

IDE TODAY

Iowa District East—LCMS

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Summer 2016



About the Cover

Pr. John Wegner—of College Hill Lutheran in Cedar Falls—pitches at the annual President's Cup kickball game between the campus ministries at the University of Iowa and the University of Northern Iowa.



Calendar 2016

September

5	Labor Day
8	Mission Committee
22	Worship Committee

October

1	New Hope Building Dedication
3-4	Fall Pastors' Conference
7-8	Confirmation Retreat
10	Office Committee
14-15	Pastors' Wives Retreat
25	IDE Board of Directors

November

5	Communications Workshop
18-19	Senior High Retreat
24-25	Thanksgiving Holiday

December

23-30	Christmas Holiday
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IDE Update

Calling Congregations:

Charles City, New Hope—Chris Gorshe (vacancy)
Davenport, Trinity—Senior Pastor
Deep River, Calvary—Stuart Rethwisch (vacancy)
Grinnell, Immanuel—Fred Berry (vacancy)
Luzerne, St. Paul—David Lingard (vacancy)
Mason City, Messiah - Clarke Frederick (vacancy)
Millersburg, Trinity—Gary Sears (vacancy)
Sherrill, St. Matthews—Kris Kincaid (vacancy)
Waterloo, Faith—John Wegener (vacancy)
Waverly, St. John—Keith Brustuen (vacancy)

Call Update:

Accepted:

Edward Killian, Waterloo to Beverly Hills, CA
Brian Saunders, Cedar Rapids to Our Redeemer,
Cedar Falls (Assistant Pastor)
Matthew Versemann, Waverly to Decatur, IL

New Pastors (Seminary Graduates):

Bradley Ferch—Immanuel Davenport
Isaac Johnson—Risen Christ, Davenport

Vicars Assigned:

Pierce Chadburn—Trinity, Hampton
Andrew Wolfgram—Our Redeemer, Iowa City
Aaron Zimmerman—Hubbard/Iowa Falls

Declined:

Max Biesenthal—MO to Trinity, Davenport
Edward Killian, Waterloo to Lidgerwood, ND

DCE/School/Teacher Calls:

Vacancies:

Trinity Davenport

Accepted:

Jessica Dvorak, CU Seward to Concordia, CR (DCE)
Laura Kester, CU St. Paul to Dubuque LS
Rachel Wegener, CU River Forest to Valley LS, Cedar Falls

President's Piece for PEACE

Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders

On April 2 Iowa District East hosted, for the first time, a Parish Nurses Convocation. It was held at Bethany in Cedar Rapids. I was invited to present on the topic of Spiritual Development. I prepared a lesson on John 21:15-17, Acts 2:42-47, and Hebrews 5:11-6:2. By all accounts, the presentation went as well as I had hoped it would. What I didn't expect was how much I would learn from the parish nurses—what they do and how much of a blessing they are in service to the congregation.



There were about nine nurses who attended and each of them brought their stories as well as their joy of service. I knew about the blood pressure checks and the helpful information they communicate to the congregation. What I did not know was how active they are in the face-to-face aspect of visitation and personal care they render to the ill and recovering. Each of them shared how they are “on call” so to speak for any member to

ask questions about health conditions before and after treatments. What I heard beyond good medical advice was a deep compassion for their brother or sister in the faith. They understood the relationship between the help they can render to the body and the care a Pastor gives for the sake of the soul. On this side of heaven, body and soul interconnect and have benefit for the other. There was no talk of trying to take over the Pastor's work in the congregation—only a cooperative spirit with the Pastor in complete care for the flock of God.

Ideas were shared, projects talked about and examples of their tools on display. I was most impressed with the effort they make visiting new parents. They not only check on the health of mother and the growing child but provide answers to questions common to the new parents—particularly new mothers. There are benefits to be received from the parish nurse for those in the cradle to the elderly. Most all parish nurses serve on a voluntary

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basis and even those on stipend serve a far greater value than the expense of their position.

I would encourage each congregation to consider recognizing someone in their midst as a parish nurse. The LCMS has supported this position for many years and has recently begun to emphasize it to the church-at-large. In the district we intend on being more supportive with resources and annual meetings for the parish nurses. If you have questions about the position (who can serve in it, what they do, how they are supported, etc.), please contact the Iowa District East Parish Nurse coordinator. Her name is Rhonda Anderson. She can be reached at Bethany in Cedar Rapids. She would be more than happy to assist you with any questions as well as lend sound advice. There are postings on the IDE website concerning the parish nurse program along with monthly articles.

