



PROFESSIONAL WORKER'S PACKET

Iowa District East—LCMS

September 2019

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IOWA DISTRICT EAST

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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lcmside.org

President's Piece for Peace

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President

September 2019

"Back to School" is on every billboard and supermarket sign across the nation. It is less a reminder than it is a beckon to enter their store and purchase their products. At the same time it is a reality that a new academic year has fallen upon us once again, even as time marches on. Education is important not only for the elementary through college-aged students. It is an ever ongoing effort in the life of all our vocations. In particular I emphasize the need to further our theological and confessional acumen.

The other day I was at the ENT for sinus allergy problems. I couldn't help but notice all the continuing education certificates mounted on his wall. I inquired about them and he said they were mandatory in order to retain his Iowa Medical License. We in church work have no such mandates other than our educators who need to keep their Iowa Teaching License up to date. In the Office of the Ministry we can only encourage continued growth in our field of God's Call.

So to that extent I encourage you as fellow Office Brothers to join your members returning to the classroom. Monthly Winkels area wonderful assembly where study and discussion of the Word is beneficial and helpful. I certainly encourage attendance at the Winkels. Along with that your classroom will be your own study without teacher or professor. You can gain much by reading good material. Certainly and of most importance is the Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions. A daily diet of these fine cuisine nurture the soul and give rest to the mind. At the same time there is a plethora of fine reading for the application of our most blessed theology in your Office.

I offer a few books for you to consider that I have found interesting, well written, and help in many ways.

1. "Marriage is Like Dancing" by Richard C. Eyer published by CPH. This book has been around for a while but is filled with excellent, down to earth, solid theological applications for the doctrine of marriage. Dr. Eyer has keen insights into relationships and the struggles they entail. His biblical knowledge is of great assistance when working with couples planning to marry. He is also very helpful when working with couples who are experiencing challenges in their home. I do recommend it to you.
2. "The Care of Souls" by Harold L. Senkbeil published by Lexham Press. This is a brand new book that I received only this last summer. I have known Dr. Senkbeil for many years and always found him to be gifted when presenting on pastoral theology. This book is written from the perspective of a man who served many years in the parish and a few years teaching future pastors at the seminary. It is a very good, thought provoking, and contemplative read. It isn't going to say anything you have not already studied, but it is most helpful in measuring what you already know and the application of what you know for the hands and feet of your ministry. I do recommend it to you.
3. "Christian Concepts for Care" (Understanding and Helping People with Mental Health Issues) by David J. Ludwig and Mary R. Jacob published by CPH. I found this book to be insightful in an area which I am not well-versed. Mental illness is a real issue in the membership of our congregations, to one degree or another. This book is helpful for you to gain an understanding of what it is and how those who struggle with it are affected. It is not so much a book of theology but a resource of information on a topic pastors do well to be informed of. Your theology will guide you in application as this book helps you to recognize mental health issues in your parish.

President's Piece for Peace

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President

September 2019

These are only but a few books you may want to take a look at, or you may be on your own course of study at the moment. Either way I do encourage you to be a constant student of the Word or God, its correct exhibition in the Lutheran Confessions, and other books by respected and learned authors. God bless you all in your service of Christ and His Kingdom.

President Saunders

Calendar of Events

September 2019

September

6-7	IED LWML Fall Retreat	Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
21	Doxology Seminar	Trinity - Davenport
21	Church Work Youth Event	St. Paul - Mt. Vernon
21	CPS Retirement Workshop	IDE Office
22	Word of God Anniversary	Word of God - Cedar Rapids
28	Lutherans For Life Fall Conf.	Trinity - Cedar Rapids

October

7-8	Fall Pastors' Conference	Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
11-12	Confirmation Retreat	Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
29	IDE Board of Directors	District Office

November

1-2	Pastors' Wives Retreat	Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
22-23	Sr. High Retreat	Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

Vacancy Updates

As of 8/27/19

September 2019

Calling Congregations

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

Clarke Frederick (vacancy pastor)
Anthony Dodgers (vacancy pastor)
Troy Peperkorn (vacancy pastor)
Terry Small (vacancy pastor)

Pastor Calls

Accepted:

Pending:	Rev. Michael Erickson	St. John's Lutheran - St. John, MI
	Rev. Aaron Hambleton, Lisbon, ND	Trinity - Clinton
	Rev. David Anderson	Trinity - Coal Valley, IL
	Rev. Ted Groth, Broomfield, CO	Trinity - Cedar Rapids

Declined:	Rev. Samuel Beltz, Oskaloosa	St. Paul - Granite Falls, MN
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DCE / School / Teacher Calls

Vacancies:

Accepted:

Directory Updates

September 2019

The 2019-2020 IDE Directory is currently in development and planned for distribution at the Fall Pastors' Conference October 7-8. Pastors can pick up directories for themselves and their congregations at the conference.

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

The Reality of Waiting

September 2019

If we were to draw up a list of things that we wait for, it would be rather long. We wait for a red light to change so we can get to our doctor appointment on time. We check in and then we wait. The nurse checks our weight, blood pressure and pulse, and then we wait for the doctor to come in. If they do any sort of test or blood work we wait for the results.

The people in Florida, Georgia, and the Carolina's have been waiting for Hurricane Dorian to arrive. I am writing this article on 9-3. My daughter Martha who lives in Wilmington, NC, evacuated with last years' hurri-cane. Now she waits for Dorian. The school where she teaches was cancelled for Wednesday and Thursday of this week while they wait for what the storm may or may not bring. Waiting brings with it anxiety and a whole other hosts of emotions. If you have been through one disaster, a new one drags up all the memories of the previous one.

Think of God's people of old who waited for the coming of the promised Messiah. Their need for Him was the same as yours and mine. **"For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God."** Romans 3:23. It doesn't matter who you and I encounter, they too have a sin problem. It is a sin problem which God has dealt with through His Son Jesus Christ. His Word calls us and them to repentance.

