



PROFESSIONAL WORKER'S PACKET

Iowa District East—LCMS

March 2021

President's Piece for Peace	2
Calendar of Events	3
Vacancy Updates	4
Directory Updates	5
IDE Schools	6
Lutheran Heritage Foundation	8
Iowa Lutheran Student Tuition Organization	9
Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca	12
LCEF	13
Lutheran Family Services	14
LCMS Life Conference	15
Continuing Education — CTSFW	18

IOWA DISTRICT EAST

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

1100 BLAIRS FERRY RD
MARION IA 52302-3093

Phone: 319-373-2112
Fax: 319-373-9827



[lcmside.org](https://www.lcmside.org)

President's Piece for Peace

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President

March 2021

As we entered into this Lenten Season I made a visit to one of our congregations. It was the First Sunday of Lent where the 3-year series Gospel lesson included Jesus baptism and His temptations in the wilderness. It was a very well-crafted sermon that included contributions from all three readings of the day. The sermon began with a call to repentance (rightly so for Lent). He expounded on the meaning of repentance in the Greek language “metanoia” which means “a change of mind.” He had excellent application of that phrase and applied it well to the lives of his members. The sermon was well-balanced with condemning Law and rescuing Gospel. The Gospel was so sweet because it didn't have any conditions on it. He presented the full power of the Gospel (God for us in Christ Jesus) which was needed since the Law informed me I had no power in myself to make any change of any kind toward God. It had to be the work of Jesus to accomplish this and it is the work of the Holy Spirit to effect this change in me.

The Third Article of the Apostles Creed is a good review for us during this Lententide. Especially the explanation of Martin Luther on the Third Article which says, **“I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel;”** That is uniquely Lutheran coming from the pen of Luther himself.

From my many years of teaching on the collegiate level I found that the many denominations from which the students came (if they came from any) had a firm agreement on the First and Second Articles of the Creed. It was when we got to the Third Article that those from a Roman and those from a Reformed background could not and would not agree to the explanation quoted above. For them repentance, the change of mind, was an inherent quality in them by which they could exercise their will and change their own minds about God. Along with that was the definition of faith that included their decision to believe in Jesus. For most of them the Sacraments were not a means by which God transcended space and time to touch the unholy and make them holy. The Sacraments were an act of man toward God to demonstrate the decision they have made, the change of mind they made for themselves.

That is a very anthropocentric understanding of repentance. It is also completely rebuffed by Holy Scripture. I Corinthians 2:14 and Ephesians 2:1 make it very clear that man, by nature, cannot believe in Jesus. We are dead in our trespasses and sins. Dead means dead, unable to move or do anything toward God. In fact, natural man is at enmity with God. The only decision an unregenerate man can make is that he wishes to be lord of his own life, he doesn't need another.

This is why the Gospel is so sweet. The change of mind is not only sadness and shame over sinfulness, it is also a full trust in Christ Jesus and His merits for forgiveness and salvation. The Gospel is what the Holy Spirit uses to call us, gather us, and enlighten us as to who Jesus is (II Thess. 2:14, Ro. 10:17, Eph. 1:13). It is the means by which the Holy Spirit creates the faith that believes the promises of God in Christ. Faith is granted as a gift, not a merit or reward. The Gospel creates the faith that apprehends the promises the Gospel gives.

Luther explains this simply and with clarity. One either is drawn to this teaching or rejects it. This explanation was not found in any of the other catechisms we studied. It is uniquely Lutheran and more importantly it is biblically true. God be praised for this Third Article of the Apostles Creed. Devote on it, study it, lean on it during this Lententide. God be with you all in your preaching and teaching this season of reflection and repentance.

Calendar of Events

March 2021

March

19-20 LCMS Life Ministry Conference Online

April

2 Good Friday IDE Office Closed

20 IDE Board of Directors IDE Office

30-5/1 IDE Spring Confirmation Retreat Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

May

3-4 IDE Spring Workers' Conference Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

Announcements

Whereas the congregations of the LCMS have voted to add one year to the synod convention cycle in response to the COVID-19 pandemic hence moving the LCMS Synod Convention from 2022 to 2023, the Iowa District East – LCMS Board of Directors have also moved the triennial IDE District Convention from June 25-26, 2021 to June 24-25, 2022. A more detailed letter on what this means for the existing convention delegates, nominations, reports, and other convention business will be available later this spring, in addition to forthcoming details for the 2022 IDE-LCMS District Convention.