As I intended on teaching that day, I also found that I was taught. The wonderful blessing of a well catechized laity and servant oriented heart is the Lord's gift to His church. I certainly saw and heard such laity at the convocation. I pray God bless you all as we enter into the non-festival half of the church year. May He grant you grace upon grace for your soul as well as loving care and support for your body.



Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders is the President of Iowa District East and Assistant Pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church—Cedar Falls, IA

Keep up with IDE on Facebook at
<http://facebook.com/lcmside>



Capital Campaign

(As of: 6-16-16)



**Proclaiming Christ Jesus!
Luke 24:46-47**

Update

Gifts received to date:

\$596,042

Gifts promised in next 1-8 years:

\$31,850

Total to date:

\$ 627,892

For further information, please
contact Rev. Dr. Dean F. Rothchild
at:

319-373-2112, 319-350-9564 (cell)
or deanrothchild@lcmside.org

IDE Parish Nurse Convocation



A grant provided by InFaith Community Foundations funded the first IDE Parish Nurse Convocation on Saturday, April 2, 2016 held at Bethany Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids. This convocation offered opportunity for spiritual development, sharing of resources and networking time for the seven out of the known sixteen parish nurses in our district. Those that attended were from Cedar Rapids, Waterloo, and DeWitt.

The morning began with an ice breaker and introductions. President Saunders then presented "A Matter of the Eye, the Ear, and the Mouth". Who knew the words "love" and "feed" had so many meanings?! The parish nurses were greatly encouraged by President Saunders' kind words. Many books were recommended for further spiritual development.

Multiple resources were shared with one another while the group networked. Many helpful websites were shared. Each of the district parish nurses were gifted with two books, Visitation and A Simple Way to Pray, and a token of appreciation, as well as a healthy lunch. A greeting was shared via email with the group from our IDE Life Coordinator Pastor Alex Post.

If your congregation is interested in learning more about parish nursing please contact your district representative, Nurse Ronda at nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com or contact the church office at 319-364-6026.

by Jan Doellinger

It's Round-Up Time!

It's that time of year, known in Lutheran schools as Kindergarten Round-up. I had the pleasure of being asked to assist in this process at Central Lutheran School in Newhall several weeks ago. That's me, Jan Doellinger, (on the right) listening to Frank as he identifies beginning sounds and letters of familiar items on a word ring. On page 6 is Karen Woltemath working with a future Central kindergartner on identifying numbers.





Volunteer Karen Woltemath and Amilliana K work on numbers

(Continued from page 5)

Kindergarten is a “rite of passage” – not just for the incoming kindergartner but for parents as well. It’s a popular orientation program for pre-kindergartners that brings families to school to see classrooms, meet the teacher, and experience part of a kindergarten day. “The sooner you can start the transition process, the better it is for everyone. This lets everyone know, wherever they will be, they will be okay. Children -- and parents -- are much less anxious,” says Dr. Robert Kreifels.

I’m sure most administrators would agree that the transition is usually harder on the parents than it is for the student. Kindergarten Round-ups provide the parents with a touchstone. It gives them an idea of what to expect, especially if this is their

first child or starting a new school for the family. This connects families to their new school early, and that is extremely important in establishing a foundation for a strong relationship between the Lutheran school and the family of a kindergartner.

Kindergarten Round-Ups have been around for some thirty years or so, but did you know Lutheran schools have been around since 1847 when the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was founded? The LC-MS began with 12 congregations and **14 schools**. By 1872, twenty-five years later, there were 446 congregations and **472 schools**! Today, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has approximately 6,000 congregations and operates **approximately 2100 schools**! Iowa East has 8 Lutheran schools, including one high school, and 23 free-standing preschools!

If a child were to enroll in a Lutheran school from Preschool through Grade 8 that child would be in the school’s care for a minimum of 13,869 hours. To receive that same amount of time in a church setting, the child would have to attend church and Sunday School every Sunday for 266 years. Thank God for Lutheran Schools, where students in all of the grades get to hear about Jesus each and every day. It is an honor and privilege to serve the schools and preschools of Iowa District East.

Yahoo!!! Let’s round ‘em up!