Psalm 27:14 states: **"Wait for the LORD; Be strong, and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the Lord."** Our strength and courage do come from God. We know that the Lord has come. We know that Jesus has borne all of our sins upon Himself on the cross. Isaiah 53:4a declares: **"Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried."** Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world as John 1:29 tells us. As the people on the east coast wait for Dorian to come and go, they also may be awaiting a word.

Psalm 119:81 states: **"My soul languishes for Thy salvation; I wait for Thy word."** Who needs to hear the Word of God from you? We never have to look very far. Martin Franzmann wrote: **"Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness, Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess."** Paul declares: **"For our citizenship is in heaven from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself."** Phil. 3:20. We truly have something glorious to look forward to.

In the meantime there is still work to be done. Franzmann says: **"Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim, Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name. Alleluia, alleluia!"** May Christ use us as we serve those who are waiting!

Rev. Dr. Dean Rothchild
Assistant to the President

i: LSB, hymn # 578, v. 3.

ii: Ibid, v. 5.

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 9/4/19

Gifts received to date:	\$799,213
Gifts promised in next 1-7 years:	\$20,350
Total to Date:	\$819,563

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

Getting to Know You

September 2019

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in^[a] Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. Philippians 3:7-11NIV

Are you familiar with the song, “Getting to Know You” from the 1951 Rogers and Hammerstein musical *The King and I*? In the show, Anna, a British schoolteacher who has been hired as governess, sings the song as she strikes up a warm and affectionate relationship with the children and the wives of the King of Siam. Here are just a few lines of the lyrics:



Getting to know you
Getting to feel free and easy
When I am with you
Getting to know what to say

Haven't you noticed
Suddenly I'm bright and breezy?
Because of all the beautiful and new
Things I'm learning about you
Day by day

It's the beginning of a brand-new school year, and we know what that means. You are getting to know your students and they are getting to know you. Are you feeling “free and easy” when you are with your students? How about “bright and breezy” because of the beautiful and new things you are learning about them? If your year is off to a great start – congratulations! If you're counting the days until Thanksgiving break or the end of the year, you probably need to get this figured out right away. (Seriously, talk to your mentor and/or principal now!) Whatever your situation is, I wish to encourage you to use this school year to not only know *about* your students but also to *know* them. There's a big difference between those two ideas, and that difference can be summed up in the word “relationship”.

In *The King and I*, Anna's role was to obey and honor the wishes of the King of Siam. You and I, as children of God, have a different, much greater King to obey and honor than the one from Siam. His name is Jesus Christ. Through God's Word you know that He established that vertical relationship between the Father and you when you were brought to faith through baptism. Recall 2 Timothy 3:15, “*and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.*” Knowing about Jesus, even Satan does that, but knowing Jesus, having a personal relationship with Him as your Lord and Savior makes all the difference in the world. Knowing Jesus goes deeper than just obeying and honoring Him. Go back to Creation when God created Adam and Eve. God saw that it was not good for Adam to be alone so he created Eve to also live in fellowship with God (the vertical relationship) and with Adam (the horizontal relationship). That was God's blueprint for human life. Sadly, it

Continued on next page....

Getting to Know You

September 2019

didn't take long for that design to be damaged when Adam and Eve sinned. Their sin caused a broken relationship, separation from God and between each other. And that's why God sent Jesus.

Do you see? God's design for life is all about relationships. In your Bible reading and your classroom teaching you read about Jesus connecting with people. He spends time with them. He was interested in them. He cared deeply for them. He went to the home of Zacchaeus and spent the day with him. There was the woman at the well, Mary and Martha, Mary Magdalene, the man born blind. The list goes on and on. And that's why this is so important. He feels the same way about you, to be close to you, to know you, and to live in an intimate relationship with you.

I'm probably not telling you anything new, but have you noticed how our bodies are in the shape of cross? The cross was God's plan for life. Our body's physical design proclaims God's design for life. Standing with outstretched arms, we are a picture of how God designed us to live: open to God and open to our neighbors. Here's an idea to try with your students. In your daily devotions or chapel, ask your students to join you in making the sign of the cross with arms outstretched. "Accidentally" poking someone in the eye is a possibility but they'll get better with practice! What a great reminder of the relationship we have with Jesus and our friends. It's another reminder of how well God knows us.

In John 17:3, Jesus prays these words for His disciples: "*Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.*" The more deeply we know Jesus, the more connected we are to the heart of God will compel us to share that love and knowledge with our students. It is my prayer that God would give you the wisdom and revelation of the Holy Spirit so that you can continue to grow in knowing Jesus and the riches given to you in your teaching ministry. May He empower you to know the hearts of your students so that they can learn of what Christ has done for them and how He intimately knows them.

Jan Doellinger
Assistant to the President, Schools

IDE ARCHIVES

Iowa District Teachers' Conference Minutes

There are Teachers' Conference Minutes in a Ledger located in the Iowa District East-LCMS Archives. Beginning in 1904, the Minutes are recorded in German script. Later, a little more English is used, along with German. Eventually, the Conference Minutes are recorded totally in English. In an attempt to make these Minutes readable to those who do not know German, or familiar with the alphabet for German script, your IDE archivist took on the task of transcribing and translating the information that is given below. The Minutes translated so far are from 1904 to 1911. They will be featured in installments in the Professional Packet. Since this Professional Packet is available for down-loading by all IDE professional church workers, hopefully, this will be of interest both to the Ordained and the Commissioned Workers in our district.

Part 1

Conference held at Waterloo, Iowa
25-27 May, 1904

Forenoon

The annual conference opened its session with the excellent song: "Begin your work with Jesus" after which Colleague Hild read a selection from Holy Scripture. The minutes of the previous conference were read by Secretary Mattfeld and adopted unanimously. This was followed with the election of officers resulting as follows:

1. Colleague Hild, President.
2. The undersigned, Secretary.
3. Colleague Stolper, Treasurer.

The former quite popular Teacher Arthur Ilten, because he had to give up his office due to illness, pleased the conference with a written greeting. By resolution, The undersigned, on behalf of the brethren, to send a note of sympathy to the so severely afflicted colleague, and express, if it be God's will, to see him again soon in his office.

