



# PROFESSIONAL WORKER'S PACKET

Iowa District East—LCMS

## November 2019

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### IOWA DISTRICT EAST

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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[lcmside.org](http://lcmside.org)

# President's Piece for Peace

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders  
District President

November 2019

When I was the pastor of a congregation that had a pre-school I researched the national holiday of Thanksgiving many times. What I found is that there is no single historical story that matches another as to how Thanksgiving came about. Traditionally we hear of the Pilgrims who had emigrated from England to the new land of plenty, of how they had rough winters with cold temperatures in shanty housing. To add insult to injury they scarcely had enough food to live on. To the rescue come the indigenous Indians with food, pelts, and farming advice. When harvest time came there was held a large feast with all parties invited to share in the plenty. That is our tradition. I also read many accounts that debunk that entire narrative. What to believe? What to teach the 4-5 year olds at our school about this holiday?

The answer to that is really quite simple isn't it? Our best resource to teach concerning Thanksgiving is the Apostles Creed. Luther's explanation to each article is sufficient in themselves to prepare a sermon and instruct as we approach the month of November. All of our first article gifts are a result of the open hand of our Lord who satisfies the need of every living being. Everything we have for the wants and needs of the body are given so as to be sufficient. When I would ask the preschoolers what they have for which they are thankful the hands went up with driving force. The answers were as varied as there were students. How true that is when it comes the First Article gifts of God our Heavenly Father.

Yet as the Creed progresses it gives us the most important of gifts for which to be thankful. I speak of the 10 descriptions of Jesus the Christ sent to save the world from sin and death. If you take notice of the 10, there are 5 that apply to His human nature and 5 that apply to His divine nature. How marvelous that a perfect and balanced plan of salvation was laid out for us from eternity that we may have eternal life with Him. The Second Article concludes with the only promise yet to be fulfilled. He will return and gather His Church in the resurrection from the dead. He will lift us to Himself where we will be with Him and have no need of any First Article gifts. We will have Him, the Tree of Life, the Angels and Arch Angels and all the company of heaven.

And now the certainty of this remarkable promise. It is laden within the Third Article. The Holy Spirit has called us by the Gospel, enlightened us with His gifts, sanctified and kept us in the true faith. In this Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to us and all believers. There is no doubt on the Last Day He will raise us up and give to us eternal life. THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE!

The security of this marvelous promise is bound in the continued gift of His Word which is the power of God unto salvation for all who believe it. It is saturated with the blessed waters of Holy Baptism where His entrance into us has everlasting reign. It is given for us to eat and drink at His Table when His Body and Blood are placed into us for forgiveness of sin, strengthening of faith, and the certainty of Life Everlasting. That is what I taught those preschoolers. It is what I taught every age in our congregation. It is a most blessed resource as we prepare to lead our families of the Faith into a proper and comprehensive celebration of Thanksgiving.

*President Saunders*

# Calendar of Events

November 2019

## November

1-2	Pastors' Wives Retreat	Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
22-23	Sr. High Retreat	Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
28-29	Thanksgiving Holiday	District Office Closed

## December

24-1/1	Christmas and New Years Holiday	District Office Closed
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## January

31-2/1	IDE Middle School Retreat	Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
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# Vacancy Updates

As of 10/21/19

November 2019

## Calling Congregations

Charles City, New Hope  
Clinton, Trinity  
Eldora, St. Paul  
North Liberty, St. Silas  
Alden, St. Paul  
Buckeye, St. Paul

Clarke Frederick (vacancy pastor)  
Anthony Dodgers (vacancy pastor)  
Troy Peperkorn (vacancy pastor)  
Terry Small (vacancy pastor)  
Karl Bollhagen (vacancy pastor)  
Matthew Rueger (vacancy pastor)

## Pastor Calls

Accepted: Rev. David Hasselbrook, Waverly St. Paul - Evansdale

Pending: Rev. Joshua Haller, Fairgrove, MI Trinity - Clinton

Declined: Rev. Stephen Preus, Vinton St. John's - Chatham, IL

## DCE / School / Teacher Calls

Arrived: Ruth Lavrenz - IN, Emeriti Status Cedar Rapids, IA  
Pamela Hase - Central IL, Emeriti Status Grinnell, IA

# Directory Updates

November 2019

PG #	Title	Action	Edit
8	Cedar Rapids #022	Add	Cedar Rapids Trinity - Ted Groth - add
8	Eldora #006	Add	Alden - Vacancy Pastor - Karl Bollhagen
8	Eldora #006	Add	Buckeye- Vacancy Pastor- Matthew Rueger
9	Waterloo #010	Delete	Evansdale - remove David Steege - retired
9	Waterloo #010	Add	Evansdale - Add David Hasselbrook
13	Feldt, Larry	Add	Dual Parish: St Paul, Waverly effective
15	Hyatt, Gregory	Remove	Lacona Phone #
19	Preus, James	Add	Cell# 641-814-3292
16	Lavrenz, Mark	changes	delete c:641-512-5194 add c: 641-583-3861
27	Arndt, Dennis	change	email:dennisarndt@mediacombb.net
35	Alden	add	Karl Bollhagen - Vacancy Pastor
35	Buckeye	add	Matthew Rueger - Vacancy Pastor
43	Lacona	remove	phone # 641-947-4404
45	Melcher-Dallas	remove	secretary name - Patti Hawxby
68	Davenport PS	remove	Kim Gravert- Add Lori Kilburg and Sara Ringsdorf
72	Mueller, Kristen	add	Zip code - Westgate 50681-8638
73	Swenson, Faith	add spouse	(rev. Jacob) add zip code 50629
73	Wall, Julie	add	zip code 52748

**Please continue to send directory updates to:  
pam@lcmside.org**

My wife and I took a quick trip to North Dakota to have an early Christmas gathering with my siblings. The state had recently been dumped on with snow, with some areas receiving 30 inches, but most of it had melted before we arrived. What I did notice was the number of corn, soybean, and sunflower fields which were yet to be harvested. I have noticed a similar scenario as I have traveled around Iowa.

