom of God’s left hand” or “the kingdom of the left.” In contrast, the Church is “the kingdom of the right,” having preference since it is where eternal gifts are given to the soul and, thereby, ultimately the body as well in the resurrection unto life.

⁷ That is, the life given to us when we are born again of water and the Holy Spirit.

⁸ *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, Paul McCain, Ed. CPH, 2006

Our churches condemn the Anabaptists⁹ who forbid these political offices to Christians. They also condemn those who do not locate evangelical perfection in the fear of God and in faith, but place it in forsaking political offices.¹⁰ For the Gospel teaches an eternal righteousness of the heart (Romans 10:10). At the same time, it does not require the destruction of the civil state or the family. The Gospel very much requires that they be preserved as God's ordinances and that love be practiced in such ordinances.¹¹ Therefore, it is necessary for Christians to be obedient to their rulers and laws. The only exception is when they are commanded to sin. Then they ought to obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29).

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday morning Adult Bible class – 8:45am in the Fellowship Hall. The current study is the book of Colossians.



- 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".



- 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
- 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.



ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER WANTED

The office is looking for an electric typewriter in good useable condition. If you have one you would be will to donate to the church or sell reasonably, please contact Terri Hock. Thank you.

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN

Many women of today do not have time to be active in an organization, and yet want to participate in the mission of the church as well as grow in their faith.

In order to give more women with limited time an opportunity for service and faith growth, the LWML would like to introduce them to what is available to them by being a Mailbox Member of the LWML.

The LWML offers opportunities to receive devotional and Bible study materials, to become knowledgeable about missions and service projects, and to keep and fill a mite box. Mailbox members can read and enjoy the materials sent to you on your own time, fill the mite box at your leisure, and choose mission service projects where you would like to help. Watch your mailbox or church mailbox for your invitation to become a Mailbox Member.

⁹ Anabaptist means "rebaptizer." During the Reformation, the name applied to various 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. which is what is being condemned here. Modern groups most closely associated with Reformation Anabaptists include the Mennonites, Amish, Hutterites, and the various Brethren churches.

¹⁰ This condemns the Roman Church's false teaching that true Gospel perfection is found in entering a religious order to become a monk or a nun.

¹¹ Thus the Christian life of love towards our neighbor is primarily lived out in our vocations in our homes, employment, church and community.

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

12 Brent/Laura Anderson (2011) - 11 yrs



15 Alex/Lindsey Gustafson (2014) - 8 yrs

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

7 Brennan Lambin
8 Robert Erdman
16 Sean Helke
16 Caleb Nash



19 Lisa Allison
23 Kristin Mosher
23 Carmen Sette
25 Sarah Hock

25 Joel Jorgensen
25 Joseph Schillinger
26 Carolyn Werner

FEBRUARY BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

6 Teresa Hock
7 Kelly Helg
7 Mary Jayne Nash
8 Carson Mitchell



13 Laura Anderson
13 Sara Yerkey
18 Nicole Magerkurth
25 Lauren Curry

25 Emily Marckese
26 Kyra Nash
00 Cathy Schillinger



John 2:1-11: Jesus' first miracle was done to meet a need: the wedding feast had run out of wine. How has Jesus met a need of yours? We all have a story to tell about how Jesus has and continues to meet our needs. Your own unique story can share Christ with someone and give witness to others about how Jesus meets their needs through His life, death, and resurrection.

GOD in MAN MADE MANIFEST



The season of Epiphany focuses on how God was made manifest in the flesh of Jesus. The church spends time hearing of the miracles, signs, and wonders of Jesus in the world. And this made plain to all that Jesus really is who He said He was. He is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the only begotten Son of the Father, in the flesh. For "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

It is revealed for all the world to see that Jesus is God in the flesh. It is made manifest by His words and His work, by what He said and by what He did. And these belong together, for "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." Jesus is the Word and will of God in the flesh, that is, He is the walking, talking enactment of God's Word.

It is no different for us. We are called not just to believe in God in hearts but also to trust in God in word and deed. As James wrote: "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" (James 1:22), and again, "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? ... So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ... Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ... For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead" (James 2:14, 17-18, 26).

Our faith is lived out in works for our neighbor. Our trust in the Word and will of God is lived out not in word only but also in deed and in truth. In other words, the Epiphany of the Lord creates in us an epiphany of our faith in our works of obedience to God who commanded them. By this, our faith is made manifest to the world. It is, as Luther wrote of faith:

Faith is a divine work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God (John 1). It kills the old Adam and makes altogether different people, in heart and spirit and mind and powers, and it brings with it the Holy Spirit.

