

# ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER

## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**BUILT ON CHRIST OUR CORNERSTONE**

**JUNE 2022 - Vol. 125, No. 6**

**-IN GOD'S GRACE – IN GOD'S SERVICE-**

### **“The Christian Church...Where Is It? The Marks Part 3”**

As we continue our series on the Christian Church, we begin with the reminder that only true believers are members of the Church, made such by faith in Christ (which is why the term *Church*, in its pure sense, really means a Christian holy people).<sup>1</sup> However, since faith is invisible to all except God, how does one locate the Church? And so we have been discussing “The Marks of the Church,” that is, those things which, like an “X” on a treasure map, show where the Church (believers) are found.

So far we have discussed four marks, the Word proclaimed, Holy Baptism, Holy Communion, and the Office of the Keys. These are the primary marks since it is through these means that the Holy Spirit creates, sustains, and strengthens faith, thereby increasing love and holiness of life and the confident hope of eternal salvation. However, while these are the primary marks, a few more should be mentioned as well. This month we will consider one of these others.

This fifth mark of the Christian Church by which it can be recognized outwardly is its calling and consecrating ministers. Many Protestants, due to the errors of the Roman Church concerning clergy, might balk at hearing that the Office of the Ministry is a mark of the Church. But so that we do not fall off into the opposite error of Rome (which is an error as well), let's consider a few points.

First, it is not *the person* of the pastor that is a mark, but *the office* that a particular man holds. This office is instituted by Christ Himself, “‘When [Christ] ascended on high...he gave gifts to men...’ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers.”<sup>2</sup> So Scripture indicates that the Office of the Ministry is one of His gifts to His Christian holy people. It is a gift because pastors both publicly and privately administer the four previously mentioned marks in the name of Christ (who gives the gifts) and the congregation (who has received the gifts from Christ).

Second, as just stated, the Word, Sacraments, and Keys are not given to the pastor, but to the congregation. However, for the sake of pure teaching and preaching and the proper administration of the Sacraments and use of the Keys, the congregation calls a qualified man and commits to him this office for the *benefit of the congregation*. Thus the minister is a steward of the mysteries of God, utilizing them in Christ's service for the sake of His people.<sup>3</sup> Again, “Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch

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<sup>1</sup> Thus any hypocrites connected to the Church are merely connected *externally* and God who sees the heart will judge accordingly (cf. 1 Kings 8:39).

<sup>2</sup> Ephesians 4:8, 11. The offices of apostle and prophet have ceased in the Church, no longer being necessary since the Word is now in Scripture. The office of evangelist still exists if it is understood in the sense of what we today refer to as a called missionary or “church planter.” The Greek text puts pastors (shepherds) and teachers together into one office, pastor-teacher, which likely refers to the private and public ministry of the Word.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. 1 Corinthians 4:1.

over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.”<sup>4</sup> Notice how the idea of gift is present here, for through obedience and submission to faithful ministers of the Word *Christians actually gain an advantage* since such pastors are looking out for their spiritual well-being.

In recognition of the necessity of this office and its duties, Article XIV of the Augsburg Confession states: “Our churches teach that no one should publicly teach in the Church, or administer the Sacraments, without a rightly ordered call.”<sup>5</sup> Consequently, where this office is present, that is, where a qualified man has been called to carry out the duties of the office<sup>6</sup> and such is actually occurring, you can be sure that the Church is there, that is, *there will be a Christian holy people present*.