Two words floated through my mind: patience and completion. Paul wrote: **“So that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.” Col. 1:10-13.** Paul also wrote: **“Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.” II Tim. 4:2.**

So how are you doing in the patience category? Are you patient or does your life suffer from lack of patience? Do you always expect answers and results “right now?” While there is nothing wrong with that, sometimes our lack of patience with others can lead us to sin against them. We can become demanding instead of listening. We can fail to help and encourage when our agenda is not the most important thing!

I want to share one other word from St. Paul: **“And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Romans 8:26-28.** God is the one who ultimately sees things to completion, and that includes our salvation.

For God is patient and He had a timetable for mankind’s salvation. Paul wrote: **“But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.” Gal. 4:4.** Christ Jesus has accomplished our salvation, through His perfect obedience and through His suffering and shedding of His blood on the cross. He gave His life in exchange for ours, and He rose in victory for us!

So our faithful Pastors teach with great patience and instruction. God’s people bear fruit as they grow in the grace of God in Christ Jesus. God’s people pray, for their Pastor, for their Church, and for their own needs and the needs of others. If we are to grow, we must have a solid and healthy diet of Word and Sacrament as those are the means which Christ Jesus has promised to use to build, grow, sustain, and increase His Church. And He does that **“in His time,”** as He declares: **“Be of good cheer, your sins be forgiven you!”**

Rev. Dr. Dean Rothchild  
Assistant to the President

# Capital Campaign Update



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

Capital Campaign  
Approved 6-29-12 by Iowa District East in Convention

- Pastors are being contacted by phone for potential names of those saints in Christ Jesus who may wish to make an individual gift.
- Dr. Rothchild will send a letter of introduction to potential donors and will follow-up with a phone call to schedule a personal visit.
- Dr. Rothchild will show the DVD and share other information at the time of his visit and the saints will be given a donor form to complete as they deem appropriate.
- I wish to thank all our faithful donors, both individuals and congregations.

As of 10/17/19

Gifts received to date:	\$803,419
Gifts promised in next 1-7 years:	\$18,950
<b>Total to Date:</b>	<b>\$822,369</b>

For further information, please contact **Rev. Dr. Dean F. Rothchild**  
319-373-2112 (office), 319-350-9564 (cell)  
drothchild@lcmSIDE.org.

*“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.” - 1 John 3: 1,2*



Have you ever been lavished with something? The dictionary gives the definition of the verb “lavish” as to “bestow something in generous or extravagant quantities.” One of the times I had the opportunity to be lavished was at school in 2009 on my birthday. The plan concocted by the staff was to lavish the principal with love and attention in several different ways. For most of the morning I was lavished with a steady stream of students through my office bringing me an extravagant amount of chocolate. (Note the red box in the picture. It was overflowing!) At lunch, the students, several special guests (my husband and parents) and I enjoyed birthday cake while being serenaded by 11 former CLS students who sang several birth-

day type songs with the lyrics changed to reminisce about their time at Central. (What high school students won't do to get out of class for a free lunch is beyond me!) At the end of the day it was great to feel lavished with a generous amount of love, attention, and appreciation.

I hope you, too, have lavish experiences. In fact, I know that you have. All of us have because we are children of the God, the Heavenly Father! This lavish gift of love has nothing to do with what we have done. None of us has reached “saint” status based on popularity or the number of friends we have on Facebook. In fact, the whole world is filled with fallen saints. What do you see when you look in a mirror? Do you see a saint? Some people might think so, but it's more likely that you see a sinner staring back. We see a sinner who has fallen short of God's high expectations. Rather, we are saints only because God covers our sin with the righteousness of Christ. By faith in Jesus as our Savior God declares us to be righteous in His sight. We are saints because God loves us and has given His Son to save us. 1 John 3:1 summarizes it this way, *“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.”*

God lavishes the lives of His saints with many blessings. When God claimed us as His own dear children and brought us into the fellowship of His family through Baptism, we were no longer slaves. We became children of the living God. So many people in our world live outside the sheltered care of our Heavenly Father. God reaches down to us through His Son that we might not be lost children with a destiny of eternal life in hell. Rather, we know the love and safety and peace as God's own dear children.

Another such blessing is His promise to be with us always. He has promised to always love us. He will neither leave us or forsake us. Having that security is one of our greatest needs. God, who didn't spare His own Son, is also taking care of you in your personal times of ups and downs. This is a certain promise.

Remember also the blessing that our names are written in the Book of Life. He promised that all who believe in Him will inherit eternal life in heaven. As God's saints, we look forward to our **Continued on next page....**



# Lavished With Blessings

November 2019

Homecoming where we will experience the resurrection of the dead and life everlasting in heaven. We anticipate with joy and peace being escorted by angels into the gates of heaven where we will be with Christ our Savior forever.

Along with these blessings God gives us, His sons and daughters, some important responsibilities. When God brings us into His family He makes us part of the family business. That business is to proclaim the Gospel. We are called to be different from the world. Look out! God instructs us to stand firm in the face of evil in our world, in the culture in which we live. One of the ways we do that as Lutheran educators is by fulfilling our vocation by following His calling. In our classrooms, schools, and homes we are to be His witnesses so that your students and families, coworkers, and communities will see Christ through us.