Oh, it is a living, busy, active, mighty thing, this faith. And so it is impossible for it not to do good works incessantly. It does not ask whether there are good works to do, but before the question rises, it has already done them, and is always at the doing of them.

He who does not these works is a faithless man. He gropes and looks about after faith and good works and knows neither what faith is nor what good works are, though he talks and talks, with many words about faith and good works.

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it a thousand times. This confidence in God's grace and knowledge of it makes men glad and bold and happy in dealing with God and all His creatures. And this is the work of the Holy Spirit in faith. Hence a man is ready and glad, without compulsion, to do good to everyone, to serve everyone, to suffer everything, in love and praise to God, who has shown him this grace.

And thus it is impossible to separate works from faith, quite as impossible as to separate burning and shining from fire. Beware, therefore, of your own false notions and of the idle talkers, who would be wise enough to make decisions about faith and good works, and yet are the greatest fools. (*Preface to the Book of Romans*)

So, then, let our faith be active by God's power in the Word through the Holy Spirit. And let then our faith be made manifest to the world by what this faith does: serving our neighbor – in church, in the family, and society – with the works of faith in time, talents, and treasures.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Our Infrequent Attendees –pray the Holy Spirit bring them to understand their need to be in regular worship in church and we as 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.

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.

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.



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:

Linda Aper

Lois Esterlein

Jim Rahn

Marilyn Woods

Elizabeth Bjork

Betty Firch

Drew Schillinger

Paula Chapa

Arlyn Helke

Carolyn Wildermuth

Jim Dahl

Lynne Johnson

Carolyn Werner

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY/FRIENDS:

Don Eggers (son of a friend of Marilyn Woods)

Rev Justin Kane (son of Sandra Kane)

Jodi Martins (daughter of Gary & Darla Johns)

Bill Erdman (brother of Bob Erdman)

John & Anita Clausing (missionaries in Kenya)

Joan Barry (mother of Brad Barry)

Marilyn Potts (wife of Cal, former LFC)

Susan Goetz (wife of Joel Goetz)

Virginia Miller (mother of Jamie Werling)

Crystal Krause (neighbor of Linda Aper)

Delores Gonion (mother of Michele Barry)

MILITARY, THOSE SERVING & THEIR FAMILIES:

Mandy/Richard Davila (daughter/husband of Linda Aper)

Zachary/Tiffany Gardner (nephew/wife of Lois Esterlein)

Luke/Nicole Thompson (son/wife of John/Kindra Thompson)

Casey Powers Jr (step-son of Lisa Powers)

Ken Willeford (husband of Alicia Willeford)

Brittany Loenser (daughter of Gabe Loenser)

Karl Flynn (son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Flynn)

Removing the Stone
They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb. Luke 24:2

Why did the angel remove the stone from the entrance to Jesus' tomb? He did not need the stone to be rolled away for Him to rise. The resurrected Jesus had come through locked doors to assure his disciples that he had risen. The stone was rolled away for our sakes, so that with Mary, Peter and John we could look into the tomb to see that he had risen.

I believe that rolling away the stone can also be a metaphor for us to consider when we are at odds with someone. We can picture the issue of contention as a stone that separates us from someone we love. Such stones, if not dealt with appropriately, threaten to separate us from God's love. Too often, when in a conflict, we try to "roll the stone" on top of the other person by attacking them instead of addressing the issue. As a result, even though we may have "won" an argument, we have crushed the other person in the process.

Rather than rolling the stone on top of the other person, Christ would have us join with the other person and push the stone together. As brothers and sisters in Christ, God works through both people to accomplish his goal of resolution and reconciliation.

As the women walked to Jesus' tomb, they were concerned that none of them was strong enough to roll away the stone. The same is true with us. We are not strong enough to roll away the stones that separate us from those we love and threaten to separate us from God. But together, with prayer and mutual cooperation, and by using God's strength, we can remove even a great and heavy stone that stands between us and another person.

Rev, Jeff Harter

60th Regular Convention Central Illinois District July 17-19, 2022

Crowne Plaza Springfield, Illinois (additional information of the CID website under the *News and Events* tab. (<http://www.cidlcms.org/events-2022-district-convention.html>))

- Before March 10th, once you have chosen your congregational lay delegate, please send that name to the District Office at cid@cidlcms.org so that we will have a pool from which to select floor committee members.