Sincerely in the name of the Lord of the Church, even Jesus Christ our Savior,  
*Pastor Nerd*

### **A Look at the Lutheran Confessions**

*In Article XIX, The Cause of Sin, we clearly confessed the Biblical truth that while God is the creator and preserver of our human nature, He in no way is responsible for sin. That blame rests fully on the devil and sinful mankind.*

*We will now begin to look at Article XX, Good Works. Due to the length of this Article, it will be broken down into smaller pieces. In this month’s section, we deny the accusation that our teaching that faith alone in Christ hinders good works. We point out how our teachings on true good works deals with living according to the Ten Commandments in our various stations in life, in contrast to the man-made works that were being called “good works.”*

*Augsburg Confession Article XX: Good Works, 1-7<sup>7</sup>*

Our teachers are falsely accused of forbidding good works. Their published writings on the Ten Commandments, and other similar writings, bear witness that they have usefully taught about all estates and duties of life. They have taught well what is pleasing to God in every station and vocation in life.<sup>8</sup> Before now, preachers taught very little about these things. They encouraged only childish and needless works, such as particular holy days, particular fasts, brotherhoods, pilgrimages, services in honor of saints, the use of rosaries, monasticism, and such things. Since our adversaries have been admonished about these things, they are now unlearning them. They do not preach these unhelpful works as much as they used to. In the past, there was only stunning silence about faith, but now they are beginning to mention it. They do not teach that we are justified only by works. They join faith and works together,<sup>9</sup> and say that we are justified by faith and works.<sup>10</sup> This teaching is more tolerable than the former one.<sup>11</sup> It can offer more consolation than their old teaching.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Hebrews 13:17.

<sup>5</sup> From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.*, Paul McCain, Ed. CPH, 2006.

<sup>6</sup> Preaching and teaching the Word purely, administering the Sacraments according to Christ’s institution, and utilizing the Keys rightly.

<sup>7</sup> From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, Paul McCain, Ed. CPH, 2006

<sup>8</sup> God’s Law applies to us in every vocation of our lives, for those are the very places that we are called to love and serve God by loving and serving our neighbor.

<sup>9</sup> This continues to be the teaching in the Roman Catholic Church today: “faith working through charity” (i.e. love/works).

<sup>10</sup> As good as the improvements may be, the Bible teaches that we are justified by faith alone (Galatians 2:16), and that true good works are *fruits* which come from Christ Jesus and His Spirit who dwell in us by saving faith (Galatians 2:20; 5:22-24).

<sup>11</sup> The more of the divine truth that is proclaimed, the less is the hindering of the Holy Spirit’s work. This is why we desire to have pure doctrine, so that the Holy Spirit may freely have His way with us.

<sup>12</sup> Note the concern that is expressed here (and many other places in the Lutheran Confessions), that God’s people may have consolation for their consciences troubled by sin. Our Confessions are very pastoral, that is, directed for the caring of God’s people. (The Reformation came about for this reason!)

## **Apologetics: Island flightless insects**

### **Darwin's answer to flightless island Insects<sup>13</sup>**

The Bob Dylan song lyric 'The answer is blowin' in the wind' was in a sense Charles Darwin's answer too. That is, to the question of why so many insects living on islands have lost the ability to fly.

As Monash University biologist Rachel Leihy explained, "Darwin's position was deceptively simple. If you fly, you get blown out to sea. Those left on land to produce the next generation are those most reluctant to fly, and eventually evolution does the rest. Voilà."<sup>1</sup>

However, the famous botanist Joseph Hooker had a substantial argument with the *Origin of Species* author about his wind idea. And many evolutionary scientists since then have also expressed their doubts.

Hence Monash University researchers' recent focus on the insects living on sub-Antarctic and Arctic islands, to try to resolve this issue. These islands are the epitome of insect flight loss, and are some of the windiest places on Earth, situated in the 'roaring 40s' and 'furious 50s' latitudes.

The researchers concluded that none of the ideas proposed by Hooker and other wind-doubters can explain the extent of flight loss in insects on these islands. But Darwin's wind idea does. Well, subject to a modification: The researchers say that "wind selects for flightlessness through an energy trade-off between flight and reproduction, instead of by displacement from suitable habitats."<sup>2</sup> In other words, it's not that flying flies get blown away. Rather, they claim it's 'cheaper' for an island fly to walk (to a mate), than fly.

### **Selection ≠ evolution**

But what's been lost sight of in all this back-and-forth palaver between evolutionists is, *where is the 'evolution' anyway?* That is, evolution in the sense of the grandiose presumption that certain bacteria turned into beetles over millions of years. Such would require *new genetic information*. But loss of flight in insects is not gain, but *loss*. Wind might well select for it, as the researchers say—in which case, it's an example of *natural selection*.