Due to the cancellation of the 2021 IDE Convention, there will be a Spring Workers' Conference in May of 2021. **The Spring Conference will be held at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca over May 3-4.** Details are forthcoming.

These events are subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please stay tuned to www.lcmside.org for more information on these events as they approach.

Vacancy Updates

As of 3/1/2020

March 2021

Calling Congregations

Bennett & Stanwood, St. Paul

Marion, St. Paul

Garrison, St. Mark/Shellsburg, Zion

Sumner, St. John & St. Paul

Mason City, Bethlehem

Daniel Redhage (vacancy pastor)

Larry Lemke (vacancy pastor)

Dean Rothchild (vacancy pastor)

Michael Parris (vacancy pastor)

Jesse Burns (vacancy pastor)

Pastor Calls

Accepted:

Pending: Joshua Schmidt, Jackson, MO

Samuel Beltz, Oskaloosa

Declined: Andrew Preus, McGregor/Guttenberg

St. Paul, Marion

Trinity - Great Falls, MT

University Lutheran Chapel - Boulder, CO

Commissioned Calls

Accepted:

Pending:

Declined:

Transfer: Ken Weinlaeder, Em Teach, Cedar Rapids to Apache Junction, AZ (PSW Distict)

Directory Updates

March 2021

PG #	RECORD	ACTION	INFORMATION
	13 Ferch	ADD	Circuit Visitor - Davenport Circuit 2.1.2021
	22 VOKT	Remove	Michael Vokt - called to glory 1.25.2021
	38 Davenport, Trinity	Remove	Rev. Michael Vokt- called to glory 1.25.2021
	23 Wright	change	office number: 319- 442 -3514 instead of 422-

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

Sometime after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ² and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. ³ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴ The Jewish Passover Festival was near. ⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages^[a] to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" ⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹ "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" ¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." John 6:1-9 NIV

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you needed to plan a party or event that was larger than your immediate family? Maybe it was your wedding reception or the District teacher's conference. You send out invitations and request rsvp's just to be sure you are totally prepared. You cover every detail with the caterer to make sure everyone will have a place at the table and plenty to eat. You want no surprises, disappointments, or embarrassments.

Having had a mother who could somehow find enough food for supper for an extra 2 or 3 unannounced guests, I can appreciate what took place on this grassy hill where Jesus performs one of His greatest miracles. Mom could go to the pantry and the freezer and put a meal together. However, we know from what John writes that there were no Hy-Vee's or Chic-Fil-A's in Jesus' day.

Put yourself in the sandals of the Master Teacher as you read John's record of what happened in chapter 6. First off, your classroom size pales in comparison to what Jesus was working with that day. At least 15,000+! Lesson plans? No doubt, Jesus was prepared and knew precisely what He was going to say and do. Objective(s) – check! Materials needed – that's a problem. Procedure – ask the disciples. Assessment – plenty to eat and leftovers. Reflection – time to go to the mountainside by Himself. Jesus, of course, knew the outcome, but His teacher aides, the disciples, proved less than stellar. They acted more like the Keystone cops when faced with the question "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" That doesn't deter Jesus for He uses this question to "set the hook" to pull them into His lesson plan which would eventually turn into a miraculous meal.

Let's take a look at this classroom on the mountainside and see how Jesus hooks the disciples into accomplishing his objective. John tells us thousands of people were there to see and hear this "Jesus" who was doing miraculous signs – talk about classroom management! Despite all the distractions that were no doubt taking place, the Master Teacher draws in the disciples to teach them more about Himself with the anticipatory question to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" The "hook" has been set for we are told Jesus did this to test him because He already knew the outcome. The same cannot be said for the disciples for they are convinced there is nothing they can do but put pressure on Jesus to send the crowds home. They can't possibly imagine how this is going to get done.

This teachable moment for Jesus with His disciples is one of many. Sometimes they get it. Sometimes they don't. You would think that after being at the feeding of the 5,000, the disciples would have had this miracle forever imprinted in their memory bank. Well, they don't! We read in Matthew and Mark's account of the feeding of the 4,000 the same thing happened. "But where in this remote place can anyone get enough bread to feed them?" (Mark 8:4) The Master Teacher uses opportunities such as these to prepare the disciples for the ministry they would carry on after His resurrection and ascension.