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO SHARE

Members of One Body is the next in a series of *re:Vitality* modules from the Synod's Office of National Mission. The subject of this module, currently in its final phases of development, is assimilation of new church members. As part of a pilot project, Dr. Ken Schurb will teach the preliminary ***Members of One Body*** Bible study at Trinity, (515 S. MacArthur Ave-Springfield) on a series of four Tuesday evenings: (starting 6:30 pm) February 1 and 15 and March 1 and 15. All are invited! If your church might be interested in ***Members of One Body***, you can take a taste of it, so save the dates now. Please let us know if you are planning on attending or for more information, contact kschurb@cidlcms.org

Bring Giving Home

CID's stewardship and mission education initiative, ***Bring Giving Home*** officially started at the District Pastors' Conference in Spring, 2019

This February Pastor Heath Curtis, Coordinator for LCMS Stewardship, will be in Central Illinois to duplicate part of the presentation he made at our Spring, 2019 pastors' conference. This is the "pastor" portion of what LCMS Stewardship calls its "Philippians" workshop. In it, Pastor Curtis outlines the basic approach that marks all the Synod's Stewardship materials, including CID's ***Bring Giving Home*** initiative.

Pastors new to CID since spring, 2019 are especially invited to his presentation in February. Also invited are pastors who were in the District in spring, 2019 but somehow or other missed his talk at the conference then. And invited, too, are pastors who heard his talk but would like a “refresher.” Because of a generous grant from Church Extension Fund, the District will reimburse all of them for their mileage to travel to and from Pastor Curtis’s repeat presentation in February.

The presentation will be at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Sherman, from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. It will take place on Monday, Feb. 7, 2022. If the weather is bad on that day, the alternative date (same time) is Monday, Feb. 21, 2022.

Please register for this presentation by sending a message to Stewardship Executive Ken Schurb before Feb. 1. His e-mail address is kschurb@cidlcms.org

92nd CID Lutheran Layman’s League Convention

The Convention will be held on March 5th, 2022 at Mt Calvary Lutheran Church, 2055 South Franklin Street Road, Decatur, Illinois. We are pleased to have as our speaker Dr. Walter Maier III

For more information contact Danny Magelitz dmagelitz@hotmail.com. Or (217) 622-7015

Camp CILCA’S ANNUAL BANQUET

Sunday, March 20, 5 p.m.-8 p.m. *At Camp CILCA's Dining Hall!*

Tickets are \$40 each. Call the camp office (217-487-7497) or email (camp@cilca.org) to reserve your tickets today! The Annual Banquet is an evening celebrating God's work of *Creation* and *Redemption*, especially as those works are enjoyed, proclaimed, and taught at Camp CILCA. Join us for an evening of music, food, great speakers, and friends. *This year's speaker will focus on, "Why Beauty Matters."*

ACT LIKE MEN

*“Be watchful, stand firm in the faith,
act like men, be strong.” - 1 Cor. 16:13*

Your Lutheran camp, Camp Cilca, is always looking for new ways to serve the Church. You already know Camp Cilca as a place where the kids of your congregations and schools can go to camps and retreats to grow in their love of God’s creation and their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. You also know that Camp Cilca is a place with great buildings, spaces, and activities for your congregations to use for retreats, reunions, camping adventures, outdoor education, and anything else you can think to do on these beautiful, God-given 225 acres.

Now the Lord is leading us into a **new area of service to Christian men**—to sons, brothers, husbands, fathers, grandfathers, uncles, friends. Camp Cilca wants to assist our congregations in strengthening their men to be better and stronger in Christ. How many of our congregations have struggled in finding men who are ready to be Elders, Sunday School teachers, and spiritual fathers in their own homes? There are many reasons for this but Camp Cilca wants to be part of the answer.

Camp Cilca is uniquely positioned to help you in encouraging the men of your congregation to “be watchful, stand firm in the faith, **act like men**, be strong.” We have 225 acres of forest, open fields, and water combined with a chapel, lodging, and dining hall. Is there a better place to strengthen Christian men? Secondly, we have nine months of the year when our resources are underutilized.

Several years ago we invited Rev. Jeffrey Hemmer, author of *Man Up! The Quest for Masculinity*, to speak at our woodcutters’ retreat. We heard the call God gives to men to live in Christ and follow Him in the virtues of manliness. Since then an idea has been slowly growing as to how Camp Cilca can be a part of helping Christian men to “man up” and “act like men”.

We’re not entirely sure where the Lord will lead us but we’re asking for your support, wisdom, and prayers. We’re exploring many options for a future “gap year” program for young men out of high school. It would be a nine-month program living at camp, working, worshipping, learning various skills, and studying the Word. We’re doing a lot of research into this and would welcome your input.

At the same time, to get things rolling in 2022 we’re offering four “ACT LIKE MEN” events. Three of them are for men of all ages and we encourage all pastors to attend with men of your congregations:

Act Like Men Woodcutter’s Retreat on February 25-26

Act Like Men Field Day Competition on May 28

Act Like Men Shooting Retreat on September 17

All three of those events will combine work and/or play with good food and sessions of teaching from God’s Word

on being Christian men.