St. John Keystone

On Sunday, May 1, five young adults were confirmed at St. John Lutheran Church in Keystone by Rev. B. Andrew Wright.

Included in the picture (back row): Makenna McManemy and Tiffany Schnor.
(Front row): Karsyn Semelroth, Pastor Wright, Kaitlyn Sievers, and Abbie Nelson.



It's a Simple Invitation, Not Rocket Science

Rev. Dr. Dean Rothchild

We have Christ's promise that His Church will never die. We take great comfort in that. At times it seems that our congregations are struggling. Have they lost sight of Christ's command to take the Gospel into the entire world—including Iowa? Are we fearful of engaging people with the one thing needful, namely Jesus Christ and Him crucified?

Little children are always asking their parent or grandparent to come and see "something." The words of Andrew were: "We have found the Messiah (which translated means Christ)" John 1:41. By God's grace in Holy Baptism we were found by the Triune God. We were incorporated into God's family known as the Holy Christian Church.

When we encounter new people we can talk to them about our Church. We can tell them three benefits that we receive from being a member of our congregation. A few examples would be: forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, the fellowship of other believers, people who believe and confess as you do.

We can share three things which we appreciate about our Pastor(s). Some which come to mind are: that he is faithful to the Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions, he is concerned about the sheep entrusted to his care, that he preaches excellent sermons, he correctly divides Law and Gospel.

The big challenge today is that people do not see any need for Jesus Christ and the Church. Paul states in Romans 6:23: "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Do people die? Yes, they die every day. Do people need Jesus? Yes. Have we lost sight of that fact? Hopefully not.

As you encounter people and invite them, you may also have to go the next step and bring them with you. When visitors show up at church, make sure that you welcome and greet

them instead of freaking out if someone sits in your pew. All of our churches have what the visitor needs: Jesus Christ and Him crucified and risen!

Hopefully when you invite them they will have something in your church to receive. Pray that the Word will be faithfully preached and that Holy Absolution will take place after sins are confessed. There are some homespun recitations which I have heard which are no absolution at all.

When we gather in the Divine Service Christ Jesus is present. We may have to sit next to the new person so they can be led through the service. May Christ Jesus be present in all that we do in the Church. One way to make sure that happens is to use the Lectionary which keeps us grounded in God's Word and leads us through the life of Christ and the life of His Church.

It's not rocket science but rather simple invitation. As we receive Christ's body and blood in the Holy Supper our sins are forgiven. As we have received we are sent forth after the Benediction to live out our faith in service to our neighbor. God help us with this task.



Rev. Dr. Dean F. Rothchild is assistant to the President and director of the Proclaiming Christ Jesus Campaign.

Missions of Iowa District East

Iowa District East of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is pleased to directly support many missions here in the eastern part of Iowa. These missions proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people from many nations and to those in difficult circumstances. Please take an opportunity to read through these pages and learn more about the missions right here in Eastern Iowa.

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

We are blessed to have Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca sitting in the middle of our District. This is a solid Lutheran Camp which has excellent leadership and a committed Camp Board. They promote and provide Christ-centered education, recreation and inspiration for individuals and groups of all ages within Iowa District East.



campiodiseca.org



Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

Deaf Ministry

Word of God Lutheran Church for the Deaf has been serving the deaf in Iowa District East for more than 45 years. Based in Cedar Rapids, there are also satellite stations in Davenport, Waterloo, Dubuque, Muscatine, Charles City and Burlington. A couple locations meet weekly for worship, while the rest meet monthly.



iowaeastdeaf.org

Campus Ministries

College Hill Lutheran, Cedar Falls

College Hill Lutheran is a congregation that serves the students attending UNI. In addition to Sunday Divine Service, they provide the opportunity to pray Matins daily Monday through Friday and have Vespers each Wednesday. Each spring break they send students on an annual mercy trip.

