



The Informer

November 2024

St. John's Lutheran Church

Volume 68 Issue 11

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We're On the Web!!
www.stjohnsem.org

I will
GIVE
THANKS
to you Lord



From Pastor's Pen:

"Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare" (Jeremiah 29:7).

Dear friends in Christ,

Recently one of our members asked me why, from the pulpit, I do not tell people who they should vote for as Christians. Well, with our two-kingdom understanding, and considering the harm that has been done to both the Church and the State when the two sought to be joined, the answer is obvious. The Church is not given to establish earthly powers, but to proclaim the Word of God and administer Christ's sacraments so that the kingdom of grace may abound.

While it is not the place of the Church to tell God's people "who" to vote for, it is entirely appropriate for it to tell them that they should vote and "how" to vote.

If the words from Jeremiah were true for God's exiles in Babylon, then they are certainly true for us exiled in this very "Babylonian" world. Christians in many countries in this world are oppressed and persecuted. They suffer under governments they are powerless to change; governments that hate their faith and silence their voices. We are blessed to live in a country where we have the blessed privilege of choosing our governing authorities and influencing their policies for the "welfare of the city."

So, yes, I am telling all of you to vote. In our constitutional republic you are the government, and voting is a civic duty that Christians should take seriously. As citizens of a country, we have been given the responsibility to vote for leaders who will govern justly and righteously. However, this responsibility should not be taken lightly, and we must approach it with wisdom and discernment.

For this reason, yes, I am going to tell you "how" to vote. Whether it be local, state or national elections our vote it is important that you evaluate political platforms and candidates through the lens of biblical values. The Bible teaches us to care for the poor, defend the oppressed, protect life, speak-up for those who cannot speak for themselves, and promote justice and righteousness. Therefore, Christians should examine every candidate's policies and positions to determine which ones align with biblical principles. After all, isn't it safe to say that God's revealed will is trustworthy and best for all?

As Christians we should approach the voting process with prayer and discernment, so under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we may make informed decisions that align with our faith and values. Let us remember that we are called to be the salt and light of the world, so influencing our society with Biblical values and principles is important. In addition to our daily witness in word and deed, one way we can exercise our influence is by voting in a way that impacts the social and moral issues that shape our communities.

In all of this, however, we must remember that our ultimate hope does not rest in any political party or candidate for office, but in Jesus Christ who rules all things, in heaven and on earth, for our sake – for the sake of His Church. Our primary citizenship is in His kingdom, not in the kingdoms of this world. This means that our voting decisions should be guided by a desire to promote righteousness, justice, and the common good according to Biblical principles rather than personal or partisan interests.

In closing, I remind you to remember that our faith in Jesus calls us to love our neighbors, including those who may hold different political views. Therefore, even as we participate in the political process, we should model grace, civility, and respect towards those who may disagree with us, remembering that our unity as brothers and sisters in Christ is far more important than any temporal, political outcome.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Umbarger

From Deaconess' Desk

Blessings to you all in Christ!

As we enter the fall months and the leaves all around us have already begun to change and fall from the trees, it becomes ever [more clear](#) that there is a season and cycle to everything. This, I know, is no earth-shattering revelation. We have all become accustomed to the regular seasons and cycles of our lives. Further, many of us look forward to the changes in season and the excitement that comes along with the approach of the end of the year.

Sometimes though, certain times of the year, certain seasons, or certain events, no matter how regular, bring about unwanted anxiety, sadness, or stress. It could be that there is an unknown on the horizon. Even though the season is familiar, we don't know exactly what this one will bring. Sometimes, the memories of seasons past leave us wishing we could just go back and experience it the same way it was then. Sometimes, the present season seems like too much to handle given the circumstances and we aren't sure how we will make it through to whatever is supposed to come next.

Thankfully, we are not left alone to deal with these unwanted or unpleasant feelings. When we are sad thinking about the past, we can look to the joy of Christ to sustain us on our way. When we are anxious about our future, we can remember His words that say to us, "Do not be anxious... Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" (Matthew 6:25-26). And when we are weighed down by the struggles of life, we can cling to the hope of [the resurrection](#) and the knowledge that our Lord is actively working in our lives to lead us to everlasting life.