But natural selection is not the same as evolution, as we've pointed out over and over. And it has long been a part of many creationist explanations and models, including for such things as flight loss on windy islands.<sup>3</sup> Natural selection can only *remove* individuals, and thus their genes, from a population, not add new ones. So any inference that such 'wind' selection supports evolution (again, just to be clear: the neo-Darwinian notion that microbes became mayflies, monkeys, and mathematicians) simply isn't justified. Blown away, you might say, by the evidence itself.

Flightlessness in insects that could once fly is undoubtedly the result of one or more mutational defects. These prevent the formation of fully-functional wings and associated musculature. That is, the wing-making information on the DNA is lost or scrambled in some way. On a windy island, these flightless insects are the ones favored to reproduce. So the damaged genes will be passed to their offspring, and on to subsequent descendants, as the mutated genes are copied from one generation to the next.

So it is *not* a case of "eventually evolution does the rest. Voilà." Rather, it's an example of the world being, as the Bible puts it ([Romans 8:19–22](#)), "in bondage to decay". Voilà.

### **References and notes**

1. Monash University, Charles Darwin was right about why insects are losing the ability to fly, [sciencedaily.com](#), 9 December 2020.
2. Leihy, R. and Chown, S., Wind plays a major but not exclusive role in the prevalence of insect flight loss on remote islands, *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* **287**(1940):20202121, 2020, 9 Dec 2020.
3. See [creation.com/beetle-bloopers](#) and [creation.com/insect-flightlessness](#).1098/rspb.2020.2121.

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<sup>13</sup> By David Catchpoole; <https://creation.com/island-flightless-insects>

## PASTOR ON VACATION

Pastor Nerud and his family will be on vacation June 12th (after worship) – June 27th. Rev. Robert Hagan will lead us in the worship services June 19th and 26th. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time, please contact Rev. Stephen Mueller from Concordia at 309-944-3993. You may also call the church office.

As the faithful witness, Jesus shows us what witnessing is all about. Many encounters, various settings, differing reactions, addressing one great need and showing God's love, mercy, and grace through the cross.



"Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know and bear witness to what we have seen but you do not receive our testimony as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:11-18

## WHAT DO YOU HAVE THAT YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED?

Some of the disciples of John the Baptist were questioning him about the baptism and preaching of Jesus. John the Baptist replies to their questions in this way: "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven" (John 3:27).



Now, John the Baptist says this to show that Jesus, His teaching, and His baptism are from heaven. But this statement is true of everything – everything that we have and are in body and soul. In fact, this is what we are taught in the meaning of the Apostles' Creed in *Luther's Small Catechism*.

In the explanation of the Creed's First Article, we learn that God has made us and everything in the universe. Luther says:

*"He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him."*

In the Second Article of the Creed, we learn that God sent His Son, Jesus, to humble Himself, taking the form of a servant. Luther writes:

*"(Jesus) has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity."*

In the Third Article of the Creed, we learn that the fruits of what Jesus Christ, the Son of God, did are given to us through the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church. Luther explains:

*"That I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him;*

*but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ."*

Indeed, a person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. But how easy is this for us to forget about this?

How easy is it for us to think that what we have in this life is because we have earned it? How easy is it for us to forget that even all our skills, the abilities of our hands and minds – the very ethic to work diligently and to seek to get better at these skills – is given to us from heaven, just as John the Baptist said? How easy is it for us to forget that it is Christ alone – and the work of the Holy Spirit – that reveals His salvation to us, delivers it to us, and not our doing?

Sure, we have responsibility for coming to church, for delving into God's Holy Word, and for praying without ceasing. But even these responsibilities are given to us from heaven, not to earn anything but in response to what He has accomplished for us.