The next important item up for discussion was about the question: When and how long should the sessions last. It was moved to hold the forenoon sessions from 9:00 until 11:45 and the afternoon sessions from 1:30 until 4:30.

Colleague Palmer opened the teacher discussions with a diligently put together catechesis of the 7th Petition. The critique that followed was real interesting. This presentation was adopted. Since the morning session had to be ended, the assembly was adjourned with prayer.

Afternoon.

Colleague Malte opened the afternoon meeting with a fine prepared essay on the topic: History of the Germans. The presentation was well received by the conference and accepted. Then

followed the presentation of Colleague Hafner concerning: The State of Affairs of the Teachers in Relation to the Young People. The honorable colleague pointed out the dangers and the self-denial, with which a teacher has to struggle with, if he wants to preserve his good name and as a result also his reputation. After a lively discussion and expression of scholarly opinions, the presentation was accepted by the conference.

Since the time for the afternoon meeting came to an end, it was adjourned with prayer.

Forenoon. 26 May.

This session was also opened with a fitting hymn and an earnest prayer. After the devotion, Colleague Bertram gave his excellent Bible History presentation titled: The Background to the Return from the Babylonian Captivity. He divided the history into four parts:

1. Mandate and Departure
2. Temple Building
3. Captivity and
4. The Return

This presentation was accepted by the conference.

Colleague Stolper gave his very interesting presentation to the conference concerning: "Africa." He divided Africa into four parts:

1. Northeast Africa.
2. Northwest Africa.
3. Middle Africa.
4. South Africa.

The presentation was adopted.

Then it was moved that the afternoon meeting begin at one o'clock so as to have an opportunity to deal with practical questions, and to take a look at the paper mill. The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Afternoon.

After calling the meeting to order with a prayer, the group moved on to address the practical questions. Every teacher who attended this conference has certainly benefited from the different opinions. Here a teacher can seek advice, consolation and enlightenment, and joyfully travel back to his home place.

As is the customary practice, the travel costs were compared. The total costs came to \$19.28. The average figure at \$2.15.

The conference expressed its joy over the fact that all teachers were present this time. Honored visitors were pastors Wolfram and Piehler. Both took part in the teacher discussions. The Western Teachers' Conference of Iowa delighted us with a written greeting which the undersigned replied to on behalf of the conference.

Forenoon. 27 May.

After the devotion, the conference got to hear Colleague Mattfeld's presentation concerning: Arithmetic, Extracting the Square Root with Reference to Integers and Decimal Fractions. The presentation was accepted.

A very important question concerning the introduction of a new orthography in our school books came up for discussion. However, it was agreed that the question should not be dealt with and to see what the General Teachers' Conference had to say about it.

The following assignments were given out for the next conference:

1. Catechesis: Resurrection of the Flesh, Colleague Hild.
2. Bible History: The Treasurer from Moorland, The undersigned.
3. Difference Between True and Bank Discount, Colleague Palmer.
4. Diagramming Sentences, Colleague Stolper.
5. A Lecture on Southern Asia, W. Schmidt.
6. The Call of a Lutheran Teacher, Colleague Hafner.

It was moved to take a break until 1:30; then continue with the assignment of presentations.

Afternoon.

The conference assigned the following presentations:

7. Explanation of a Hymn, Colleague Mattfeld.
8. The History of the Crusaders, Colleague Malte.
9. The Transgressions of the Roman Church through Power to Achieve Their Goal, Colleague Bertram.

The location for the next conference was by an invitation from the undersigned to Luzerne, Iowa. It was moved that the next conference be held from Wednesday to Friday after Pentecost.

The meeting was closed with the hymn: "God Bless Our Departure" and with the prayer of all prayers.

A.T. Landsmann, Secretary

[—to be continued—]

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca



September 2019

IDE CONFIRMATION RETREAT - OCT. 11-12

The baptism of an infant is the perfect topic to help us understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ and how we are all saved by God's grace alone. You should love infant baptism. Every time there is a baptism of a baby in your church, you should sing for joy over what God is doing for that little one. He is making a sinner into His beloved child by His grace alone. He is granting faith. He is forgiving sin. He is rescuing from death and the devil. He is imparting His Spirit. He is covering a sinner with Christ's righteousness. He is promising eternal salvation. He is doing all this and more! In fact, Infant baptism even helps us understand adult baptism. Rejoice with us in God's salvation of sinners by grace alone, through faith alone, for Christ's sake alone, by coming to the Confirmation Retreat as we explore the treasures of baptism!

Our presenter is Pastor Stephen Preus of Trinity Lutheran Church in Vinton, IA. You can register online or download a registration form at www.lcmside.org. The retreat will take place beginning on Friday, October 11th at 7pm and going through 3 pm on Saturday the 12th. 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.



Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca Adds New Staff Member!



Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca would like to welcome Mr. Andrew Folkmann to the Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca full-time staff! Andrew has been hired as our **Director of Programs and Retreats** and will begin in September. Essentially, Andrew becomes Camp's primary on-site leader and coordinator for all programs and retreats. Andrew has served previously at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca for four summers (2013-2016), serving as a Camp Counselor (2013-14), Climbing Tower Manager (2015), and Summer Program Director (2016). Over the past two years, Andrew has been the Camp Director at Camp Takatoka in Chouteau, Oklahoma. Andrew was raised in Denver, Iowa and his home church is St. John Lutheran Church in Denver, Iowa.

What does this addition mean for our current Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca staff? Our Camp Director, Daniel Sanchez, will still be overseeing our organization, but be giving more attention to Camp's strategic goals, development, publications and promotions, fundraising, and policy. He'll also be splitting his time with the Iowa District East of the LCMS managing their communications, technology, and events, many of which already overlap with Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca.

All of us at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca are very excited for Andrew to join our staff. We hope and pray this increase in staff makes Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca an even better home for all of our guests' camping and retreat needs here in Eastern Iowa and beyond.