Don't we do that with our students, too? Our toolkit is filled with many creative and imaginative ways to "set the hook" as we try to get our students to engage and internalize our lessons. For example, we might engage them immediately with a question or a joke. We walk amongst our students. We use props. Most importantly, we base our teaching on Scripture. Sometimes we need to be as direct as Jesus. Sometimes it works. Sometimes it doesn't. Sometimes, we just have to get in their faces and tell them this is how it is. No matter the lesson or outcome, we strive to be like the Master Teacher. Oh, to be able to observe Jesus up close and in person for the three years He was teaching!

What can we learn from the teaching model provided for us in John 6? That's what I'd like for you to consider for the next few moments. I've come across six ideas for you to think about as His co-workers in our IDE classrooms. Maybe you're already doing them. Maybe it's something you hadn't considered before. Maybe it will reaffirm that what you're doing is just where you're supposed to be doing. Maybe you will disagree, but at the very least I hope and pray these ideas will lead you to deeper thinking about who you are and Who's you are so that your students see in you the same compassion Jesus demonstrated in John 6.

Jesus commands us to do more than we are (humanly) able, because He enables us to do what He commands. Jesus didn't let the disciples off the hook, but lays the responsibility for feeding the 5,000+ at their feet. What they aren't able to do on their own, they accomplish by the power of Christ. Surprise - they end up with a surplus! Jesus gives us tasks to do that we don't have the strength to do ourselves because He gives us the strength to carry them out.

The magnitude of the task should not be used as our excuse for not attempting it, especially when the task is the Lord's commands. When someone asks you to do something that will take you "out of your box", what is your response? Let's look at the everyday tasks we do and those that challenge us as opportunities to share the Gospel.

Wonder of wonders, God has chosen to multiply and expand our puny efforts and contributions, so as to accomplish His will. God uses us a "clay pots" to do His will. Even our failures are used by God to bring about His purposes.

Those who God uses to minister to the needs of this crowd are also those who gain the most by serving others. We're not talking about "giving in order to get." As we serve and give of ourselves in service to others, we find that God abundantly cares for our own needs. Consider the young boy who brought enough food for himself. He ends up with all that he could eat which is more than he would have gotten in the first place. And the disciples, who though they had nothing to serve ended up with baskets!

The disciples are inclined to limit their ministry to what they have seen and done before. "We've never done it that way before." Sometimes it is best to do it the same way. The disciples thought the only way to feed the crowd was to go to the local bakery and fish market. Jesus had a better way. He delights in doing the unexpected, so that His wisdom and grace are displayed through His handling of impossible situations. When you're faced with a challenge, be careful not to limit the ways God can minister through you.

Our Lord cares about and takes care of our needs. Our Lord cares, and He cares well for our needs. He cares so much He went to the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. Trust Him who died, rose, and lives on high to care for all of your needs today and every day.

Jan Doellinger
Assistant to the President, Schools

Free Spanish resources for sharing the Gospel: Great news! The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (a recognized service organization of the LCMS) has a variety of FREE new resources available in the Spanish language, including *Luther's Small Catechism*, *The Bible with Small Catechism* (combined volume), *A Child's Garden of Bible Stories*, and "Jesus Never Fails" devotional tract. These materials are available to any LCMS church, mission or individual who wants to share the Good News with their Spanish-speaking neighbors. To order, send an email to info@LHFmissions.org or call the LHF office at (800)554-0723.



Thank you again to all who donated to ILSTO this past year as we received \$715,285. While this is most wonderful it does fall short of our goal as well as short of the total need of students in our Lutheran schools. Now is the time to talk to your tax advisor about the advantages of an ILSTO donation. You will feel much better about writing a check to support our students than one to the Department of Revenue. This year the STO program has the opportunity to increase the 15 million in tax credits by 10% for 2022 due to a new tax law, but all STOs must reach 90% of goal in 2021. Please help us add another \$100,000 to available funds so that more students may benefit from our program. Contact Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991 for more information.