So, whether you are feeling the pressure of the changing seasons or are living in excited anticipation, just know that none of us are ever alone. We are put here as a Christian community to love and be loved by others. We are here to help each other through the change in seasons where needed, and to praise God for His many gifts to us in every time of our lives.

"Entrust your days and burdens To God's most loving hand; He cares for you while ruling The sky, the sea, the land. For He who guides the tempests Along their thund'rous ways Will find for you a pathway And guide you all your days" ~ LSB 754:1

Deaconess Bower



Serving the Lord this Month

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ushers</u></p> <p>Sat, Nov 2: Greg Burke, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka</p> <p>Sun, Nov 3: Evan Antolik & family</p> <p>Sat, Nov 9: Greg Burke, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka</p> <p>Sun, Nov 10: Evan Antolik & family</p> <p>Sat, Nov. 16: Greg Burke, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka</p> <p>Sun, Nov. 17: Evan Antolik & family</p> <p>Sat, Nov 23: Greg Burke, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka</p> <p>Sun, Nov 24: Evan Antolik & family</p> <p>Thanksgiving Eve: Greg Burke, Chuck Brokaw, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka</p> <p>Sat, Nov. 30: Greg Burke, Chuck Brokaw, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Acolytes</u></p> <p>Sun, Nov 3: Sloane Churchill</p> <p>Sun, Nov 10: Joel Duffy</p> <p>Sun, Nov 17: John Kjera</p> <p>Sun, Nov 24: Nathan Duffy</p> <p>Thanksgiving Eve: Briella Churchill</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Greeters</u></p> <p>Sat, Nov 2: Chuck Brokaw</p> <p>Sun, Nov 3: Lucille Perley</p> <p>Sat, Nov 9: Chuck Brokaw</p> <p>Sun, Nov 10: Larry Dodge & Lucille Perley</p> <p>Sat, Nov 16: Chuck Brokaw</p> <p>Sun, Nov 17: Larry Dodge & Kathy McDowell</p> <p>Sat, Nov 23: Chuck Brokaw</p> <p>Sun, Nov 24: Larry Dodge</p> <p>Thanksgiving Eve:</p> <p>Sat, Nov. 30: Chuck Brokaw</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Communion Assistants</u></p> <p>Nov. 3: Kevin McAnally & Glen McMillin</p> <p>Nov. 17: Dennis Boarts & Brian Kern</p> <p>Thanksgiving Eve: Dennis Boarts</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Altar Guild</u></p> <p>Margie Schaefer and Flo Moore</p>

Eternal Candle

Nov. 3: Susan Bowman & John Davis, for Nancy Davis' birthday

Nov. 10: Gail Massey

Nov. 17: Kevin & Kris McAnally, in memory of Diane McAnally

Nov. 24: Kevin & Wendy Rossmiller, in honor of their anniversary



Flowers

Nov. 3: Dennis & Margie Schaefer, in honor of their anniversary

Nov. 10: Rod & Noreen Hopkins, in memory of Travis

Nov. 17: Dennis & Marsha Boarts, in honor of their anniversary

Nov. 24: Bonnie Wilmont, for Lily Leduc's birthday



Church News

Birthdays

Nov. 1— Jessica Dobbeleare
Nov 3— Gabriel Hart, Angela Fischer
Nov 4 — Nancy Krack, Karen Anderson
Nov 5 — Noah Cobb, Nancy Davis, & Rylee Sherwood
Nov 6 — Sydney Heller, Norma Grotelueschen, & Eric Schofield
Nov 7 - Jacob McMillin
Nov 8 — Denise Rogers & Don Cass
Nov 10 —Jackie Wilson
Nov 11 — Jordan Fischer
Nov 14 - Gibson Cockerill & Robert Myers

Nov 15 — Alyssa Hartweg & James Vrbn
Nov 16 — Ashley Buck, Elliot Nickens & Maxwell Park
Nov 18— Marsha Boarts, Tatum Harford, Carole Hodshire, & Diane Ransom
Nov 19— George Aukee
Nov 20 — Ken Hill
Nov 21 — Pete Schaefer
Nov 22 — Zoey Bull, Jill Ryan & Lorin Soyke
Nov 25 — Dennis Boarts, Charlie Britton, Harvey Lampe & JoAnn Sager
Nov 26— Diane Kosche & Veronica McKay