The fourth event is only for younger men and is a weeklong camp specifically designed for them to grow in Christ. Please consider if you know any young men in your congregation that would benefit from this week of camp. Maybe you can even sponsor them financially.

Act Like Men Camp on July 31st – August 5th

We're asking you to join us in this endeavor. If you're at all concerned about the lack of spiritual leadership by men, the feminization of the Church, the dearth of godly male role models, the demonization of men in the culture, then let Camp Cilca work with you to teach, reproof, correct, train, and comfort men. If you have any questions or suggestions, contact Rev. Joshua Theilen, Director (theilenjoshua@gmail.com) or me (jonboehne@hotmail.com).

Rev. Jon Boehne, Cilca Board Member



CAMP CILCA SCHEDULE 2022

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

new
ACT LIKE MEN EVENTS

For men of all ages to make connections across generations, learn and sharpen new skills, and grow strong in the Lord.

“Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.”
- 1 Corinthians 16:13

Photo Credit: Erik M. Lunsford
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

- **February 25- 26** - Act Like Men Woodcutter's Retreat
 - Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult •
- **March 20** - Annual Banquet
 - Held at Camp CILCA's Dining Hall.
 - Contact the Camp Office to reserve your tickets.
- **April 29-May 1** - Women's Scrapbooking Retreat
- **May 28** - Act Like Men Field Day Competition
- **May 29** - Annual Hog Roast
 - 10:30 AM: Worship
 - 11:30-2:30 PM: Hog Roast Dinner
- **May 31** - Junior Counselor Training
 - 10 AM-2 PM at Camp
- **June 1-July 29** - Summer Camp Program
- **July 30** - Homecoming
 - Food, music, games, more!
- **July 31-August 5** - Act Like Men Camp
 - For any man who has completed high school •
- **September 4** - Chicken Fry & Auction
 - 10:30 AM: Worship
 - 11:30-2:30 PM: Chicken Fry Dinner
 - 1 PM: Live Auction Begins
- **September 17** - Act Like Men Shooting Retreat
 - Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult •
- **September 23** - Whippoorwill Golf Outing
- **October 1** - GRIT Run

SUMMER PROGRAMS 2022

The Central Illinois Lutheran Camp Association (CILCA) exists to foster and strengthen faith in Jesus Christ and fellowship with others in a unique outdoor setting. CILCA strives to reconnect Christians to Christ and Creation.

GENERATIONS

Campers age 4 thru 4th grade are introduced to camp with a 1-night stay with a parent or other adult. **\$65***

Session I : **June 10-11**
Session II: **July 1-2**
*per person

PATHFINDERS

1st- thru 4th-grade campers break out on their own with a 2- or 3-night stay.

\$150/*\$175
Session I; **June 1-3**
Session II: **July 5-8***
Session III: **July 14-16**

BOLD SPIRITS

4th- thru 6th-grade campers experience 5 nights of Camp CILCA. **\$325**

Session: **June 12-17**

DAUNTLESS SOULS

6th- thru 8th-grade campers gather for a screen-free week of life-changing outdoor adventure. **\$325**

Session I: **June 19-24**
Session II: **July 17-22**

ART & DRAMA WEEK

5th- thru 8th-grade campers choose one track-**Art** or **Drama**-for the week & are led by experienced instructors. **\$350**

Session: **July 17-22**

AQUA WEEK

4th- thru 6th-grade water-loving campers will enjoy a full week of water-based activities. **\$350**

Session: **June 26-July 1**

JOYFUL HEARTS

Campers of all ages with developmental disabilities experience the joys of the outdoors during a 4- or 2-night stay. **\$350/*\$175**

Full Week: **June 5-9**
Half Week: **June 5-7* or 7-9***

ATHLETICS WEEK

5th- thru 8th-grade campers focus on a new sport every day: soccer, volleyball, track & more! **\$350**

Session: **June 12-17**

NIGHT OWL

6th- thru 8th-graders experience camp while staying up all night and sleeping all day. Enough said! **\$350**

Session: **July 19-24**

INTREPID HEARTS

High-School students enjoy the rejuvenation of God's creation in a laid-back week before school starts. **\$325**

Session: **July 24-29**

ACT LIKE MEN CAMP

Men who have completed high school can explore new skills, test their strength, make new friends, and learn what it means to be a man of God.

\$150
Session: **July 31- August 5**

REGISTER TODAY!

To find in-depth details on each camp & **register*** visit:

WWW.CILCA.ORG

*\$75 deposit due at time of registration



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church—Geneseo IL

February 2022

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



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 Sundays of this month)**

Live Streaming each week on Facebook