A person cannot receive one thing unless it is given to him from heaven. Everything we have, and everything we are – in both body and soul – are gifts from God in heaven. Let us then respond in thanksgiving and give back to Him as He asks us to – with a first-fruits, generous proportion offering of what He has given to us.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://lcms.org/stewardship)

## **CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT LWML CONVENTION REPORT**

April 29-30, 2022

The Central Illinois District LWML Convention was held in Peoria on April 29-30. There were 310 in attendance. The convention offering was \$4,235.47. The 2023 convention will be held in Quincy.

An endowment fund is being established with Karna Hollatz's gift to the CID of \$34,270.92.

The Ingathering for the Orphan Grain Train was so large that when the box truck they brought was full, a U-Haul had to be rented to get the collection to St. Louis. They also collected \$10,447 for them.

Because the national LWML is 80 years old, they are asking LWML groups to come up with an ingathering of 80 items or something with an 80 in it.

The 2023 Fall Rally theme is "Light Up the World with Christ" with an ingathering of light bulbs for area food pantries.

Among officers elected is Cecy Nunez (Pastor Dominguez's daughter) to the Nominating Committee.

Central Illinois District Mission Grants selected for 2022-2023

Mission Goal: \$105,000

1. Student Aid for Church Workers.....	\$30,000
2. Orphan Grain Train Shipping.....	\$9,000
3. Orphan Grain Train Supplies.....	\$8,100
4. Beyond the Classroom in CID Schools.....	\$7,500
5. Family Life Center, Effingham.....	\$5,000
6. Sterling Lutheran Church, Alaska.....	\$3,500
7. Missionary Rensner in Czech Republic.....	\$10,000
8. Textbooks for Concordia Prep School in Ghana.....	\$10,000
9. Send Me, Send Me, for YWRs.....	\$5,000
10. Sowing Seeds of Faith in Cambodia.....	\$10,000

## *June Birthdays*

1 Jessica Johnson  
1 Jerry Hickenbottom  
4 Aidan Coppejans  
5 James Rahn  
6 Mike Kolb  
7 Darla Johns  
7 John Neumann  
7 Kem Schillinger  
8 Coni Himmelman  
8 Katrina Nerud

9 Richard Anderson  
12 Paula Chapa  
12 Emerson Mitchell  
12 Seth Winchell  
13 Mandolyn Davila  
15 Lexie Ague  
16 Rachael Himmelman  
16 Denise Winchell  
17 Kelsey Ague  
18 Sharilyn Iliff

18 Sandra Rahn  
19 Nicole Nerud  
24 Haillie Miller  
24 Rodney Miller  
25 Rosalie Jorgensen  
27 Rebecca Ague  
27 Kyle Rahn  
28 Liz Neumann  
30 Maxx Hermann



## *June Anniversaries*



Happy Anniversary

6 Rufus/Kristin Hamby (2013) - 9 yrs  
7 Gary/Darla Johns (1964) - 58 yrs  
14 David/Denise Schmedt (2015) - 7 yrs  
15 Evan/Kate Rocheford (2019) - 3 yrs  
18 Arlyn/Marcia Helke (1967) - 55 yrs

20 Justin/Justine Mitchell (2009) - 13 yrs  
22 Jay/Janelle Gibson (2014) - 8 yr  
24 Fred/Sheila Magerkurth (1962) - 60 yrs  
25 Bill/Julie Lage (1999) - 23 yrs  
27 Mike/Francie Kolb (1970) - 52 yrs

## *June Baptisms*

2 Rylie Hallendorff  
3 Jennifer Magerkurth  
4 Dan Werner  
5 Harrison Wright  
6 Ben Schillinger  
8 Matthew Gehn  
8 Linda White  
10 Kyle Wickwire  
12 Addison Jorgensen

14 Gannon Marc kese  
15 Linda Aper  
16 Charles Johnson  
16 Theresa Mosher  
17 Randall Rasmussen  
18 Martin Himmelman  
18 Janice Neeld  
22 Mike Dahl  
22 Lindsey Gustafson