As Lutheran school educators, we have the joyful responsibility of being in the Word. Certainly, this happens each week in worship. It also happens with daily devotions, whether it be with your students, colleagues, your own family, or personally. Further, we study God's Word when we prepare our religion lessons and attend faculty devotions and Bible study. We study God's Word so that we stay spiritually healthy. If we aren't, it's likely that our students and our own family will struggle to keep the faith as we fight the good fight to defend ourselves against Satan's deceptions.

On our own, we are left with no defense. Through the work of the Holy Spirit we have the power and ability to reflect our designation as children of the Heavenly Father. Our schools and classrooms will shine with the lavish love of Christ that has been bestowed on us. How can we not but be a light in the world when the Holy Spirit lavishes us with the power to witness our gift of faith and share it with our students and families! Truly, we have been lavished with blessings from our Heavenly Father!

*Jan Doellinger*  
Assistant to the President, Schools

Friends in Jesus Christ our Lord,

God loves every human life from the moment of conception.



- Plan to attend the **Rally for Life** in Des Moines on Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our leaders need to hear from you. More information here:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/394704011243556/>
- **Lutherans for Life** offers 6 regional conferences this year on the topic: “Did God Really Say?” Click here to learn more and register:  
<https://www.lutheransforlife.org/conference/>
- **Pray** for fathers, mothers, unborn babies, all children, and all families, single persons, the barren, the widows, and the orphans – in the Litany, and in your daily prayers.

Rev. Alex Post  
District Life Coordinator

Occasionally we meet people who don't seem to have much joy in their lives. You can sense the lack of it in their faces and the absence of it when they speak. When they speak it is usually to complain about something. That is not so with my dear friend, Grace, aged 99. Grace had breast cancer many years ago. She has had two hip and two knee replacements over the years. Now her ankles and feet are deteriorating. She says she's hoping for a "foot and ankle replacement"!

Yet Grace is always cheerful! "Why shouldn't I be?" she says. "Each morning I wake up, and the grace of the Lord is over me. I'm able to get up in peace, and when the evening comes, I can lie down and sleep in peace, for the Lord, through the Holy Spirit, lets me dwell in safety and joy. Even if sleep doesn't come, and even if the joints ache, I think about the Lord during the night, and he makes my soul rejoice, for **a cheerful heart is good medicine**" (Proverbs 17:22).

Even if the earth may be a vale of tears, and even though one may feel like a stranger here, one can rejoice in the awareness of God's wonder-working power and, by the grace of God, let life also be for the praise of and thanks to God for his glory and power. And that goes for **any** age ... from 9 to 99!

And speaking of thanks ... as we observe a day of Thanksgiving (in November in the United States), let us think about this world that God has created for us to live in! Frederick Buechner had this to say about creation: "To **make** suggests making something out of something else, the way someone makes wooden boxes out of wood. To **create** is to make something out of nothing, the way one makes paintings or poems. To create is to make something essentially new. In creating the world, God made something where before there had been nothing. As the author of the book of Job puts it: **The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy** (Job 38:7). They shouted at the sheer and shimmering novelty of this miracle.

Using the same old materials of earth, air, fire and water, God creates something new every 24 hours. Every morning one wakes up to something that never was before and never will be again. And the **you** that wakes up was never the same before and will never be the same again either! Isn't that something worth rejoicing about, to think and to thank about?

May each of us rejoice, be cheerful, give and live Thanksgiving each day that God gives us!

*By Lois Peacock, Zion Lutheran Church, San Francisco, CA*

*Submitted by:*

**Ronda Anderson**

Iowa District East Parish Nurse Representative

## Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization

### October Update

By Dewey Torkelson

ILSTO Program Manager

- 800 Lutheran students were awarded approximately \$760,000 this spring and summer in tuition assistance at our Lutheran elementary and secondary schools.
- Over 500 families were awarded grants this year so that their children could attend a Lutheran school this fall.
- ILSTO's maximum amount of contributions increased from \$806,000 in 2018 to \$851,000 for 2019. We fell about \$50,000 short in 2018 so please help us reach our maximum assistance in 2019
- Donors continue to receive a 65% tax credit on their Iowa tax return as well as an itemized deduction on their federal return. There is a five year carryover provision.

This year, 2019, **ILSTO has** received **\$177,000** in donations from 52 donors. This is currently 20% of our goal. If you would like to pledge an amount I will be able to save the space for your contribution. Please call, mail or email your pledge. Stock can also be used as a donation. Please call for details on donation of appreciated stock.

If you pay Iowa taxes, consider making a donation to the ILSTO to help students in Iowa attend a Lutheran elementary or Lutheran high school. Please consult your tax preparer for the impact on your tax situation especially with new Federal tax regulations.

For details contact Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991 or [deweytorkelson@gmail.com](mailto:deweytorkelson@gmail.com).

For a donor form you can go online at [www.iowalutheransto.org](http://www.iowalutheransto.org).



# I D E A R C H I V E S

## Iowa District Teachers' Conference Minutes

This is a continuation of the Iowa District Teachers' Conference Minutes which was introduced in the May 2019 edition of the Professional Packet. This translation from German to English will cover the Minutes recorded for sessions held by Iowa District Parochial School Teachers from 1904 to 1911.

### Part 3

Conference held 1-3 November, 1905  
at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.  
Forenoon, 1 November.

The meeting was started with the hymn "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now" and a prayer. Colleagues Geisemann and Catenhusen were welcomed by the conference. Officers were again re-elected. Because The undersigned had not shown up in time, the conference called on Colleague Catenhusen to serve as temporary secretary. Colleagues Bertram and Mattfeld were unable to be present, the first one because he was just married; the other had just recently taken a call to Dubuque. The conference excused both. A written word of congratulations was sent to Colleague Bertram.

The time for meeting in the morning was set for 9:00 until 11:30 and in the afternoon for 2:00 until 4:30.