3271 Sandy Beach Road NE, Solon, IA 52333

phone 319.848.4187

web www.campiodiseca.org

email 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 over \$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

Lawn Tractor; Paper Towels; Toilet Paper; First Class Postage Stamps; Batteries: 9v, AA, AAA; Cleaning Supplies: window cleaner, all-purpose cleaner. **Please see our web site for a complete list: www.campiodiseca.org.**

Important Dates

September 6-7
IED LWML Fall Retreat

October 7-8
IDE Fall Pastors' Conference

October 11-12
IDE Confirmation Retreat

November 1-2
IDE Pastors' Wives Retreat

November 2
Fall Workday

November 22-23
IDE Sr. High Retreat

From the Kids, For the Kids

Each year the camp collects an offering called From the Kids, For the Kids. It's a way that we buy new program equipment here at camp so that kids can have a more enjoyable experience

In just the past few years we've been able to replace all of our canoes at the camp pond, buy new lifejackets and paddles, put in new basketball hoops and paint the basketball court, and improve our rec field and challenge course! THANK YOU for your help in making Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca a more enjoyable facility! On average, our campers donate over \$1,000 per summer.

Over the next year, we're going to use our 2019 funds to work on restocking our pond with fish and adding an aerator to help their survival! With your help, we'll have fishing once again at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca! The other neat thing is that we'll share a portion of these donations with another children's ministry in Eastern Iowa. After all, it's from the kids, for the kids!

THANK YOU!!!!

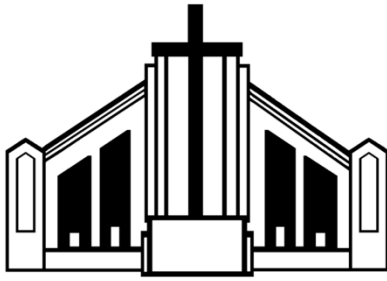


3271 Sandy Beach Road NE, Solon, IA 52333

phone 319.848.4187

web www.campiodiseca.org

email office@iodiseca.org



St. Paul Lutheran Church

Mt. Vernon, Iowa

Pastor Rev. Sean Hansen
Asst. to the Pastor Rev. Ryan Buchmueller
Family Life Coordinator Julie Baumler
Youth Coordinator Sonya Sullivan
Parish Secretary Tracy Schmidt
Facilities Coordinator Jeff Adrian

SAVE THE DATE!

St. Paul in Mt. Vernon will be hosting an event on September 21 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm to give LCMS youth an overview of the ways in which they can serve the Church both as a layperson and professionally. The goal of this event is to affirm our youth in their responsibilities as communicant members of the church and provide ideas on further opportunities to serve as a lay person. Additionally, the event will expose youth to the ways in which they can serve the Church in a professional capacity, should they feel called to do so. This event is suited for those youth currently in confirmation classes as well as those who have already been confirmed. There is no cost to this event.

Lay and professional positions discussed will include individuals serving in those positions. Additionally, during the noon meal, youth will have the opportunity to sit with the professional church workers to have more personal discussions about their service to the church.

We believe that this is a valuable event with the potential to better equip our youth to be faithful servants of the church which will help to keep are churches strong across the generations. Additionally, we believe that is high honor for a congregation to send men and women into the ministry and know that sending high quality / well trained youth into professional church work is critical for the future of the synod.

Please make plans for your Youth Group to attend this event on September 21st! An RSVP indicating the estimated number of those attending from your congregation is appreciated. Please send an email to info@splcmv.org or call the church office at (319) 895-8772.

Sincerely,
Pastor Sean Hansen and the St. Paul Elders

We are... Christ's Love in Action

600 5th Ave SW, Mt. Vernon, Iowa 52314 • (319) 895-8772 • www.splcmv.org • info@splcmv.org



The Harvest is Bountiful — the Workers are Few

Serving the Church as a Member and in a Profession

September 21st, 2019; 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

- 9:00 – 9:15: Welcome / Introduction / Purpose
- Overview / Reason for the Day
 - Being a Faithful Member of the Church
 - Ways to Serve in the Congregation
- 9:15 – 10:00: Serving as a Member of a Congregation
- Worship of the Church
 - o Elders, Altar Guild, Ushers, Acolytes, Organist
 - Christian Leadership / Outreach
 - o Sunday School Teachers, Youth / Family Life Coordinators, Elders
 - Business of the Church
 - o Council Member, Trustees, Janitors, Secretaries
- 10:00 – 10:15: Break
- 10:15 – 11:30: Serving as a Professional Church Worker
- Breakout Panels
 - o Pastor
 - o Deaconess
 - o DCE
 - o Auxiliary Offices: Lutheran School Teacher, Music Directors, Missionaries, Parish Nurse
- 11:30 – 12:15: Meal / Table Talk Discussions
- 12:15 – 12:30: Obtaining an LCMS Education
- Presentation about the Concordia Schools
- 12:30 – 12:45: Closing
- What We Learned
 - Questions



**Lutherans For Life of Iowa
2019 Fall Conference**

Life Issues in relation to Creation

Featuring Semisaurus



Date: Saturday, September 28, 2019

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church

1363 First Ave SW

Cedar Rapids, IA 52405-4807

All interested may attend. Must be registered for "Fall Conference" to be included in lunch planning.

Schedule:

- 9:30 – 10:00 AM Registration
- 10:00 - 10:15 AM Welcome & Opening Devotion
- 10:15 – 11:30 AM Keynote Speaker – **Brian Young**
- 11:30 – 12:15 PM Light lunch (*free will donation*)
- 12:15 – 1:30 PM Keynote Speaker – **Brian Young**
- 1:30 – 1:45 PM Closing Devotion
- 2:00 – 2:30 PM Business meeting w/elections



Greetings: We would like to invite you and your members to a Lutherans for Life Fall Conference on Saturday, September 28th. All the details are in the attached Flier and Bulletin Inserts. Please let me know if you have any questions and feel free to pass onto other churches/circuits. Thank you spreading the word!

Fliers can be hung on bulletin boards, the inserts are great for bulletins! Thank you.
Pam, Lutherans for Life Chapter of Linn Area – chapter 72.