24 Payten Helg  
26 Richard Anderson  
26 Craig Mosher  
27 Gabe Loenser  
28 Kyle Miller  
29 Claire Yerkey  
30 Marcia Helke  
30 Jacob Miller

## 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**  
**Elizabeth Bjork**  
**Jim Dahl**

**Lois Esterlein**  
**Betty Firch**  
**Arlyn Helke**

**Lynne Johnson**  
**Jim Rahn**  
**Drew Schillinger**

**Carolyn Werner**  
**Marilyn Woods**  
**John Neumann**

**Don Eggers** (son of friend of Marilyn Woods)  
**Jon/Anita Clausing** (missionaries in Kenya)

**Jodie Martin** (daughter of Gary/Darla Johns)  
**Marilyn Potts** (wife of Cal Potts, former LFC)

Virgina Miller (mother of Jamie Werling)

Rev. Justin Kane (son of Sandra Kane)

**MILITARY** – We pray for those serving in our military and their families:

**Mandy/Richard Davila** (daughter/husband of Linda Aper) **Luke/Nicole Thompson** (son/wife of Joh/Kindra Thompson)

**Ken Willeford** (husband of Alicia Willeford)

**Karl Flynn** (son of Mr/Mrs Paul Flynn)

**Casey Powers Jr.** (step son of Lisa Powers)

**Brittany Loenser** (daughter of Gabe Loenser)

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

### BRING US YOUR SHOES!



Concordia Lutheran Church in Geneseo is raising funds for a Classical Lutheran school and is participating in fundraiser where there is nothing to buy or sell. All that is needed is your support and your old shoes. We are asking that members in churches in the Rock Island Circuit help support the school by collecting gently worn, used, and new shoes and bring them to the shoe collection box placed at your church. Start in your family's closets and gather pairs of shoes that are out grown, out of style, or out of season – any size or type of shoe: work boots, high heels, children's shoes, athletic shoes, even flip flops. You can help even more by challenging yourself to collect 25 pairs of shoes, and then challenging your friends and family to do the same. At the end of the collection period, the shoes will be picked up and sent to developing countries to create job opportunities. Shoe drive fundraisers provide inventory to 4,000 micro-entrepreneurs who sell the shoes to support their families. Thank you for your support.

### PREGNANCY RESOURCES' ANNUAL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

St. John's will once again participate in support of this mission. Pick up one or more baby bottles from the basket on the table next to the coat room. ***Please sign your name on the sheet and how many bottles you are taking.*** Fill your bottle with loose change, paper bills, or a check (make checks out to Pregnancy Resources). When you return your bottle simply write down the return date on the sheet next to your name and place the full bottle back into the basket or on the secretary's desk no later than June 19th. Thanks for all your help.



### 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.**

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### GROWING IN THE WORD OF GOD

- 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. The new study topic is; ***Alien Intrusion.***



- Please call the office or Pastor when someone is ill, hospitalized, or homebound or you desire private communion.
- Please use this email to contact the office: [churchoffice@stjohnsgeneseo.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsgeneseo.org)
- Website address – [www.stjohnsgeneseo.org](http://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.



*And if I go and prepare a place for you... —John 14:3a  
ESV*

Jesus speaks of going to prepare a place for us. But Jesus came from heaven. He had been there for millennia. Why would He still need to prepare a place? Didn't He have enough time before?

Jesus did indeed reign with the Father from before the Creation, but He needed to prepare an eternal dwelling for our flesh. His time there before His earthly ministry was entirely according to His divine nature, but the place He prepares is for our human nature. So now He takes His resurrected flesh and blood, as truly human as you or I, into the eternal realms to prepare that place where we will dwell eternally as resurrected, flesh and blood people. Rejoice, for our Lord is ascended for you!

*He has raised our human nature / On the clouds to God's right hand; / There we sit in heav'nly places, / There with Him in glory stand. / Jesus reigns, adored by angels; / Man with God is on the throne. / By our mighty Lord's ascension / We by faith behold our own. (LSB #494:5)*

Rev. Michael Mohr- Holy Cross - Vandalia, IL

### ***ITEMS OF INTEREST TO SHARE***

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

May 17<sup>th</sup> (UPDATED) 2022 – Congregational Nominations DEADLINE for District President <http://www.cidlcms.org/outreach-missions-prison.html> [Official Nomination Ballots have been sent to the congregations by the District Secretary] are due at the District Office (must be postmarked by this date).