Afternoon.

The conference moved to hear the presentation of Colleague Schmidt. He presented a candid treatise about Northern Asia. He described in a rather interesting way the life and activities of the inhabitants, as well as the products and the animal kingdom of the diverse provinces. His presentation was accepted.

In closing, Colleague Geisemann spoke spontaneously about the topic: The Teacher as Organist. Every teacher should be free to uplift and build the congregation with his organ playing. The esteemed colleague showed how this can be done in a right way, by studying the music and by preparation of the songs that should be sung. After a lively participation, the work was accepted. Adjournment followed with the Lord's Prayer.

Afternoon. 2 November.

The meeting opened with Hymn 303 "O Holy Trinity" and with prayer. Colleague Albert presented to the conference his assigned Biblical History concerning the Pool of Bethesda. He divided it into three parts:

1. Description of the Pool.
2. Healing of the Sick.

### 3. The Exhortation.

The gentlemen colleagues expressed themselves in saying that one should learn lessons from the biblical stories, but with measure. The sayings that are among the stories should be applied; because they briefly indicate the doctrine. His work was accepted after the critique.

Next was heard Colleague Stolpher's work on the topic: Diagramming Sentences. A lively debate testified to the interest of the matter. The colleague's presentation was well received. Pastor Deckmann was present during the last half of this work. The closing followed with the Lord's Prayer.

#### Afternoon.

The first thing that was done was to balance travel expenses. The cost of the whole group was \$24.36; the average being \$2.22. Then it was decided to hold an evening session beginning at 7 o'clock because some of the teachers were planning to leave on the morning of 3 November.

In continuation, The undersigned spoke about his presentation: A Lecture on Physiology. At the request of the conference, he should continue his work until he has shown how and how far this subject should be promoted in school. His work, as far as it was presented, namely, up to the "muscles," was accepted.

The presentation of Colleague Malte was now heard. His topic was: Description of Switzerland. He described in an apt way the hustle and bustle life of the Swiss. His work was accepted with thanks. Adjournment followed with the prayer of all prayer.

#### Evening Session.

All the colleagues gathered at 7 o'clock. Through prayer, our faithful father, the dispenser of blessings, was enjoined to be present at the session. Colleague Hafner gave a presentation on: "What should a Teacher do to gain Parental Involvement in School" which had active participation. To the delight of the conference, Pastor Deckmann was quite interested in this important subject. The best way to maintain the school is with God's Word. Home visits to members of the congregation are advantageous.

Presentations were assigned as follows:

1. Bible History: Eli and Samuel, Colleague Hafner.
2. Catechesis: Making Use of the Holy Supper.
3. Writing Instructions in our Schools, Colleague Stolper.
4. School Discipline: Colleague Mattfeld.
5. Lecture on Turkey, Colleague Catenhusen.
6. The Use of a Globe in School, Colleague Geisemann.
7. The Recent Events of History, Colleague H. Albers.
8. Lecture on Physiology, The Undersigned.

At the invitation of Colleague Schmidt, the next conference will take place on 6-8 June, in Lowden, Iowa.

Of course, every colleague must admit that he regained advice, comfort and joyfulness in the Lord at this conference. That, as a result, he could go to his Lord's satisfactory work with delight and affection.

With the hymn: "God Bless Our Departure" and the "Our Father", the meeting closed.

Glory to God Alone!

A.T.L. Secretary

[—to be continued—]

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## Portrait Photos Clarification



Last month, your Archivist asked for pictures of **Ordained** and **Commissioned** Church Workers who have served in the LCMS in Iowa. These are the folks who have graduated from our LCMS Concordia Seminaries and Universities and were Ordained/ Installed in service in an IDE Congregation.



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## Congregation Histories

Another archival project in the works right now is the digitization of Congregation Histories that are presently resting in individual congregation folders within the IDE Archives. There are no histories for the following congregations:

Concordia-Cedar Rapids   King of Glory-Swisher   King of Kings-Cedar Rapids  
Messiah-Mason City   New Hope-Charles City   Our Redeemer-Dubuque  
Our Redeemer-Independence   Our Savior-Fort Madison   Our Savior Keosauqua  
Peace-Shellrock   Trinity-Chariton   Zion-Hiawatha

All these congregation need to do is locate any histories that were written and send a copy (either an original, or a photocopy) to the IDE Office at 1100 Blairs Ferry Rd—Marion, IA 52302-3093 and mark it—Attention IDE Archives.

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# Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

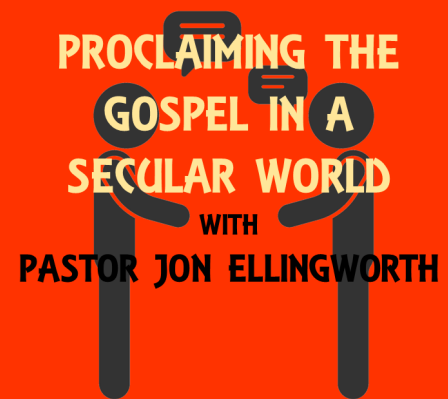


NOVEMBER 2019

## IDE SR. HIGH RETREAT - NOV. 22-23

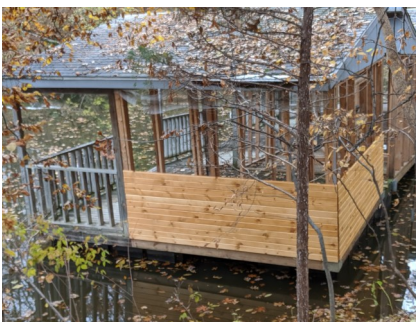
As God's children in Jesus Christ we are called to proclaim the Gospel in both word and deed. Today's culture is not unlike that in which the early Christian Church began to grow. Basic biblical knowledge can no longer be assumed. In some places the proclamation of the Gospel will be met with hostility and anger. During the 2019 IDE Sr. High Retreat, we will consider how the early Church proclaimed the Gospel in a secular and hostile culture, and how we might utilize their approach today. We will study illustrative biblical texts and the methods utilized by early Christians to help others discover their soul's longing for themselves and then guide them to finding fulfillment in Christ.