Nov 27— Ingrid Hodshire, Hannah Rossmiller, Shirley Schlotfeldt & Kay Trask
Nov 28 — Bill Green



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Weekly Attendance

<u>DATE</u>	<u>THIS YEAR</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>
9/29	155(5th Sunday)	N/A
10/6	160	98
10/13	111	132
10/20	132	136

Membership Report

ADDRESS UPDATES

Alyssa Nitz
 539 34th Ave
 E. Moline, IL 61244

Carl & Megan Weathers
 4906 Adams St
 Hermantown, MN 55811



Join us on Wednesday,
 November 27th at 6:30pm for
 Thanksgiving Eve worship with
 communion.

Church News

LWML - Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Is an auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

DATES to MARK

Thursday, November 21 - LWML Meeting at 1:00 pm in the Janssen rooms. Preparing for Christmas Cheer. Please join us in fellowship and service.

Saturday, December 7 – Christmas Cheer Brunch 10:00 a.m. in the Janssen rooms.

Watch the November bulletins for more information.



This month we are spotlighting two of the organizations that have received national LWML grants.

2023–2025 Mission Grant No. 5

DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM

Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, Texas | \$50,000

The Disaster Response Team of Trinity Lutheran Church in Tyler, Texas, responds to help victims of natural disasters. They are called to serve, have a presence on the ground, and assist with clean-up. While providing help, they listen to the victims and share the love of Jesus and bring hope, encouragement, and healing through God's Word and prayer. To learn more, visit

www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-5.

2023–2025 Mission Grant No. 6

MOBILE KITCHEN

Forged by Fire Services | \$85,000

Forged by Fire Services prepares food for communities following natural disasters. They will come into a community with their trailer of supplies; set up their tent and kitchen. Grant money will purchase a mobile kitchen trailer. The trailer will allow for faster setup, protection from weather changes, and require less space.

To learn more, visit www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-6.

Thank You

The Board of Trustees would like to say a big "Thank you" to all of the volunteers who have been working so hard to keep the lawn looking so beautiful this year. They would also like to thank the helper that painted the doors and trim in the office and Janssen rooms. THANK YOU!

Church News

Notes from the Balcony

On our trip home from Fort Wayne last week, the bright sun lit up the golden fields and blue sky making them the perfect backdrop to the fall leaf colors we enjoyed as we traveled. As we discussed the pretty scenery, Caleb reminded us that the variety of colors are always present in the leaves but during the summer they are covered up by the green pigment of chlorophyll. This started a discussion surmising that there are probably other beautiful things in life that are hidden behind what is generally apparent. From rainbows that are hidden in visible white light to the delicious raspberry syrup hidden in a DeBrand chocolate, or the beautiful insights that had been hidden in tough times to a really beautiful aspect of a friend you hadn't noticed before, or a new perception found in a familiar Bible verse, this existence is full of seen and unseen beauty.

The apostle Paul well understood how the sufferings of this world can mask the beauty of life in Christ. 2 Corinthians 4:18 provides a good summary of this truth:

“as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.”

While this verse could almost be applied to a fall leaf, Paul, of course, invites us to a more spiritual understanding. The beauty of eternity and all things eternal always exist but during this earthly life they can be covered up by day-to-day concerns and especially by trials.

LSB hymn #672, *Jerusalem the Golden*, a paraphrase by John Mason Neale (1818-1866) of a three-book poem of challenging meter written by Bernard of Cluny, contrasts the evils of medieval society to the glories of heaven. It is an especially good hymn for the month of November which begins with All Saints Day and ends with a strong reminder that the end is coming when Christ will be recognized as King of all. This hymn encourages its singers to remember the beauty of Heaven which can be hidden behind the cares of this world.

1. Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest,
Beneath your contemplation sink heart and voice oppressed;
I know not, O I know not what joys await me there
What radiance of glory, what bliss beyond compare!
2. They stand, those halls of Zion, all jubilant with song,
and bright with many an angel, and all the martyr throng;
the Prince is ever in them; the daylight is serene;
the pastures of the blessed are decked in glorious sheen.
3. There is the throne of David; and there, from care released,
The shout of those who triumph, the song of those who feast;
And they, who with their Leader have conquered in the fight
Forever and forever are clad in robes of white.
4. O sweet and blessed country, the home of God's elect!
O sweet and blessed country, that eager hearts expect!
In mercy, Jesus, bring us to that dear land of rest,
Who are, with God the Father, and Spirit, ever blessed.