Dewey Torkelson
Program Manager

Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



The Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization is the Student Tuition Organization (STO) created by Iowa District East and Iowa District West in 2007 as part of the Educational Opportunities Act passed by Iowa Legislature. Fourteen Lutheran schools are located in Iowa providing a faith-based education to nearly 1,400 students each year. ILSTO awards tuition grants to eligible families while providing donors with an Iowa income tax credit certificate worth 65% of their gift.

\$715,235

Total amount raised in 2020 which was \$235,000 short of our goal. Please consider a gift today so families can attend a Lutheran School.

In 2020, ILSTO awarded \$467,318 in tuition assistance

These funds were awarded to families for 2020-2021

School	Number of Recipients	Dollars	School	Number of Recipients	Dollars
IDW			IDE		
Boone	30	\$14,313	Cedar Falls	115	\$95,884
Clarinda	46	\$32,248	Cedar Rapids	82	\$58,155
Denison	55	\$22,913	Davenport	134	\$72,070
Fort Dodge	59	\$42,614	Latimer	24	\$12,047
Paullina	19	\$11,017	Newhall	62	\$34,641
Sioux City	12	\$9,697	Readlyn	12	\$2,779
Spencer	44	\$37,857	Williamsburg	53	\$21,083
Total Distributed \$467,318					



850
Number of applicants for ILSTO



747
Number of applicants receiving ILSTO funds



625
Average dollars awarded with ILSTO funds



\$1,000,000
Total demonstrated need throughout Iowa Lutheran Schools

2020-2021 Enrollment in Lutheran Schools in Iowa

Trinity Lutheran School <i>Boone, IA</i>	67
Valley Lutheran School <i>Cedar Falls, IA</i>	145
Trinity Lutheran School <i>Cedar Rapids, IA</i>	183
Clarinda Lutheran School <i>Clarinda, IA</i>	81
Trinity Lutheran School <i>Davenport, IA</i>	273
Zion Lutheran School <i>Denison, IA</i>	68
St Paul Lutheran School <i>Fort Dodge, IA</i>	80
St. Paul Lutheran School <i>Latimer, IA</i>	29
Central Lutheran School <i>Newhall, IA</i>	143
Zion St John Lutheran School <i>Paullina, IA</i>	42
Community Lutheran School <i>Readlyn, IA</i>	24
St. Paul Lutheran School <i>Sioux City, IA</i>	25
Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School <i>Spencer, IA</i>	84
Lutheran Interparish School <i>Williamsburg, IA</i>	83
TOTAL NUMBER OF IOWA LUTHERAN STUDENTS	1,327



Contributions for 2021 now accepted

Other Ways to Give

IRA Distribution

- For those 70 ½ or older or 72 depending on birthdate.
- Satisfy some or all of your required minimum distribution for the year.
- Make sure to consult your tax professional before you make your distribution.

Stock

- Donor or broker notifies the ILSTO program manager of their intent to donate stock.
- Donor or broker initiates transfer of the stock after obtaining ILSTO account information for transfer.
- ILSTO assumes ownership of the stock and sells it for market value.
- The donor receives an Iowa tax credit equal to 65% of the average value of the stock on the date of donation.
- Generally, the donor does not recognize the gain from the sale of the stock for federal or state income tax purposes.
- Donor receives appreciated stock value for the 35% federal itemized deduction and the 65% Iowa tax credit.

Grain

- A donor gifts bushels of grain by completing a "Transfer of Ownership" form available from the ILSTO.
- Program Manager will open an account with the elevator in anticipation of the grain donation.
- The farmer must deliver grain to the elevator or currently hold grain in their name to provide proof of production.
- Contracted grain sales will not be accepted as a grain donation.
- The farmer must transfer ownership title of the commodity to ILSTO.
- The ILSTO staff must make the final decision to sell the grain.
- The donor receives an Iowa tax credit equal to 65% of the value of the grain on the date of donation.
- The donor does not recognize the income from the sale of the grain while also receiving Iowa tax credit from this program
- Donors are encouraged to contact their tax accountant for further clarification.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

- ILSTO can now accept Choice Dollars from Thrivent Members
- No tax consequences

Donor Advised Fund

- ILSTO cannot accept contributions from donor advised funds.



Largest Gift: \$100,000

Smallest Gift: \$25

How much did donors donate in 2020?