Our presenter is Pastor Jon Ellingworth of St. John Lutheran Church in Waverly, IA. You can register online or download a registration form at [www.lcmside.org](http://www.lcmside.org). The retreat will take place beginning on Friday, November 22 at 7pm and going through 3 pm on Saturday the 23rd. This retreat includes a pizza snack on Friday evening and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. A full schedule can be found at the link above.



## FALL WORKDAY: **November 2: 9AM - 4PM**

Mark Saturday, November 2nd down to come out and volunteer at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca for the day. We plan to continue work on the **Raft Village** as we turn it into a scenic outdoor learning center on the pond. Our hope is that this could be a great new location for Bible study and outdoor education classes! This past Spring, volunteer workers from King of King Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids took the first step in helping us tear out the old bunks and siding of the structures.



Now, our hope is to put a bottom trim around the sides and back of each cabin and then use heavy duty window screening around the rest of the sides and back. The fronts will remain open and a picnic table will go in each cabin. The space should accommodate class sizes of up to 36 people. Let us know you're coming, and as always, lunch in on us!

3271 Sandy Beach Road NE, Solon, IA 52333

phone 319.848.4187

web [www.campiodiseca.org](http://www.campiodiseca.org)

email [office@iodiseca.org](mailto:office@iodiseca.org)



## Camp Presentations

Would you like to know more about Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca? Camp Director Daniel Sanchez is available to speak to congregations and groups about Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca's mission, facilities, and programs. Call 319-848-4187 to schedule a speaker!



## THRIVENT CHOICE

In 2018, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca received \$10,000 in Thrivent Choice contributions! Thank you donors for making this program a success for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. Will you help make 2019 an even better year in Thrivent Choice giving?

Go to <https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/> or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and state "Thrivent Choice" to designate your choice dollars for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca today.

Thank you for making Thrivent Choice a valuable stream of revenue for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca!



THRIVENT  
FINANCIAL®

## Needs List

[campiodiseca.org/needs-list/](http://campiodiseca.org/needs-list/)

## Important Dates

November 1-2  
*IDE Pastors' Wives Retreat*

November 22-23  
*IDE Sr. High Retreat*

January 10  
*Summer Camp Registration Opens*

January 31-Feb 1  
*IDE Middle School Retreat  
& Snowlympics*

April 4  
*IDE LHM Convention*

## Support Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca: Your Congregation's 2020 Mission Budget

Though many of Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca's donations come from individuals and families, we also rely on congregations for financial support. Some congregations are generous enough to add Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca as a line item in their mission budget. Other congregations have groups such as their LWML societies make financial contributions.

Congregational contributions make the mission of Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca, that is, providing Christ-centered recreation, education, and inspiration for all, a reality. It isn't merely about keeping the lights on or paying the heating bills, but it ensures that Camp's guests have a quality experience at a quality location. Does your congregation currently support Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca? We hope that is will!

Also, check out our new *I Believe in Camp* monthly giving program. It's a great way for your household to make support Camp's important mission for as little as \$25/month. Details are available at our website!



# THANK YOU!!!!!!

3271 Sandy Beach Road NE, Solon, IA 52333

phone 319.848.4187

web [www.campiodiseca.org](http://www.campiodiseca.org)

email [office@iodiseca.org](mailto:office@iodiseca.org)



# REACHING RURAL AMERICA FOR CHRIST



## Our "Life Together"

- To follow the core beliefs of the LCMS
- To equip rural professional and lay leaders
- To support congregations in community engagement



## Please Pray for These Important Dates

### Nov. 21 – Webinar

"Dealing with Addictions in Rural and Small-town Areas"

with the Rev. Gary Griffin, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lockwood, Mo.

1–2 p.m. CST

### Nov. 14–16

RSTM National Conference  
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Bloomington-Minneapolis South, Minneapolis  
[lcms.org/rstm/conference](http://lcms.org/rstm/conference)

### Dec. 12 – Webinar

"Always Prepared to Give Reason for Your Hope"

with the Rev. Craig Niemeier, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Worms, Neb.

1–2 p.m. CST

"... and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord..."

—Post-Communion Collect, Divine Service, *Lutheran Service Book*

## STRONG FAITH, FERVENT LOVE

# Taking Stock of Blessings

"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work" (2 Cor. 9:8).

**O**n an episode of "Duck Dynasty" once upon a time, CEO Willie said something like, "Sometimes people hold on to old things because they want to hold on to old memories." I suspect we all have a few of those "old things" we keep around because they remind us of a happy time or someone special. In churches, we are especially good at hanging on to "old things," sometimes for the memories, sometimes because we just can't seem to get rid of them.



It is good to hold on to memories. We should celebrate how the Lord has worked through us over the years. Yet, how often do we stop and take stock? Having recently moved, we have come across a myriad of things we had simply forgotten we had and really couldn't come up with a reason why we had kept. On the other hand, we found some items that we *could* use which we had forgotten about or lost track of over time.

In our congregations, it is just as important for us to take time to assess what we have. Often, we get so used to the things around us that we forget their value or usefulness, or that we have them at all.