I think I will try to take some time to notice hidden beauty this month, physical and spiritual. I pray God will bless you, my friends, with realized hidden beauties also.

In Christ,
Christine Engebrecht

Church News

Let's gather together and give thanks to God
for his bountiful blessings!



Please join us on Sunday, November 17th
after Bible study and Sunday school
(11:30ish) for a Thanksgiving Potluck!
Table service and
beverages will be provided.
There will be a sign up sheet on the
Information Table.

So far in 2024, CID Dollar for Missions contributions have funded the following projects:

1. \$1,800 for weekly mileage for Pastor David Dunlop from Chestnut to two prisons in Lincoln
2. \$300 for Spanish-language hymnals for St. John, Beardstown
3. \$2,100 to pay honoraria for Pastor Pablo Dominguez to conduct two Spanish language services per month at St. John, Beardstown for half the year
4. \$10,000 to continue prison ministries begun in 2024 or to start ministry in prisons not currently being so served.

The current project stands out as somewhat more ambitious: \$25,000 to replace furnaces at Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, Macomb. As of the end of August, we are almost 40% of the way toward completing this project. For more on it, including informational videos with Pastor Chris Hull of Immanuel, Macomb, go to <https://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-dfm-current-project.html>

A great many small contributions add up!



Voter's Meeting Minutes
St. John's Lutheran Church
Voters Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:25 a.m. by president, Rod Hopkins.
2. President Hopkins asked if there were any members who wished to become voting members. Jayden Fairweather and Ruth Willfong asked to become voting members. Dawn Antolik made a motion to except them as voting members. Marsha Boarts seconded. Motion passed.
3. Executive Board – Rod Hopkins
 - a. They are in the process of getting together a Nominating Committee for a slate of officers for the December Meeting. Each committee will need to have a representative on the nominating committee. Please let Rod Hopkins or Brian Engebrecht know who will be representing your board.
4. Endowment Committee – Ralph Grotelueschen
 - a. Ralph reported that they had met and the Endowment fund has been doing well. These funds are not intended for general day to day operating expenses. Requests for funds has to go through and be approved by the Executive Board.
5. The Board of Elders – Jim Homann
 - a. The weekend of November 23rd and 24th, Pastor will be out of town and the elders will be leading the service with a Hymn Sing and Lessons Service.
 - b. Preparations for Pastors retirement in July 2025 include setting up a Call Committee at the December voters meeting. The weekend of February 15th and 16th Rev. President Michael Mohr will be here to host a Pre-Call meeting.
 - c. In August the office sent out annual mailings to members who have not attended worship in the last 7 years and members who live outside the area (see elder's report). Since no response was made the Elders proposed these members be dropped. Dennis Boarts made a motion to dropped the members listed. Ralph Grotelueschen seconded. Motion passed.
6. Board of Outreach – Charlie Britton
 - a. Charlie reported that all their members would return for next year.
 - b. Beginning September 22nd there will be a new bible study on Sunday, "Every One His Witness". He encouraged members to participate in the bible study.
 - c. They are need of Fellowship Callers
7. Board of Human Care – No Report

St. John's Lutheran Church
Voters Meeting Minutes, continued

8. Board of Youth and Family – Rebecca Hinman
They have the following events scheduled.
 - a. September 27 - Fellowship Dinner at the Brothers Restaurant in Rapids City.
 - b. October 13th – Chili Cook-Off
 - c. October 27th – Trunk or Treat from 1-3 p.m.
9. Trustee's Report - Evan Antolik
 - a. The roofs have been completed and paid.
 - b. They have been having trouble with the sign out front freezing up. Replaced a part and after a month it has frozen again. They will call the sign company.
 - c. Trustee's have been looking at options for the courtyard. One of the problems is they need a double door to get into the courtyard. They received a bid from East Moline Glass for \$13,343 to take out a section and replace windows and door. Jim Homann made a motion to put in the double doors. Seconded by Larry Dodge. Motion passed.
 - d. Evan said they do not have the funds available. Kevin McAnally made a motion to use the money from the Van/Elevator Fund. Motion seconded. Motion passed.
10. Pastor's Report
 - a. Nothing to report.
11. Treasurer's Report - Norm Antolik
 - a. Norm reported that looking at the figures now and past history we might have a \$2,000 or more deficit at the end of the year.
12. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.
We very much appreciate all members who attended the
Voter's meeting.