Bulletin Blurb.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE OF IOWA State Fall Conference will be held on Saturday, **September 28, 2019, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1363 First Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405-4807.**

The featured presenter will be **Brian Young, Lutheran educator, and creator of Semisaurus.** This is an air-conditioned creation museum housed in a semi-trailer which will be on the Trinity campus. Registration begins at 9:30 AM with Brian's presentations to follow. You may enjoy a light lunch (free-will donation) and have time to visit Semisaurus. The conference will conclude at 2:00 PM with a brief business meeting for LFL members. All interested persons are invited to attend. Please register at the beginning of the conference to be included in lunch planning.

Linn Area LFL Chapter 72

Lutherans For Life of Iowa 2019 Fall Conference

Life Issues in relation to Creation Featuring Semisaurus



Date: Saturday, **September 28, 2019**

Location: **Trinity Lutheran Church**

1363 First Ave SW

Cedar Rapids, IA 52405-4807

All interested may attend

Schedule:

9:30 – 10:00 AM Registration

10:00 - 10:15 AM Welcome & Opening Devotion

10:15 – 11:30 AM Keynote Speaker – Brian Young

11:30 – 12:15 PM Light lunch (*free will donation*)

12:15 – 1:30 PM Keynote Speaker – Brian Young

1:30 – 1:45 PM Closing Devotion

2:00 – 2:30 PM Business meeting w/elections



Join us
Saturday,
Sept. 21st!



**Seminar Goal: To equip people with tools to speak constructively,
and to live confidently, amid the current confusion.**

Has American Christianity Failed?

**Presenter: Rev. C. Bryan Wolfmueller
DOXOLOGY Collegium Fellow and Pastor
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Austin, Texas**

**Saturday, September 21, 2019
9:00 am—4:00 pm
Check in from 8:15-9:00**

**Trinity Lutheran Church
1122 W. Central Park, Davenport, Iowa
Ph. (563) 323-8001**

Session Topics Include:

***The Four Foundations of American Theology
How I became a Lutheran: Avoiding the Pride/Despair Teeter-Totter
Comfort and Peace for the Weary***

**Registration Open Online through September 13, 2019
Adults \$15.00 and Students: \$10.00 (High School, College & Seminarians)
<https://www.doxology.us/events/2019-sep-ia-wolfmueller-seminar/>**

Cost Includes registration, conference materials, lunch and refreshments.



Is Your Retirement On Track?

The **Iowa District East** and **Concordia Plan Services** are offering you the opportunity to attend a pre-retirement workshop! This workshop is designed to help you plan for that very important transition in your life: **RETIREMENT!** We encourage you to attend and start learning what you'll need to know about making plans for *your* future.

- Applicable to all workers enrolled in the Concordia Retirement Plan (CRP), not just pastors or rostered workers.
- Workers of any age can attend, but it's especially geared for those age 50 or older, and those thinking about retirement.
- Spouses are strongly encouraged to attend, too.
- Learn about:
 - Pension income from the CRP.
 - Understanding Social Security.
 - Figuring out how much to save for the future, and the best savings options for you.
 - Healthcare in retirement, both before and after you qualify for Medicare.
 - Who will you be and what you will be doing in retirement.

Please share this with *everyone* at your ministry that is enrolled in the CRP, as they all need to plan for their future!

You will receive materials and additional information after you register.

Please join us!

Saturday, September 21

**Iowa District East
District Office**

1100 Blairs Ferry Road
Marion, IA 52302

Time: 9 AM – 3 PM

The workshop will be conducted by
Paul Snyder, Financial Wellness
Educator for Concordia Plans!

There is a \$10 fee (*payable at the workshop*) to cover the cost of morning coffee & break.
A light lunch is being provided courtesy of the **LCEF!**

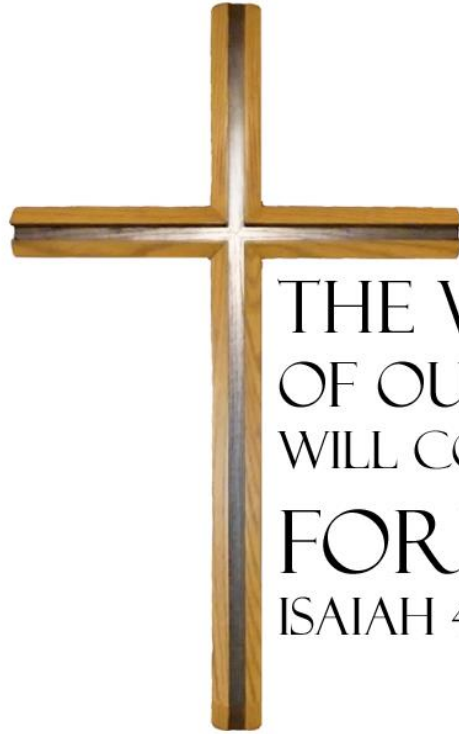
Please register for this workshop by no later than **Wednesday, September 18.**

To register, please contact: **Cristel Hoffman** – Concordia Plan Services
1-888-927-7526 ext. 6824 or e-mail

Cristel.Hoffman@concordiaplans.org

(*She will need to know your name, e-mail, phone number, and if your spouse will attend with you.*)

50 Years of Blessings



THE WORD
OF OUR GOD
WILL CONTINUE
FOREVER
ISAIAH 40:8

Word of God Lutheran Church for the Deaf

Sunday, September 22, 2019

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Worship. Rev. Mark Anderson, guest preacher

12:30 p.m. Catered meal, visiting, historical items, and more!

Everyone is invited!

Deaf community, family and friends

Former pastors and their families

Preaching stations in Iowa East

Sister congregations

***To help us plan the meal, RSVP to iowaeastdeaf@yahoo.com by Sept. 15.
Come celebrate with us!***

1515 29th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402

2019 Fall Pastors' Conference

The Week of the Final Passover in the Gospel According to St. John

October 7-8 at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

Registration

Registration and Check-In begin at 12:00 PM on Monday, October 7th.

Cost is \$55 (Emeriti and wives \$25)

Register online at 2019idefallpastorsconference.eventbrite.com, or fill out a paper registration form and return to the district office with a check. Mail to: Iowa District East LCMS, 1100 Blairs Ferry Rd, Marion IA 52302-3039.