One way that we at LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission help congregations do this is by having them take a look at what the Lord has blessed them with and consider how those things might be used to benefit their congregation and engage their community with the Gospel. This includes taking a close look at their physical blessings, financial blessings, individual blessings, associated blessings and collective blessings. In taking stock of these things, we are enabled to see just how the Lord has fulfilled His promise to enable us to do the work He has given us to do.

If you'd like more information on this process or have any questions, please check out our website or contact us. We'd love to help.

**Pastor Todd Kollbaum**

# Is There Hope in the Midst of Addictions?

## DEALING WITH ADDICTIONS IN RURAL AND SMALL-TOWN AREAS

by the Rev. Gary Griffin, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lockwood, Mo.

**O**nce in a private counseling session with an addict, he said to me in tears, “I stole \$12,000 from my parents and I would walk the streets to see which house I could break into and steal money or goods in order to buy my next fix. I am so broken. I am so bad. I don’t know if I can be helped; is it possible?” Can you imagine how that person’s parents and family members feel? Lies, stealing, broken promises, sleepless nights, jail bonds, rehab, only to get out and return to addiction. Is there hope in the midst of addictions?

According to Farm Bureau statistics, 75 percent of the people living in rural communities have experienced the drug epidemic in some way. Families have a parent and/or child that is addicted, a relative who is addicted, work associates addicted, or have endured some form of crime because of the drug epidemic. Addictions affect the whole person spiritually, physically and mentally. It is important to understand all these ramifications in order to help and give hope to a person walking in the midst of addictions.

Spiritually, the addicted person is empty. The government paints addiction as a disease, but addiction is an idolatry, a misplaced lordship issue. These idols (addictive substances) promise the world but enslave the addicted person to the grave. The addicted person may sacrifice anything and anybody to pursue his addiction. Since we are born with original sin, sin in our nature drives us in the wrong direction. Consequently, the addicted person may not attend church for the following reasons: generally, pastors don’t know much about handling an addicted person; the addicted person may feel judged; he may feel that church is only for good people and he is bad; and he may believe he can’t be forgiven by God. In response to this, the Christian counselor or pastor can give hope in the message of the Gospel that God shows no favoritism. We all fall short of the glory of God, yet God in Christ Jesus forgives all sins, remembering them no more. If the addicted person is baptized, the pastor can direct him to God’s promises in Baptism. Then the pastor can give guidance from Scripture on how to walk as a recovering child of God, with eyes fixed on Jesus.

### Understanding the addicted person

Physically, addictions are very hard to overcome. For instance, if alcohol is the substance of choice, its euphoric effect gives positive reinforcement to the addict. The action is repeated, and the brain adapts to the constant overload of alcohol by releasing depressant chemicals. Consequently, it takes more and more alcohol to reach that euphoric feeling. The person becomes dependent upon the substance in order to manage life. When he wants to abstain, there is withdrawal: shakes, sweating, nausea, panic attacks, etc. In order to overcome the withdrawal symptoms, the addict drinks to feel better. Now the person is hooked on the negative reinforcement aspect of alcoholism.



The Christian counselor or pastor can give hope in the message of the Gospel that God shows no favoritism.

**WE ALL FALL SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD, YET GOD IN CHRIST JESUS FORGIVES ALL SINS, REMEMBERING THEM NO MORE.**





THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod

## Rural & Small Town Mission

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### Contact us

We want to hear from you! If you have ideas for future issues, comments, or feedback on articles you've read in *Reaching Rural America for Christ*, please contact Amy Gerdtz at the RSTM office.

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### How to Subscribe

To subscribe to *Reaching Rural America for Christ*, contact Amy Gerdtz at the RSTM office by calling 888-463-5127 or sending an email to amy.gerdtz@lcms.org.

### Support This Work

LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission supports and encourages rural and small-town congregations in engaging their communities and growing together in Christ through Word and Sacrament.

Click the Give Now button to support the work of RSTM.

**GIVE NOW**

Thrivent members: Remember that RSTM is eligible for Thrivent Choice Dollars!

Similarly, a substance like meth acts as artificial dopamine. The artificial dopamine blocks the natural dopamine receptors in the receiving cells, thus flooding the synapse between the cells, causing the euphoric high. The brain shuts down the manufacture of normal dopamine because there is too much. Consequently, a meth addict will be awake for days, make erratic body motions, excessively lick lips with the tongue, etc. When the artificial dopamine has finally been absorbed by the body, the brain is still not producing an adequate supply of dopamine, so the meth addict crashes and sleeps for days. When he awakes, he feels terrible, like he has the flu. The hippocampus in the brain remembers feeling better with meth and the amygdala in the brain reminds him how good it felt. It's not long until he is searching for more. Thus, the addiction and its cravings.

### Eyes fixed on Jesus

How can a pastor give hope in the midst of these physical struggles? He can point out that Jesus gives abundant life through faith in Him, while the idol of addictive substances only leads to death. He can read passages from Scripture on freedom from slavery to sin and on the fruits of the Spirit which give peace, joy, self-control, patience and more. As the pastor helps to direct the addict's life, it is important to

keep running with endurance, with eyes fixed on Jesus.

Mentally, addicted people have low self-esteem. They are guilt-ridden and carry with them false beliefs such as "I am always a failure," "My relapse proves I will always be a failure," etc. The pastor must help to question this false belief by asking, "Are you always a failure?", and then pointing out times and places where they have been successful. The pastor can direct the addicted person to read in Philippians where Paul tells us to think on what is good and admirable, pleasant and true.

Meth, opioids and heroin also create paranoid thoughts. This is why meth addicts often scratch themselves. They feel as if bugs are crawling on them, so they scratch sores on their body and keep scratching. If the person had tendencies toward mental diseases, those are magnified. As they become freed from addictive substances, some paranoia will dissipate. The pastor can reassure them from Scripture, pointing out how Jesus healed the demon-possessed man. Just so, God can heal their addictions.