\$20,001+ = 6

\$10,001 – \$20,000 = 5

\$5,001 – \$10,000 = 14

\$1,001 – \$5,000 = 69

\$501 – \$1,000 = 64

\$500 and below = 37

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca



March 2021

Spring Confirmation Retreat - April 30-May 1

The Confirmation Retreat takes place each year in October at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca in Solon, IA. Rescheduled from October 2020, a Spring Confirmation Retreat will be held over April 30—May 1, 2021 at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. This year, Pastor Zachary Voss from St. John Lutheran Church in Homestead will leading our study on Confession/ Office of the Keys.

How many in the pew on Sunday morning really reads or takes to heart the depth and implication of the confession they just made before God and one another? How many take advantage of or know first-hand the priceless value of individual confession/absolution with one's own pastor? Who stops to take a look at how confession and the Office of the Keys flow into each other and is to be a natural rhythm for the baptized child of God? We will be diving into these things at this spring's confirmation retreat!



We will be taking a look at the 5th chief part of Luther's Small Catechism: Confession which flows into the Office of the Keys and seeing how this part of Luther's Catechism is a great treasure for the baptized children of God. Come and join us as we continue to sit and learn as daily pupils of the Catechism!

Registration will be available soon at www.lcmside.org/confretreat/. We are looking forward to our first youth event since the beginning of the pandemic and we expect it to be a great experience for our youth!



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 2020, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca received nearly \$9,000 in Thrivent Choice contributions! Thank you donors for making this program a success for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. Will you help make 2021 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

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, these retreats are subject to change, postpone, or cancel.

March 29

First Registration Discount Deadline

April 30-May 1

IDE Spring Confirmation Retreat

May 3

Second Registration Discount Deadline

May 3-4

IDE Spring Workers' Conference

June 17

First Day of Summer Camp

August 3-6

Higher Things Confirmation Camp

2021 Camp Summer Staff

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca is looking for college-aged young adults to make a difference in the lives of children. We still need fill out our staff with a few more counselors and support staff. The opportunity to serve at a camp awaits. Go to www.nloma.org to start your summer service profile today!

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca also needs Junior Counselors (JC's) to assist the summer program. Applicants should be at least 15 years old. JCs spend the week with a cabin group enjoying the many camp activities and serving as a positive role model and motivator for younger campers while helping the cabin counselors supervise younger campers. It's a great experience for only \$100 per week. Please contact Camp Director, Daniel Sanchez by emailing director@iodiseca.org for more information or to receive an application.



3271 Sandy Beach Road NE, Solon, IA 52333

phone 319.848.4187

web www.campiodiseca.org

email office@iodiseca.org



Lutheran Church Extension Fund

> where investments build ministry

SAVE FOR YOUR RETIREMENT

WITH LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) offers various types of Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA).

Visit lcef.org/investments-rates to view our latest rates.

When you invest with LCEF, you'll not only enjoy the financial benefits of an IRA, you help support the mission of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to share the Gospel.

Ready to join 60,000 LCEF investors
who share your Lutheran values?

CALL 800-843-5233 OR VISIT [LCEF.ORG/IRA](https://lcef.org/ira) TODAY.

LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments, nor a solicitation to buy. LCEF will offer and sell its securities only in states where authorized. The offer is made solely by LCEF's Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks. Neither LCEF nor its representatives give legal, accounting or tax advice. Consult your tax advisor as to the applicability of this information to your own situation. UMB Bank n.a. serves as the custodian for the LCEF IRA/HSA programs. Balance restrictions apply. Rates subject to change. Visit lcef.org for details.



Advocating, Working, Praying for Life in Iowa

In spite of the many challenges associated with everyday life during a pandemic, Lutheran Family Service continues to work for and with LCMS members in Iowa to provide a powerful witness of the value of all human life and the need to protect it. We are present and actively involved to impact all legislation defending life.

As the 2021 legislative session continues, several bills related to life are being introduced and considered. Our voices—both individually and corporately—continue to be important in the conversation. If you're not already, please join us!

Sign up to receive "Legislative Action Updates" by email as LFS' Kim Laube and Rev. Dr. Jim Lamb share critical and timely information from the capital. Request these emails through the LFS web site's CONTACT section, or just send an email to info@LutheranFamilyService.org to let us know you want to receive life advocacy updates by email.