Housing

Attendees may stay at camp for an additional \$28 or find housing on their own. A block of rooms has been reserved at Days Inn & Suites in Cedar Rapids. Room rate is \$69.95 plus tax. Call Days Inn to reserve a room.

DAYS INN & SUITES
2215 BLAIRS FERRY RD
CEDAR RAPIDS IA 52402
319-378-3948

Guest Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Bruce Schuchard
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Dr. Bruce G. Schuchard is professor of Exegetical Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He has been a faculty member since 1997. He previously served as dean of the Graduate School (2003-06), dean of Advanced Studies (2006-14), and Graduate School coordinator for international students (2014-15). His areas of interest and expertise include the works of John, including his Gospel, epistles and revelation, and the New Testament use of Old Testament Scripture. Before joining the Seminary, Schuchard served as pastor at St. James Lutheran Church in Victor, Iowa (1990-97).



He received his Master of Divinity and Master of Sacred Theology from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind. (1984, 1985). He also holds a bachelor's degree in atmospheric and oceanic science from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor (1979); and a Ph.D. from Union Seminary in Richmond, Va. (1991).



REGISTRATION FORM

2019 IDE Fall Pastors' Conference

October 7-8 at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

REGISTER ONLINE AT LCMSIDE.ORG

The Week of the Final Passover in the Gospel According to St. John With Rev. Dr. Bruce Schuchard

Name _____ Congregation _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

REGISTRATION TYPE

_____ Pastors, Vicars, Church Workers (\$55 registration fee)

_____ Emeriti, Wives (\$25 registration fee)

HOUSING

_____ I will stay at camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. (additional charge of \$28)

_____ I will find my own housing away from camp.

Please mail this form along with a check for payment to the IDE office by September 30h. Checks should be made out to IOWA DISTRICT EAST-LCMS; please note FALL PASTORS CONF 2019 in the memo. Mail to:

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

For details about the event visit our website at lcmside.org or call the IDE office at 319-373-2112. We look forward to seeing you there!

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BAPTISM

WITH

PASTOR STEPHEN PREUS

IDE Confirmation Retreat

October 11-12

The baptism of an infant is the perfect topic to help us understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ and how we are all saved by God's grace alone. You should love infant baptism. Every time there is a baptism of a baby in your church, you should sing for joy over what God is doing for that little one. He is making a sinner into His beloved child by His grace alone. He is granting faith. He is forgiving sin. He is rescuing from death and the devil. He is imparting His Spirit. He is covering a sinner with Christ's righteousness. He is promising eternal salvation. He is doing all this and more! In fact, Infant baptism even helps us understand adult baptism. Rejoice with us in God's salvation of sinners by grace alone, through faith alone, for Christ's sake alone, by coming to the Confirmation Retreat as we explore the treasures of baptism!

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: pam@lcmside.org / (319) 373-2112.

BAPTISM

WITH

PASTOR STEPHEN PREUS

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.

Contact the District Office for more information: dsasanchez@lcmiside.org or call 319-373-2112.

BAPTISM

WITH

PASTOR STEPHEN PREUS

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

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Contact the District Office for more information: dsasanchez@lcmiside.org or call 319-373-2112.

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
				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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				M F			<input type="radio"/> Adult <input type="radio"/> Youth

Visit this event at [EVENTBRITE](#).

If you have questions please contact Pam Krog at pam@lcmiside.org or 319-373-2112.



This information is confidential.
Parent/Guardian is to collect and bring this form along .

EVANGUARD - 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 Evanguard and Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca the right to take photographs of me and my family in connection with Evanguard and Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca events and retreats. I authorize Evanguard and Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically. I agree that Evanguard and Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca 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 Evanguard and/or Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca, in writing, in a timely manner.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED, AND SUBMITTED TO EVANGUARD AT EVENT REGISTRATION.

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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Appropriate clothing and shoes for activities

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Nuisance items that distract from the purpose of the event

You are responsible for any items you bring to camp

November 1 - 2, 2019

*Iowa District East
Pastors' Wives' Retreat*

at

Camp IO-DIS-E-CA

Guest Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Matthew W. Rueger

author of

Sexual Morality in a Christless World

Spend time with your sisters in Christ
as we gather for fellowship
and time in God's Word.

Save the Date!



IDE Pastors' Wives Retreat

Finding Hope in a Christless World



REGISTRATION (Go to www.lcmside.org for online registration.)

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

Name of Congregation _____

Lap Baby Yes No

Dietary Restrictions (please list) _____

PAYMENT

The cost for this retreat is **\$65**. If attending Saturday only the fee is \$45. This includes 3 meals, a night's lodging, supplies, and good Christian fun and fellowship. Please mail this form along with a check for payment to the IDE office. Make checks payable to Iowa District East - LCMS.

IOWA DISTRICT EAST – LCMS
1100 BLAIRS FERRY RD
MARION IA 52302-3093

For questions or help with registration visit our website at lcmsside.org or call the district office at 319-373-2112.

IDE Pastors' Wives Retreat

Finding Hope in a Christless World



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Name _____

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Address _____

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IOWA DISTRICT EAST – LCMS
1100 BLAIRS FERRY RD
MARION IA 52302-3093

For questions or help with registration visit our website at lcmsside.org or call the district office at 319-373-2112.



Previous Scholarship Winner:
Joshua Marlatt
Trinity Lutheran Church
Waconia, Minn.