If the addicted person continues to run with endurance, his eyes fixed on Jesus, he can be victorious and see better days. I have seen it happen in recovering addicts who endured with eyes fixed on Jesus. All glory and praise is given to God in Christ. Praise the Lord.

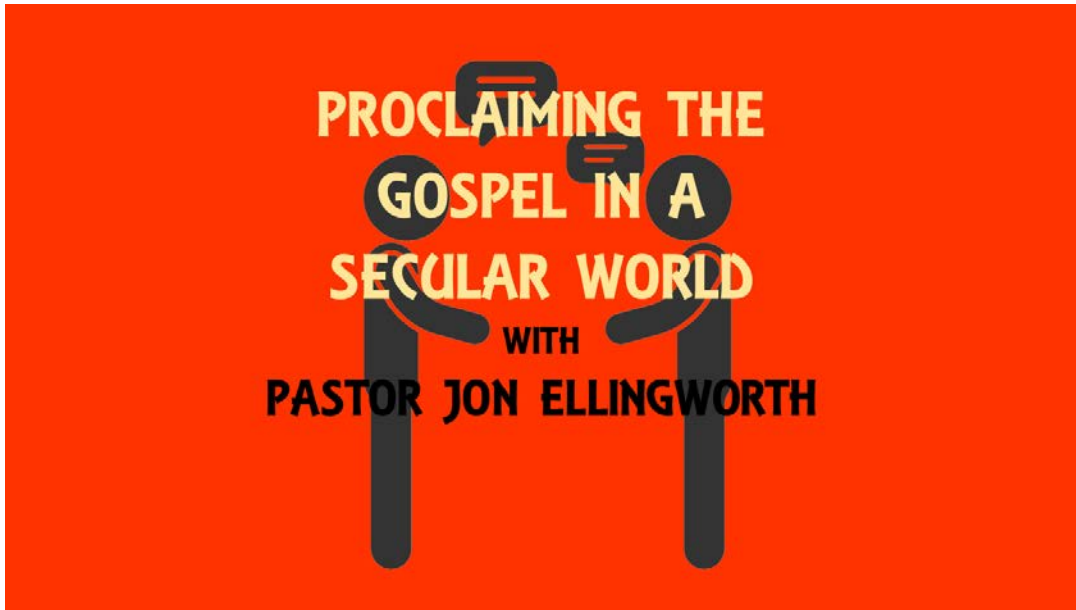
## RSTM Events Update

**D**on't forget that Rural & Small Town Mission provides free monthly webinars on topics important to congregations in town and country settings. Up next is "Dealing with Addictions in Rural and Small-town Areas" on Nov. 21, followed by "Always Prepared to Give Reason for Your Hope" on Dec. 12. Find past webinars in our archive.

Register for one of our Engaging Your Community (EYC) or Engaging the Wandering (ETW) events at [lcms.org/rstm](http://lcms.org/rstm). These partner events offer practical resources and training in communication skills for reaching out to our wandering members and communities with Christ's love. Contact your district or the RSTM office if you are interested in holding an event near you.

RSTM is also rolling out a new type of event, **Welcoming Workshops**, that we think you and your congregation will love and benefit from. These day-long events will help congregations become more welcoming places, providing God's Word to both current members and guests. They will offer practical resources on Welcoming Buildings, Welcoming Publications and Welcoming People. We are currently scheduling for 2020.

Pray for the 2019 National Rural & Small Town Mission Conference, "Running With Endurance: Eyes Fixed on Jesus," which will be held from Nov. 14–16 in Minneapolis at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Bloomington-Minneapolis South.



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## IDE Sr. High Retreat November 22-23

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As God's children in Jesus Christ we are called to proclaim the Gospel in both word and deed. Today's culture is not unlike that in which the early Christian Church began to grow. Basic biblical knowledge can no longer be assumed. In some places the proclamation of the Gospel will be met with hostility and anger. During the 2019 IDE Sr. High Retreat, we will consider how the early Church proclaimed the Gospel in a secular and hostile culture, and how we might utilize their approach today. We will study illustrative biblical texts and the methods utilized by early Christians to help others discover their soul's longing for themselves and then guide them to finding fulfillment in Christ.

### Registration

**\$50** per attendee

Register online through [EventBrite](#), or send your completed order form with a check for \$50 to the district office:

IOWA DISTRICT EAST - LCMS 1100  
BLAIRS FERRY RD MARION IA  
52302-3039

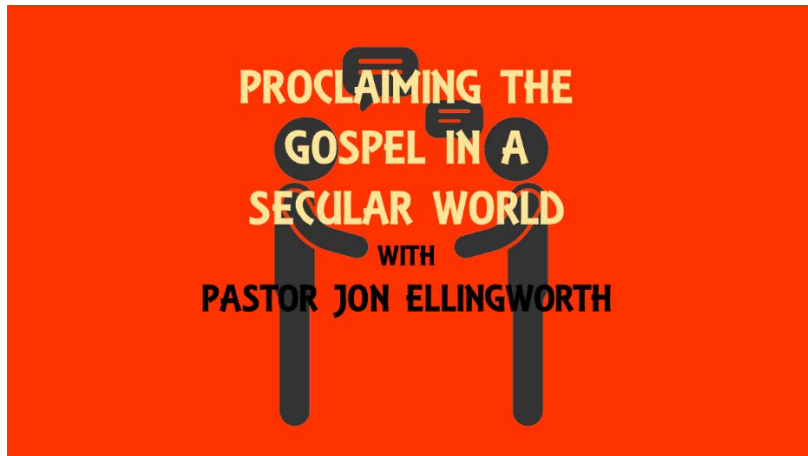
### Forms

All student will need to bring a completed [Health & Photo Release](#) form with them to camp. This can be found on our district website, along with a [packing list](#), at [lcmside.org](#)

### Questions

Visit our district website online for information about the event, or contact the district office: [dsanchez@lcmside.org](mailto:dsanchez@lcmside.org) / (319) 373-2112.