St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel, Iowa City

On Sunday students and a small permanent congregation gather around Word and Sacraments at St. Paul's Chapel on the campus of the University of Iowa. Bible class begins at 9:15 with Divine Service at 10:30. Each Wednesday there is an evening service and Bible Study. St. Paul's Chapel also has an active International Student Ministry Program which is staffed by students and volunteers.



college-hill.org



[CollegeHillLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/CollegeHillLutheranChurch)



www.stpaulic.com



[St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel and University Center](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranChapel)

Hospital Chaplaincy

The University of Iowa Hospital Chaplaincy is a service offered by IDE for pastors who are not able to travel to visit their parishioners at the University of Iowa Hospitals. LCMS members from across the country are visited by Rev. Michael Musick, Chaplain.



lcmside.org/district-ministries/university-of-hospital-chaplaincy

East Side Mission

The Lutheran East Side Mission is located in Davenport. The Lutheran East Side Mission was started so that the Lord and His gifts would be available to all people, especially those who live in Davenport's urban east side neighborhoods. They meet for Divine Service each Sunday at 11:30am.



[LESM.IDE](https://www.facebook.com/LESM.IDE)

Find out more about these missions of Iowa District East on our website:

<http://lcmside.org>

Mission Congregations

St. Silas Lutheran Church

St. Silas is a congregation that was planted in North Liberty in 2013. They meet for Divine Service and Sunday school each week. They currently meet in a storefront location on Jordan Street. The congregation has now grown to nearly forty members.



stsilaslutheran.org

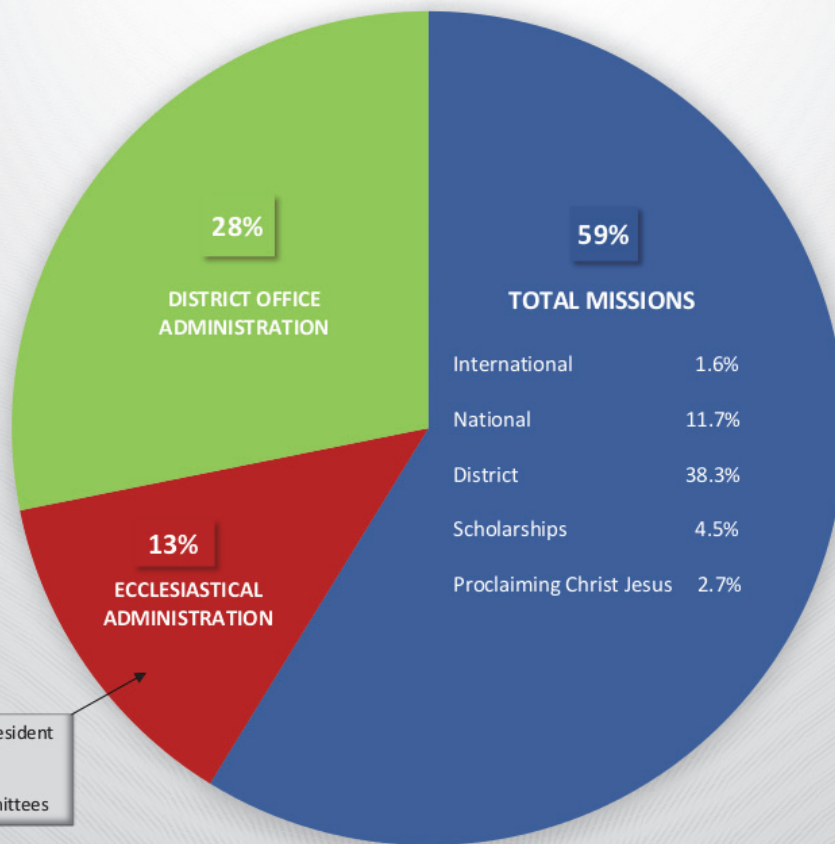


stsilaslutheran

New Hope Lutheran Church

New Hope Lutheran Church is a congregation in Charles City. New Hope began as a mission congregation in 2010. Divine Service and community outreach are taking place on a regular basis.

IOWA DISTRICT EAST - 2016 BUDGET





On April 23, the St. Paul Chapel Hawkeyes and the College Hill Panthers faced off in the 9th annual President's Cup Kickball game. Rev. Marcus Zill, Executive Director of LCMSU, served as umpire for the game at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. In the end the UNI Panthers triumphed over the Hawkeyes with a commanding 9-5 victory. With this win, the College Hill Panthers take a 5-4 lead in the President's Cup series. The president's cup will reside at College Hill Chapel until next spring when it will be up for grabs once again.

After the game, the heated rivalry subsided and the college students rejoiced in the fellowship with fellow Lutherans over dinner.