Bills related to protecting life being considered this year which we are following include:

SJR2 & HJR5 - The Protect Life Amendment

A 2018 judgement by the Iowa Supreme Court tied legislators' hands, rendering it virtually impossible—in the absence of this constitutional amendment—to legislatively impose *any* reasonable restriction on abortion in Iowa.

HF383 Informed Consent Regarding Reversal of Chemical Abortions

Women who choose to have a medically induced abortion using RU-486 should be informed about all their options, including the option now available to reverse the procedure should they choose to change their minds and save the life of their baby.

SF212 & HF475 Our Care, Our Options Act

Physician Assisted Suicide - This act, which consistently gets filed every year, would allow a doctor to prescribe poison to kill their patient under certain circumstances.

Join With Lutheran Family Service in Prayer for These Servants

Father, be the constant source of inspiration, wisdom, guidance, peace and strength for these, our LCMS brothers and sisters who serve in the Iowa legislature. Direct and guide their thoughts, words, conversations, deliberations, and decisions, that you would be honored in all of their work. Amen.



Senator
Roby Smith
Trinity, Davenport



Senator
Annette Sweeney
St Paul, Buckeye



Senator
Tim Kraayenbrink
St. Paul, Fort Dodge



Representative
Thomas Gerhold
St. Stephens, Atkins



Senator
Jason Schultz
Immanuel, Schleswig



Senator
Julian Garrett
Mt. Calvary, Indianola

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves...

Proverbs 31:8a

Did you know that most babies with a prenatal diagnosis of Down Syndrome never draw their first breath?

70% of babies diagnosed in utero are aborted.

Special New Initiative Launched by Lutheran Family Service

We know that every life is precious, created in God's image, and given immense value by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ who has called and re-deemed each one. Working together with you, we put this belief into action every day, sharing this truth with others and saving those are deemed by the world to be unworthy of life.

Building on our 120-year old life-affirming ministry of placing orphan children into Christian homes and families, Lutheran Family Service is excited to announce a Down Syndrome Adoption Initiative to reach women who have received a prenatal diagnosis of Down Syndrome and are considering abortion. We will help them choose life for their baby and if needed, find a loving family through adoption. The initiative will also identify and prepare Christian couples to adopt newborns with Down Syndrome, providing this service at no cost to them for LFS' adoption related services to remove any financial barrier that might otherwise prohibit

participation. This new Initiative is possible through financial partnership with people who care about life, including unborn babies with a diagnosis of Down Syndrome.

Our first family is now ready and waiting. Grant & Sara De Jong are par-ents of five amazing children, including 14-year old Cheyenne who has Down Syndrome. They have room in their hearts and home for another child and are particularly interested in adopting a baby with Down Syndrome.

"Doctors tell pregnant women that Down Syndrome is a terrible thing, a burden and to abort their baby. But, when you talk to parents of children with Down Syndrome, they feel like they've won the lottery. Down Syndrome is nothing to be afraid of," says Sara. Meet the DeJong's and see their story [here](#).

You can also listen to their story as they were interviewed on KFUO's Coffee Hour at <https://www.kfuo.org/2020/11/11/coffee-hour-111120-adoption-stories-grant-and-sarah-de-jong/>

Pastor,
Is there a couple in your congregation who might be interested in adopting a child with Down Syndrome?

- Invite them to visit the LFS website at <https://lutheranfamilyservice.org/adoption-services/down-syndrome-adoption/> for more information
- Fill out the adoption information request form at <https://lutheranfamilyservice.org/adoption-services/adoption-information-request/>

What can you do if one of your members has a child with a pre-natal diagnosis of Down Syndrome or any other crisis pregnancy situation? While your care as their Pastor is essential, LFS can provide specialized support.

- Point them to <https://lutheranfamilyservice.org/pregnancy-support/>
- Advise them to text "PregnancyHelp" to 56525 or call 515-351-4900 to talk with an LFS Pregnancy Counselor
- You or your members can ask questions, request more information and find support at <https://lutheranfamilyservice.org/contact/>

Will you and your congregation partner with LFS to help launch the new Down Syndrome Adoption Initiative?