\$1,000 LCEF SCHOLARSHIPS

for LCMS high school seniors & college students

LCEFCENTRAL.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS



Lutheran Church Extension Fund
> where investments build ministry



REACHING RURAL AMERICA FOR CHRIST

“... 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*



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

Sept. 26 – Webinar

“Church Reflections”
with the Rev. Benjamin Meyer, Hope Lutheran Church, Sunbury, Ohio
1–2 p.m. CST

Oct. 26

Engaging the Wandering (ETW) event
Groton, S.D., with the LCMS South Dakota District
9:30 a.m.–3 p.m. CST

Oct. 27

Engaging the Wandering (ETW) event
Hartford, S.D., with the LCMS South Dakota District
1–6 p.m. CST

Nov. 14–16

RSTM National Conference
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Bloomington-
Minneapolis South, Minneapolis
lcms.org/rstm/conference

STRONG FAITH, FERVENT LOVE

Marked by a Living Hope

By the time this article makes its way to you, I will have been installed and serving with the saints in Madison, Neb., for a whole month. While this reality is still a way off as I write this, I am confident that the Lord’s hand is and will be with me in my ministry and with you in yours as well! It’s at times like this that I often turn to 1 Peter 1:3 where we are reminded, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

Several years ago, as I was early in my journey with RSTM, I wrote about this passage: “While I’m not one to say, ‘This is my favorite passage in Scripture,’ if I were hard pressed, 1 Peter 1:3 would certainly make the list. What joy it is to know that we are able to praise our God regardless of the circumstances because we have been given new life in Jesus Christ. This is phenomenal news, yet even better is knowing that this new life is marked by a ‘living hope.’

While we may find ourselves in terrible straits in this worldly sojourn (‘though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials’), we can without fail rejoice ‘with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,’ for in Christ we have obtained the outcome of our faith, ‘the salvation of your souls.’ Even when things seem beyond what we can take, when our ministry appears to be difficult at best, futile at worst, our Savior Jesus lives, and because He lives our hope is not lost but lives in Him ... ‘and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us’ (Rom. 5:5).”

Thanks be to God, His Word remains steadfast, even when the circumstances of our life change according to His good and gracious will. May we always remember this truth *for us*, and may God bless you in whatever stage of ministry you are in now!

Pastor Todd Kollbaum



Church Reflections

by Rev. Benjamin Meyer, Hope Lutheran Church, Sunbury, Ohio

“Check the Mirror, Pastor — After Five Years, Your Church Looks Like You.” This was the headline of an article that caused me to stop and reflect. If it’s true that after five years the congregation I serve will look a lot like me, is that a good thing or a bad thing?

If congregations begin to reflect their pastor over time, it might lead the pastor to think about what he should do to shape his congregation. The pastor will be tempted to think about how *he* can and should shape it: *How can I make my congregation enthusiastic for evangelism? How can I make my congregation take the Word of God seriously and want to study it? How can I shape my congregation to make an impact in our community?*

But if those are the first questions the pastor asks, his focus is in the wrong

place. When I first read that headline and the accompanying article, the reality that my congregation would reflect me as a pastor felt like a heavy burden to bear. *Do I really want my congregation to look like ... me?* To paraphrase St. Paul, *Do I really want my congregation to look like the chief of sinners?*

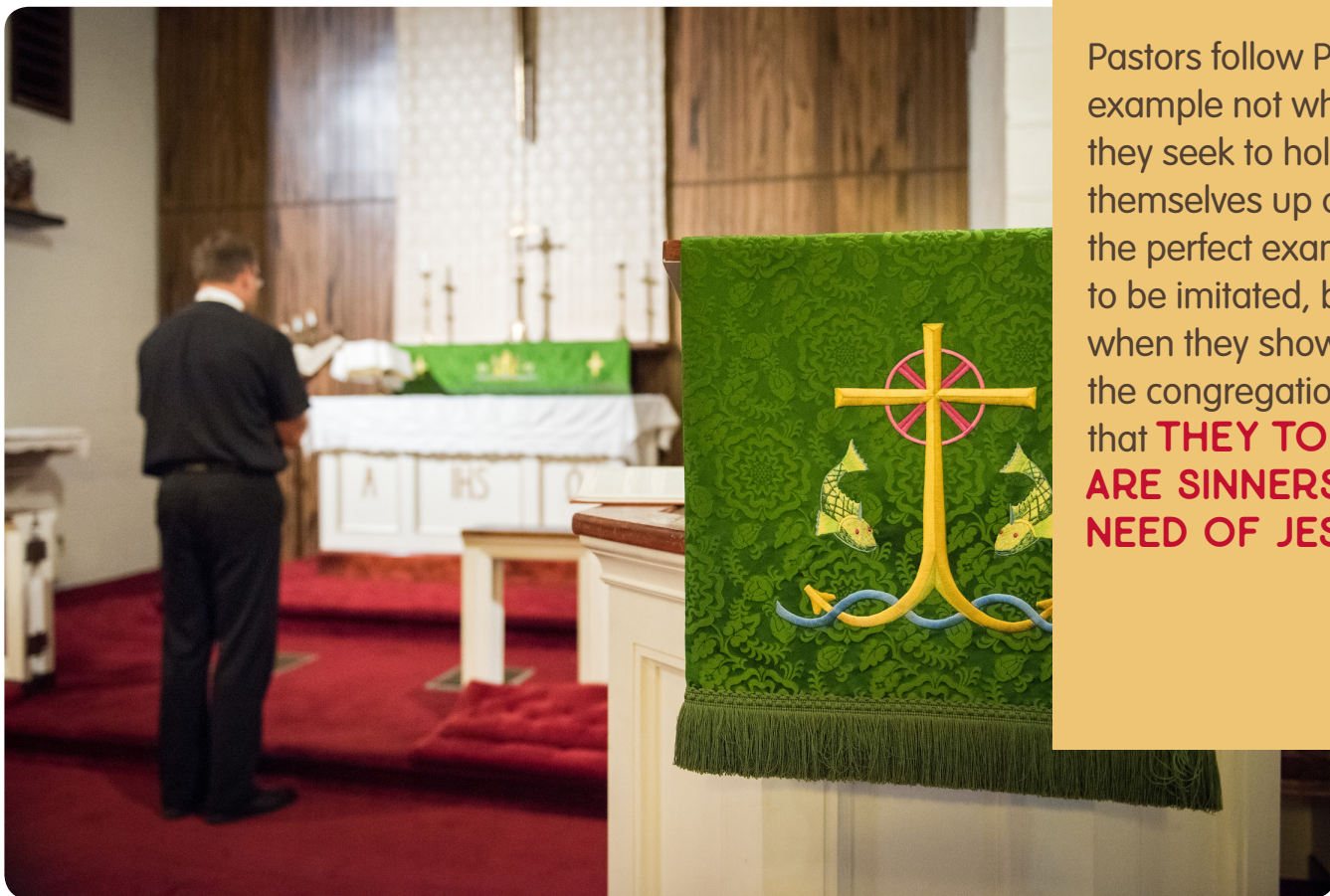
And yet, St. Paul also wrote in 1 Cor. 11:1, “*Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.*” How can Paul claim to be the chief of sinners and yet say, “be imitators of me”? How can a pastor do the same?