### **VIDEO – Prison MinisTRY: Will You Try?**

In this video, CID Prison Ministry Coordinator Rev. Rodney Blomquist interviews veteran CID Prison Chaplain Rev. Charles Olander. Pastor Olander describes his route to prison ministry and his observations on its ongoing importance. He offers several suggestions for pastors and others who want to get involved in bringing God's Word to the incarcerated.

View this video, and tell others about it! You can watch it by [clicking here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xTr-JDmbN2E). (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xTr-JDmbN2E>)

### **Small Church Summit**

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Farmersville, Illinois, is inviting members of small churches in the Central and Southern Illinois Districts to a "Small Church Summit" on St. Barnabas Day, Saturday, June 11, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This free event is for both pastors and laypeople.

What is a small church? "If your church thinks of itself as small, consider yourself invited," said Pastor Micheal Strong of Zion. "We want to encourage and help one another as Lutheran congregations."

After opening worship and introductions, participants will talk about positive points concerning their churches as well as challenges. After lunch at the church, they will apply various positives

to various challenges identified that morning and consider ways in which future small church summits might prove helpful.

Interested? Please contact the CID office: **PHONE:** (217) 793-1802 **E-MAIL:** [cid@cidlcms.org](mailto:cid@cidlcms.org)

### **Spring (Church) Planting Season**

At its last convention, our Synod resolved “That congregations and circuits be encouraged and supported by their respective districts to investigate and identify new mission plants” (2019 Res. 1-02).

To enable pastors and others to begin talking about church planting, CID is cooperating with the Synod’s Office of National Mission to produce these resources: a.) a brochure, in two parts and b.) a set of four short videos. These tools will help inform and stimulate church plantings conversations in congregations. For more information visit: <http://www.cidlcms.org/outreach-church-planting.html>

Congregations are urged to use these tools during May, a month we might call “Spring (Church) Planting Season”. Talk church planting at Bible classes on four of the five Sundays in May. Devote time at a regularly scheduled meeting to a discussion of church planting. Hold a special meeting for such discussion. Or encourage church members to view the videos and read the brochure, then talk amongst themselves.

The District will be discussing church planting at its convention in July. Why not “prime the pump” via congregation-level conversations during May?

### **Reimbursements for Prison Ministry Materials**

Consider donating printed Gospel-centered materials to a nearby state or federal prison or county jail. Thanks to central Illinois LWML, you or your CID congregation can make such a donation and receive at least partial reimbursement from the District.

This is important work. The materials you donate can get into a facility even if something like a COVID spike occurs and keeps chaplains from getting in. Here is an opportunity for you to participate in prison ministry, even if you yourself never personally visit an inmate. <http://www.cidlcms.org/outreach-missions-prison.html>

### **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](#)

### **CAMP CILCIA**

#### **Act Like Men Camp July 31-August 5, 2022**

\$150, Men 16 year and older, prepare for a week of learning new skills (i.e. general carpentry or woodworking), competition, worship, relaxation, encouragement, Bible study, and friendship.

*Train a child  
in the way  
he should go,  
and when he is  
old he will not  
turn from it.*

PROVERBS 22:6

*Happy Father's Day*



*Loving God,*

*We thank you for the gift of good dads, and everything that they do for us.  
Help them to have patience when we're difficult, wisdom when we can't see the  
way, strength when we need comforting, and love at all times, so that, through  
them, we get a little glimpse of how you feel about us.  
Our heavenly Father, Amen.*



# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church—Geneseo IL

June 2022

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



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 -1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)**

**Live Streaming each week  
on Facebook**



The righteous  
man walks in  
his integrity;  
**His children  
are blessed  
after him.**

PROVERBS 20:7