- Contact LFS' Life Advocate Rev. Dr. Jim Lamb at 515-573-3138 to learn more
- Gather a special collection for LFS' Down Syndrome Adoption Initiative
- Invite individuals to learn more and make a gift online at <https://lutheranfamilyservice.org> or mail a gift by check with notation for Down Syndrome Adoption Initiative to LFS, 409 Kenyon Road, Suite C, Fort Dodge, IA 50501
- Contact LFS' Director of Ministry Support Wanda Pritzel at wpritzel@lutheranfamilyservice.org for financial partnership options

Life is the right of every child. Not a special privilege for the fortunate, the planned and the perfect.



LCMS Life Ministry Conference March 19-20

LCMS Life Ministry will host its first-ever virtual life conference March 19–20, under the theme “Making Disciples: Valuing Life.” [Registration is open now.](#)

“This conference is for everyone,” explains Life Ministry Director Deaconess Tiffany Manor. “The pandemic constraints have given us an opportunity to share presentations by many experts with students of all ages, missionaries, church workers and congregation members who couldn’t make it to previous in-person events.”

And that includes you!

Conference sessions will help you explore a distinctly Lutheran understanding of the sanctity of human life, specifically as it pertains to:

- Speaking for life in the public square;
- Caring for life in your community; and
- Teaching about human life.

Hear from theologians and human care advocates, including LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, Focus on the Family Vice President of External and Government Relations Timothy Goeglein, and Deaconess Manor.

Explore a variety of life topics for participants of all ages, with your family, congregation or on your own. A Spanish track — with sessions offered in the language — will be available as well.

“More than ever we need to be focused on the truth of our triune God’s value of all human life no matter a person’s stage of development or abilities,” Manor notes.

Join in:

- Access the conference by livestreaming, watching on-demand videos and engaging with speakers through question-and-answer opportunities.
- Register individually, or as groups of 10 for a group registration discount. (Consider gathering a group at a local congregation to stream the conference together.)
- To register for the conference or learn more information, visit lcms-life.org.

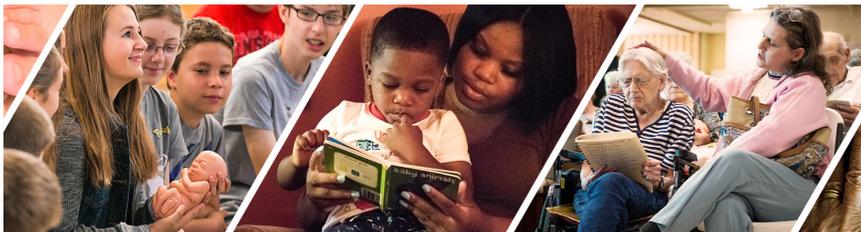
LCMS Life Conference

LCMS Life Ministry will host its first-ever virtual life conference March 19–20, under the theme “Making Disciples: Valuing Life.” Registration is open now at www.lcms-life.org

Join us!

- Be equipped to speak up for the sanctity of life within your community and our society
- Gain ideas on how to care for all human life
- Interact with fellow Lutherans on Life Ministry topics
- Be a part of the LCMS Life Ministry community

Dozens of experts in Life Ministry will present throughout the conference with multiple video presentations available for immediate on-demand viewing as soon as you login. Engage in live Question and Answer sessions with experts in Life Ministry.



Making Disciples > VALUING LIFE

Virtual LCMS Life Conference
March 19–20, 2021

ATTEND THE LCMS LIFE CONFERENCE — FROM ANYWHERE!



Making Disciples > VALUING LIFE

Virtual LCMS Life Conference
March 19–20, 2021

ATTEND THE LCMS LIFE CONFERENCE — FROM ANYWHERE!

Though gathering is difficult these days, LCMS Life Ministry believes that proclaiming the truth of life’s value from conception to natural death is as important as ever.

The first-ever virtual LCMS Life Conference will be held March 19–20.

This virtual conference will enable anyone to join in — students, missionaries, church workers and congregation members from across the country and the world. It will feature livestreamed and on-demand videos, as well as interactive question-and-answer opportunities.

Learn about a distinctly Lutheran understanding of the sanctity of life from speakers, including:

- > **Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison**, LCMS president;
- > **Timothy Goeglein**, Focus on the Family vice president of External and Government Relations; and
- > **Deaconess Tiffany Manor**, director of LCMS Life Ministry.