Respectively submitted by Diana Lackey, Date: September
15, 2024



From the CID

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship Newsletter Article – November 2024

The consequences of shallow thankfulness

Can you imagine a Thanksgiving dinner without turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and pumpkin pie? I know I can't! To not have these on the menu, or worse, to run out of them with the family around the table, would be a culinary sin of epic proportions. An attempt to serve bratwurst and hamburgers in place of the standard fare would ring hollow and seem totally inappropriate and out of place. It isn't that the food would be bad; brats and burgers are pretty tasty. But not for Thanksgiving – they just don't go together!

This month, as we continue to walk through the stewardship hymn, "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness" (LSB 788), we turn our attention to verse three. Here, William Watkins Reid, Sr., the man who penned this text, draws attention to some things that do not go along with faithful, thankful stewardship.

Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise ...

We see this often with small children. They greedily snatch the candy out of a grandparent's hand, savagely destroy the wrapper, and attempt to stuff the entire delicacy in their mouth in one bite, only to have a parent say, "Tell grandma thank you." This is followed by the pro forma thanks that is uttered between chocolate chews. It isn't really thankfulness; it is simply checking a box to keep mom or dad off their backs.

We never really outgrow this either. Our shallow thankfulness takes the form of feigned humility when praise is being offered. We are thankful that our admirers noticed and called us out: "Look at me! Aren't I special?" No thought at all is given to the fact that the Lord was the One who gave us the ability and opportunity for accomplishment. Our false blush is really only masking our selfish, credit-seeking gain. Once again, we find ourselves idolatrously thanking ourselves.

For words that speak at variance with deeds ...

What carries more weight: words or action? The steward who gives voice to the Gospel in the Divine Service but then lives like a pagan in the world does great damage, not only to others but to the Gospel itself! This is the consequence of failed stewardship. It is idolatry that separates the steward from the Lord.

Worse yet, it also impacts others negatively. When the failed steward is the reference point outside the Christian community, there are those who want no part of being Christian or following the Christ they claim. We see this play out in the impact of overt political activity among Christians based on governing policy as opposed to fidelity to the Word of God. When our lips and our lives are out of sync, like what used to happen with old movie projectors, the impact isn't funny – it obscures the Gospel!

From the CID

Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways unmindful of a broken brother's need ...

Our creature comforts often become an obstacle to faithful stewardship. This is true of both individual and corporate stewardship. Financial stewardship is often limited by our desire to be comfortable and have the latest toys and gadgets. Congregational stewardship is often limited by the desire to focus on what is best for the congregation as opposed to how resources might be best stewarded to reach the community with the Gospel.

When we see someone in need, or broken by the world, we often look at them as freeloaders. We admonish them to get a job. We insist that they learn our language, learn our customs, and make them their own. But this gets in the way of seeing every human being the way that Jesus sees them. Remember, that broken person is one for whom Jesus went to the cross to die and rise. When we are unmindful of these needs, our shallow thankfulness also stands in the way of the Gospel.

This stanza reminds us of the challenge we face. Our hearts are master idol-makers. Our shallow thankfulness threatens our souls and hinders others from seeing Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Stewardship is serious business. It is a task for which we were created. In our sinful failings, we are never relieved of these duties. In our Baptism, we are restored to be stewards of the Gospel. Our faithful stewardship is all about that Gospel.

Forgive us when our thanks are shallow, O Lord! In this month of Thanksgiving, grant us the grace to offer heaping helpings of this stewardship so that others may see Jesus!

Camp CILCA Lowdown

- **Act Like Men Field Training: November 2, 6:30-7:15am**

A brisk hike for men through the 235 acres of Camp CILCA. No cost. Meet at the pine trees by the entrance.

- **Work Day: November 2, 8:30-11:30am**

Raking leaves, closing down cabins, and revamping the Dining Hall kitchen awning are all on the docket. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers.