In short, Paul wasn’t seeking to have the focus on him, but on Christ. He understood that the example he set would impact how those to whom he was ministering would see Christ. By speaking of himself as the chief of sinners and as the least of the apostles, Paul modeled

the reality of the need for Christ and His forgiveness.

Pastors follow Paul’s example not when they seek to hold themselves up as the perfect example to be imitated, but when they show the congregation that they too are sinners in need of Jesus. By spending time in God’s Word on a daily basis, devoting time to prayer, forgiving and seeking forgiveness quickly, valuing and hungering for the Lord’s Supper, and being honest about their weaknesses, pastors model the very things they want to see in the flock they serve.

There’s much more to discuss concerning this topic, but I think it starts with pastors echoing the words of John the Baptist: “*He must increase, but I must decrease*” (John 3:30).



Pastors follow Paul’s example not when they seek to hold themselves up as the perfect example to be imitated, but when they show the congregation that **THEY TOO ARE SINNERS IN NEED OF JESUS.**



Reaching Rural America for Christ is published monthly by LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission.

Reaching Rural America for Christ may be reprinted with acknowledgment given to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

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EARLY REGISTRATION OPEN UNTIL SEPT. 1!

The **2019 National Rural & Small Town Mission Conference** will be held Nov. 14–16 in Minneapolis, Minn., at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Bloomington-Minneapolis South. Registrations made after Sept. 1 are available but at an increased rate. Register before Sept. 1 for the early registration rate!

Guest Speakers

Keynote speakers will include the Rev. Todd Kollbaum, director, LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission, and the Rev. Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil, executive director for Spiritual Care, DOXOLOGY. The Rev. Robert Zagore, executive director, LCMS Office of National Mission, will lead the theme Bible study of the conference.

Sessions

This conference is meant for anyone living in, serving or interested in rural or small-town areas, with topics and resources specifically suited for this unique mission field.

Breakout topics include dealing with addictions, mental health, bi-vocational pastors and partnering with LERT. Returning this year will be a special track for Youth Ministry, led by youth peer leaders and designed for your youth to join us as well. This option has a limited number of seats and requires attendance at all six sessions.

There is something planned for everyone, from lay person to pastor, student to teacher. We encourage you to bring your whole family to spend a few days together. Enjoy the Mall of America and take advantage of the special family rates that include access to all conference activities. Plus, you can earn Continuing Education credits through Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Registration

Adult registration for the conference is \$225/person and includes all plenary and breakout sessions, materials, Thursday dinner, Friday lunch and dinner, and more. See our registration form for rates for youth, students, families, couples, meals only and groups. Please contact our office with any questions.

Lodging

Hotel reservations must be made separately from conference registration. The Doubletree is offering a rate for our group of \$100/single or double plus applicable taxes. This includes complimentary breakfast buffet, self-parking, and airport and Mall of America shuttles. Be sure to ask for the LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission Conference special rate. The deadline for hotel reservations is Sept. 30, but we have filled our hotel block the past few years, so don't delay. More information and online registration can be found at lcms.org/rstm/conference.

Shirt Orders

This year we will have a theme t-shirt in addition to our standard apparel.

Theme t-shirts:

- Blue, short sleeve, youth-adult S–XL \$8 each (2XL \$10, 3XL \$14, 4XL \$16)
- Blue, long sleeve, youth-adult S–XL \$10.50 (2XL \$12.50, 3XL \$14.50, 4XL \$16.50)

Men's and women's polos:

- Gray or white, S–XL \$19 each; 2XL–6XL \$21 each

Order online when registering or by contacting our office by Oct. 15 and you can pick up your shirt at the conference.

Staff

Rev. Todd Kollbaum
Director, LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission

Amy Gerdtz
Coordinator, LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission

Chrissy Thomas
Designer

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.

LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission
 205 S. Main, P.O. Box 719
 Concordia, MO 64020

888-463-5127
rstm@lcms.org
lcms.org/rstm
 [lcmsrstm](https://www.facebook.com/lcmsrstm)

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.

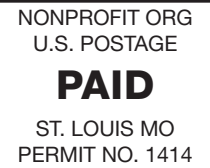
Support This Work

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!*



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming RSTM Events

Don't forget that Rural & Small Town Mission provides free monthly webinars on topics important to congregations in town and country settings. Up next is “**Church Reflections**” with the Rev. Benjamin Meyer on Sept. 26, followed by “**Moving Beyond Survival: DOXOLOGY and Your Church's Future**” with the Rev. Dr. Harold Senkbeil on Oct. 10. Find past webinars in our archive.

Register for one our Engaging Your Community (EYC) or Engaging the Wandering (ETW) events at 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 our office if you are interested in holding an event near you.

The LCMS South Dakota District will partner with RSTM to hold two ETW

events, at St. John Lutheran Church, Groton, S.D., on Oct. 26, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Hartford, S.D., on Oct. 27. Online registration is available for these ETW events.

RSTM is also rolling out a new type of event, **Welcoming**, that we think you and your congregation are going to love and benefit from! We will address the little known “brain gain” of rural and small-town communities. These day-long events will help congregations to be more welcoming places that provide God's Word to both current members and guests. They are also great opportunities for leadership and volunteer training.

For more information about our events or to see the rest of our calendar, visit lcms.org/rstm or contact our office at 888-463-5127 or rstm@lcms.org.



Submissions for the next edition of our
Professional Workers' Packet are due
September 23.

Please email articles, photos and announcements to
Daniel Sanchez, IDE Communications/Events/Technology Coordinator
dsanchez@lcmside.org



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