Trinity—Lowden

*Baptized into Your name most holy,
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
Among Your Saints, Your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
Your Spirit now shall live within.*

- LSB 590



Trinity—Lowden welcomed eleven new members on April 3: Two through Holy Baptism (William and Oliver), two through transfer (Joshua and little Vivyan Voss), and through Adult Confirmation—Vanessa Voss, Dean Ruther, Jacob and his mother Kathy Rohling, with Adaline, Pedar, and Luke.

Received into membership of Trinity, Lowden through Holy Baptism are Oliver (in the arms of Vanessa Voss) and William (in front of Joshua Voss next to little sister Vivyan).

St. Stephen's—Atkins

Making a public profession of faith and a lifelong pledge of fidelity to Christ in the Rite of Confirmation at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Atkins, on Palm Sunday, March 20, were Baylee Schoenfelder and Ian Rupp.

They are pictured with Pastor Doug Woltemath.



New Faces in IDE



Students from CTSFW who have been placed in Iowa District East.

(L to R) Bradley Ferch - Called to Immanuel - Davenport, Carole Ferch, President Saunders, Aaron Zimmerman - Vicar to St. John, Hubbard and Immanuel, Iowa Falls (holding Maria), Jennifer Zimmerman, Emilia Zimmerman

Not pictured: Isaac Johnson - Called as associate pastor to Risen Christ, Davenport.



Andrew Wolfgram (Concordia Seminary - St. Louis) was assigned as vicar to Our Redeemer - Iowa City.

Pictured (L to R): Cassie Wolfgram, Rev. Dr. Matthew Rueger (IDE 2nd VP), Vicar -elect Andrew Wolfgram.

Grace—Waterloo

Grace—Waterloo installed Rev. Justin D. Kane on Sunday, April 17.

From l-r, first row: Larry Feldt, Denver IA, Tom Wegener, Grace vacancy Pastor, Brian Saunders, President IDE, Pastor Kane, Paul Beisel, Iowa Falls, Lawrence Schmidt, Cedar Rapids.

Second row: John Wegener, Cedar Falls, Troy Peperkorn, Reinbeck, Ed Killian, Waterloo, Don Illian, Cedar Falls, Matt Moss, Readlyn/Klinger, Randolph McHone, Waterloo, Gerry Kapanka, Waterloo.



Grace—DeWitt

The Rite of Confirmation was held on May 1 at Grace in DeWitt. Eleven young people were confirmed. Front: DCE Mark Sperry, Carly Small, Audra Seifert, Ezra Onken,

Jasmine Carter, Alyssa Edin, Erin Suhr and Pastor C. Ronald Rafferty. Back: Katelyn Good, Kyle Ackerman, Samantha Zeimet, Jacob Diercks and Yana Sperry.



Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca



In addition to Summer Camp, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca hosts several retreats throughout the year. Pictured above is the group that attended the Higher Things Retreat, “Am I Crazy? Being a Lutheran in the 21st Century.” During this retreat Pr. George Borghardt, Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in McHenry, IL and President of Higher Things, presented on what's crazy and what's not about Christianity and living in the 21st Century.

Check out page 15 for some of the upcoming IDE Youth Retreats.



2016 Spring Worker's Conference



April 11-12, pastors and church workers of Iowa District East gathered at Zion in Hiawatha for their annual Spring Conference. Attendees learned about the Christological Nature of Preaching from Rev. Dr. James Baneck (pictured above right)—President of the North Dakota District. In addition to the sessions with Dr. Baneck, the conference gathered in the sanctuary 4 times for worship and prayer.

Also pictured: Rev. Michael Kolesar (left) pastor of St. James—Victor. Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders (center) IDE President.

'16-'17 IDE Youth Events

Confirmation Retreat

October 7—8, 2016

Theme: 10 Commandments

Rev. James Preus

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

Senior High Retreat

November 18—19, 2016

Theme: Polemics

Rev. John Wegener

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

Middle School Retreat

February 3—4, 2017

Theme: Your Identity in Christ

Rev. Michael Kearney

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

Find out more about this youth events by contacting
jon@lcmside.org or visiting <http://lcmside.org>





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IDE Today

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IDE Today is published 4 times a year for the enjoyment of the members of the congregations of Iowa District East of the LCMS. Copies are sent to each congregation for distribution. A color PDF copy of the *IDE Today* can be downloaded at **lcmside.org**. Articles and pictures can be emailed to jon@lcmside.org.

The next deadline is: **November 15, 2016**