Though gathering is difficult these days, LCMS Life Ministry believes that proclaiming the truth of life’s value from conception to natural death is as important as ever.

The first-ever virtual LCMS Life Conference will be held March 19–20.

This virtual conference will enable anyone to join in — students, missionaries, church workers and congregation members from across the country and the world. It will feature livestreamed and on-demand videos, as well as interactive question-and-answer opportunities.

Learn about a distinctly Lutheran understanding of the sanctity of life from speakers, including:

- > **Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison**, LCMS president;
- > **Timothy Goeglein**, Focus on the Family vice president of External and Government Relations; and
- > **Deaconess Tiffany Manor**, director of LCMS Life Ministry.



Registration is open **NOW!**

To register or learn more, visit lcms-life.org.



Registration is open **NOW!**

To register or learn more, visit lcms-life.org.

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA

JUNE 15-17, 2021



Rev. Chad Kendall

The Rev. Kendall serves as associate pastor at St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton, Illinois. He served previously for 10 years as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Lowell, Indiana. He is a student in the PhD in Missiology Program at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW), Indiana. His thesis will consider how the Church should live in the midst of post-modern, secular America in the 21st Century, and how the Church will engage the 21st Century

American culture. Kendall serves as an adjunct professor at CTSFW and at Concordia University, Chicago, in the Master of Arts in Religion Program.

Early Christian Mercy to the Secular Culture

This course will be an investigation into the Scriptures, looking particularly at the way the apostles speak of compassion and mercy. Emphasis will be toward Clement of Alexandria's approach to teaching the Christian faith in a Gnostic world. Further, this course will examine scriptural texts exegetically, and will consider how, in light of Clement's approach, the church may communicate the Scriptures and draw people into the Church amid our modern-day Gnostic and Postmodern culture.

Readings and class schedule can be found online at www.ctsfw.edu/CE/Cedar-Falls-Iowa.

Location:

College Hill Lutheran Church
2322 Olive St.
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Coordinators:

Rev. John Wegener
Phone: (319) 427-3098
Email: prwegener@cfu.net

and

Rev. Jon Ellingworth
Phone: (845) 216-3300
Email: pastorellingworth@gmail.com

Forming servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all.



6600 North Clinton Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
www.ctsfw.edu

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA

JUNE 15-17, 2021

Rev. Chad Kendall: Early Christian Mercy to the Secular Culture

Please return this completed form with your check (made payable to CTSFW) to: Concordia Theological Seminary, ATTN: Continuing Education, 6600 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46825

(Please circle if applicable.) Dr. Rev. Deac. Mr. Ms. Mrs.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Email _____

Category	Price	Qty.	Amount
1.5 CEU course for Pastors/Professional Church Workers	\$150 x	_____ =	_____
1.5 CEU course for Retired Pastors/Lay Persons <i>(CEU certificate provided upon request for a \$10 fee.)</i>	\$100 x	_____ =	_____
Fort Wayne Students/Fort Wayne Vicars <i>(Please call LeeAnna Rondot to register. See contact information below.)</i>	\$0 x	_____ =	_____
1.5 CEU course for Fort Wayne Vicar/Fieldwork Supervisor <i>(Please use the code provided by IT to register.)</i>	\$0 x	_____ =	_____

Name(s) of Vicar/Fieldworker(s): _____

ADDITIONAL CLASS AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION

To Register by Phone with Credit Card:

Contact LeeAnna Rondot at (260) 452-2204.

To Register Online:

Go to www.ctsfw.edu/CE/Cedar-Falls-Iowa.

Additional Information About This Class

(Including Accommodations):

Contact coordinators:

Rev. John Wegener

(319) 427-3098 or prwegener@cfu.net

Rev. Jon Ellingworth

(845) 216-3300 or pastorellingworth@gmail.com

To Find More Continuing Education Classes:

Visit our website at www.ctsfw.edu/CE.

Continuing Education Opportunities:

Kara Mertz

Administrative Assistant Continuing Education

Phone: (260) 452-2103

Email: CE@ctsfw.edu

Dr. Jeffrey Pulse

Director of Continuing Education

Email: Jeffrey.Pulse@ctsfw.edu

Phone: (260) 452-2273

Submissions for the next edition of our
Professional Workers' Packet are due
March 26.

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.