- **Young Adult Game Night: November 9**

Camp CILCA is hosting a game night for young adults (21+). There is no cost, just bring a friend, any games you want to play, snacks or sides to share. 3-6pm.

- **Women's Scrapbook Retreat: November 15-17**

Cost is \$90 for your shared room and meals. (Private rooms are available upon request for \$120.) Register at cilca.org/womens-scrapbooking-retreat

Camp CILCA exists to strengthen and foster faith in Jesus Christ and relationships with others in a unique outdoor setting.

2025 marks 75 years of outdoor ministry! To celebrate this blessed anniversary, Camp CILCA will be offering every week of camp to all campers for just **\$75!** Registration will open November 1, so sign up early to secure your spot.

From the CID



Feed My Sheep, Tend My Sheep, Feed My Sheep

In John chapter 21, Jesus gave Simon Peter three charges regarding His sheep. These charges are now carried out by the pastors who serve our churches. Your pastor (Christ's under-shepherd) has the responsibility to feed and tend to you and the fellow members of your congregation. This feeding is grounded in the means of grace, His Word, and the sacraments. This feeding of His Word comes to us in their sermons and leading Bible studies. The pastor is also responsible for tending to the flock by providing Christ-like comfort and care.

In October, the LCMS has appointed two Appreciation Days— Pastors (13) and Deaconesses (25). With these two appreciation days, we can show appreciation for our pastors and deaconesses; this month is a time to thank God for the blessings of these two Callings. We can pray for their protection, health, well-being, and ability to stand firm in the faith so that they can, in the words of 1 Thessalonians (5:12-13), "We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves."

Let us unite in prayer for these workers in our churches, lifting them up in their noble service. Similarly, let's remember in our prayers all those individuals who are currently studying to become church workers so that they may be equipped and strengthened for their future roles. Let's also pray that all individuals will be open to considering God's calling into His ministry. (Other Appreciation Days are scheduled for Directors of Parish Music (April), Teachers (May), and Directors of Christian Education (June).

Mr. Trip Rodgers – CID Office

Pray For Our Central Illinois District Missions supported by your church's Mission Dollars to the District. Our Lord Jesus said, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the harvest." This month, please thank God for the outreach of the Gospel in Spanish at St. John's Lutheran Church, Beardstown. Pray for Pastor Pablo Dominguez, who travels to Beardstown from East Moline twice a month.

Witnessing HELPS In early October, the CID will release a series of videos on key witnessing skills:

- Beginning a spiritual conversation
- Listening discerningly to a nonchurched person
- Making a simple statement of the Gospel
- Defending the Resurrection

From the CID

CID BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVIEW REPORT 09/24/24

Announcement:

President Mohr announced the theme for next year's District Convention: "Witnessing Christ to the People" (Acts 13:31).

Action:

- Due to a vacancy, Rev. Andrew Smith (Our Redeemer, Bloomington) was appointed and approved as Bloomington South Circuit Visitor.
 - Appointed Deaconess Elizabeth Froh of Christ, Normal, to our District's Human Care Committee.
 - Approved Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb's semi-retirement plans beginning Sept. 1st, 2025.
 - Granted a peaceful release for Pastor Phillips (Deaf Ministry on behalf of CID) due to his accepting a Call to the Michigan District
 - Approved to cover the remaining cost of an air conditioning unit for UniLu.
- Approved St. John, Beardstown, and Trinity, Auburn's constitutional updates

Reports:

- Mrs. Chris Andersen reported good news about St. John's- Mattoon capital campaign, construction, and classes already expanding into high school grades.
- A list of repairs needed at CID Missions Sites for future consideration.

Presentation:

CID Board of Directors and Circuit Visitors received LC-MS 1st Vice President Reverend Peter Lange and 2nd Vice President Reverend Ben Ball for their triennium visitation. Reverend Lange walked through the District Visitation Outline on behalf of our Synod to our Central Illinois District. Both Vice Presidents fielded questions from CID directors and circuit visitors.

Next meeting is set for Nov. 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH FOR LIFE – ILLINOIS **Tuesday, March 25, 2025**

As last year, Trinity Lutheran Church in downtown Springfield (across the street from the State Capitol building) will host a Matins service in the morning before the rally and march, and a light lunch will be provided at a nominal cost. Precise times are being determined. Again this year, parking will be available to you downtown at the State House Inn, a block north of the capitol and near Trinity. However, please make plans now to carpool whenever possible.