**lcmside.org**



## REGISTRATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER: M / F

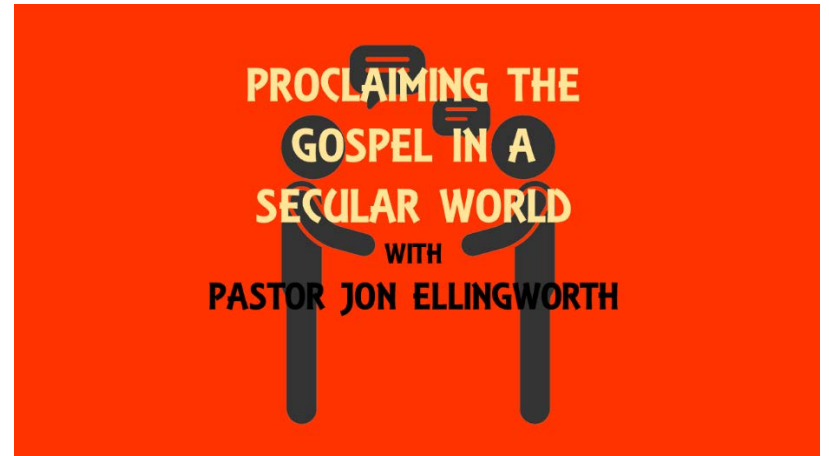
REGISTRATION TYPE (circle): Youth / Adult Chaperone

Send a check for **\$50** with this form to the District Office:

IOWA DISTRICT EAST  
1100 BLAIRS FERRY RD  
MARION IA 52302-3039

Students will need to fill out a camp Health and Photo Release Form. Bring this with you to camp. The form can be found on our district website at [lcmiside.org](http://lcmiside.org).

Contact the District Office for more information: [dsasnchez@lcmiside.org](mailto:dsasnchez@lcmiside.org) or call 319-373-2112.



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PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER: M / F

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# IDE Youth Event

## Online Registration Planning Sheet

Name	Email	Home Phone	Cell Phone	Gender	Age	Church / City	Registrant Type
				M F			<input type="radio"/> Adult <input type="radio"/> Youth
				M F			<input type="radio"/> Adult <input type="radio"/> Youth
				M F			<input type="radio"/> Adult <input type="radio"/> Youth
				M F			<input type="radio"/> Adult <input type="radio"/> Youth
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Visit this event at [EVENTBRITE](#).

If you have questions please contact Daniel Sanchez at [dsanchez@lcmiside.org](mailto:dsanchez@lcmiside.org) or 319-373-2112.



This information is confidential. Youth leader needs to collect and bring this form along for each IDE youth event.

## Iowa District East Youth Event Health Form and Photo Release

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade this Fall \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Information Provided By: \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent 1 First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent 2 First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

### IF NOT AVAILABLE IN AN EMERGENCY, NOTIFY:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Doctor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Dentist \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Pharmacy \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### NAME OF FAMILY MEDICAL/HOSPITAL INSURANCE:

Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # \_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance Phone # (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Insured's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Activity Restrictions by parent's/physician's advice?: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other information we need to know? \_\_\_\_\_

ALLERGIES:  Hay Fever  Poison Ivy  Insect Stings  Asthma  Food(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Peanut Butter  Nuts  Penicillin  Other Drugs: \_\_\_\_\_

Medications Brought To Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Notes on Giving: \_\_\_\_\_

Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, antacids, anti-diarrhea medication and first aid **MAY / MAY NOT** (CIRCLE ONE) be administered to my child, as needed, by designated chaperones.

Special Considerations? \_\_\_\_\_

### AUTHORIZATIONS AND PHOTO RELEASE:

This health history is correct so far as I know and the person herein described has permission to engage in all prescribed event activities except as noted above. I also give permission to the event coordinator or chaperone to order x-rays, routine tests and treatment. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I give permission to the physician selected by the event coordinator to transport, hospitalize and secure proper treatment, order injection and/or anesthesia and/or surgery.

I grant to Iowa District East the right to take photographs of me and my family in connection with the Iowa District East youth events and retreats. I authorize Iowa District East, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically. I agree that Iowa District East may use such photographs of me and my family with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including, for example, such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content. I agree that if I have any concerns or questions regarding the use of such photographs I should contact the Iowa District East office, in writing, in a timely manner.

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED AND GIVEN TO YOUR YOUTH COUNSELOR ATTENDING THE EVENT WITH YOU. THE YOUTH COUNSELOR COLLECTS AND RETAINS THE IDE YOUTH EVENT HEALTH FORM FOR EACH PARTICIPANT. DO NOT SEND THIS FORM TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE.



## *What should I bring to Camp?*

Bible

Sleeping Bag

Pillow

Appropriate clothing and shoes for activities

## *DO NOT BRING*

Irreplaceable or valuable items

Cell Phones

iPods, mp3 players, etc.

Extra money

Nuisance items that distract from the purpose of the event

**\*You are responsible for any items you bring to camp\***

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Submissions for the next edition of our  
Professional Workers' Packet are due  
**November 22.**

Please email articles, photos and announcements to  
Daniel Sanchez, IDE Communications/Events/Technology Coordinator  
**[dsanchez@lcmside.org](mailto:dsanchez@lcmside.org)**



*The Professional Packet is Iowa District East's monthly newsletter sharing updates on vacancies, upcoming events, and district news.*