2025 LCMS YOUTH GATHERING

Looking for information: Ways to Connect

- CID Lutheran Youth Facebook Group
(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/249327678480252>) – Find the latest district updates and information LCMS Youth Ministry Facebook Group – Lots of Gathering content and collaboration, but all things youth ministry too!

End Goals: LCMS Youth Ministry Podcast <https://www.kfuo.org/category/lcms-youth-ministry-end-goals/> All things youth ministry and some great episodes on the Gathering! Be sure to check out www.lcmsgathering.com under the Resources tab for tons of information, worksheets, budgeting sheets, etc

Church News

Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone that was involved with the 2024 Chili Cook to benefit the food pantry! We raised \$433 this year! Congratulations to Orene Antolik, Aliza Stone, and Marlene Fellows on their winning pots of chili; and congratulations to Briella Churchill for 'Best Table Presentation'!

Thanksgiving Basket Offering

There are special envelopes located in the Narthex if you would like to donate to our mission to help provide Thanksgiving meal boxes to families in need. Or you can write "Thanksgiving offering" on your regular giving envelopes. Thank you!

Thanksgiving Baskets

We will once again be giving out food baskets for those in need of help this Thanksgiving. **Sunday, November 16th** is the deadline for Thanksgiving basket requests. If you know of a family who would be blessed to receive a basket, please fill out the slip below and return it to the church office.

Tim and/ or Tamee will be at church on Monday, November 25th, 10:00am-noon for pick ups.

Questions may be directed to Tamee Stone 309-314-4595



Thanksgiving Baskets

***This year, we will only be asking for monetary donations;
Tim and Tamee will take care of the shopping***

Name of member: _____

Name of nominated family: _____

Size of household: _____

Nominated family will pick up _____

Church member will deliver _____

(If the nominated family will be picking it up, please provide contact info so Tamee knows who she is expecting, and can contact them if needed)

Phone number for nominated family: _____

**PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION.
RETURN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16th**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
						8am - Men's Bible Study 9:30am - Choir Rehearsal 5pm - Worship w/
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9am - Worship w/ 10:15am - Bible Study /	1pm - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Activities Room & 6pm - Cherub Chimers 6:30pm - Confirmation 6:30pm - Heavenly Ringers	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	9am - TOPS 10am - Women's Bible Study 1:30pm - Activities Room	6:30pm - Board Meetings	6:30pm - 2nd Friday	8am - Men's Bible Study 9:30am - Choir Rehearsal 1pm - Nitz Bday Party 5pm - Worship
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9am - Worship 10:15am - Bible Study /	1pm - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Activities Room & 6pm - Cherub Chimers 6:30pm - Confirmation 6:30pm - Heavenly Ringers	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	9am - TOPS 10am - Women's Bible Study 1:30pm - Activities Room 4pm - Fellowship committee			8am - Men's Bible Study 9:30am - Choir Rehearsal 5pm - Worship
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9am - Worship w/ 10:15am - Bible Study / 11:30am - Thanksgiving	Informers Deadline 1pm - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Activities Room & 6pm - Cherub Chimers 6:30pm - Confirmation 6:30pm - Heavenly Ringers	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	9am - TOPS 10am - Women's Bible Study 1:30pm - Activities Room	11:30am - Ladies Luncheon 1pm - LWML		9:30am - Choir Rehearsal 5pm - Worship
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9am - Worship 10:15am - Bible Study /	1pm - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Activities Room & 6pm - Cherub Chimers 6:30pm - Heavenly Ringers	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	9am - TOPS 10am - Women's Bible Study 1:30pm - Activities Room 6:30pm - Thanksgiving Eve			8am - Men's Bible Study

St. John's
Lutheran
Church



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See The Informer
IN COLOR
On Our Website

www.stjohnsem.org

Walking in the Light of Christ!



Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday 8:30am– 2:00pm

Closed for lunch from 12-1pm

Thursday 8:30am-12:00pm

Worship Schedule:

Saturday worship– 5:00pm

Sunday worship- 9:00am

Sunday School & Bible Study-10:15am

Thanksgiving Service with Communion-
Wednesday, Nov. 27th @ 6:30pm